

# FirstLine Schools Overview

Student Transportation Van Service

Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting

March 29, 2016



FIRSTLINE SCHOOLS - EDUCATION FOR LIFE

## Our Mission

**To create and inspire great open admission  
public schools in New Orleans**



## Primary Objectives

- 1) College & Career Readiness**
- 2) Rich variety of experiences**
- 3) Staff skillfulness and sustainable organization**



# First Charter School in New Orleans

1990

- **Summerbridge (now called Breakthrough):** The roots of FirstLine Schools trace to the founding of this unique summer program at Isidore Newman School designed to help 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students gain acceptance into top middle schools in order to gain admission to college preparatory high school programs.

1992

- **James Lewis Extension:** Working with a group of concerned parents, Jay Altman and the Summerbridge team founded this school, with 100 students and four teachers. Dr. Tony Recasner became the school's director in 1993.

1998

- **New Orleans Charter Middle School (NOCMS):** FirstLine Schools began as Middle School Advocates in 1998 when it was organized as the umbrella organization for New Orleans Charter Middle School, the city's first charter school. James Lewis Extension converted into the city's first charter school and adopted a new name. NOCMS became the top-performing open-admissions middle school in New Orleans.

2005

- **Samuel J Green Charter School:** Middle School Advocates (the former name of FirstLine Schools) was approached by the state and asked to take over the failing Green Middle School. Green opened as a K-8 charter school the week before Katrina. The school reopened in January 2006.

# Middle School Advocates becomes FirstLine Schools

2007

- **Arthur Ashe Charter School & A New Name:** Using the NOCMS charter to open a new K-8 school (later renamed Arthur Ashe), the school opened with fewer than 50 students and has grown to its current enrollment of over 400 students. MSA was changed to FirstLine Schools in 2008 to reflect the organization's post-Katrina incarnation as an organization running primary, middle, and high schools.

2010

- **John Dibert Community School & Langston Hughes Academy:** Dibert became a FirstLine school in the Fall of 2010, after a request from the community to charter and operate the school. FLS began operating Langston Hughes Academy, via a management contract, at the same time.

2011

- **Joseph S. Clark Preparatory High School:** The doors opened on the newly chartered Clark Prep in August 2011. FirstLine's first high school is a turnaround of an existing school.

# Our Schools



# School Locations

Site	Address
<b>Arthur Ashe Charter School</b>	1456 Gardena Drive New Orleans, LA 70122
<b>Phillis Wheatley Community School</b>	2300 Dumaine Street New Orleans, LA 70119
<b>Samual J. Green Charter School</b>	2319 Valence Street New Orleans, LA 70115
<b>Langston Hughes Academy</b>	3519 Trafalgar Street New Orleans, LA 70119
<b>Joseph S. Clark Preparatory High School</b>	1301 N. Derbigny Street New Orleans, LA 70116

# FirstLine's Values

- Service
- Collaboration
- Learning
- Results



# Culture of Service

WE:

- Anticipate needs of others
- Respond with flexibility and framing
- Are available
- Give energy to others with our enthusiasm
- Solve problems
- Provide others with the information they need to do their jobs well





# Culture of Collaboration

WE:

- Prioritize team goals over individual goals
- Build a bigger brain by co-creating and solving problems with others
- Consult those who will be affected by our work
- Draw upon the expertise of others
- Encourage productive conflict



# Culture of Learning

WE:

- Seek feedback
- Continually improve practices and systems
- Believe we can always get better
- Learn through solving problems



# Culture of Results

WE:

- Set goals high and work hard to achieve them
- Regularly review our progress towards goals and collaborate on how to improve where needed
- Take personal responsibility for results
- Remain solution oriented
- Notice where people are achieving compelling results and figure out how
- Don't confuse efforts with results
- Hold ourselves accountable for achieving our goals, even when they take longer than originally planned



# RFP Key Details: Cameras

- Cameras
  - Please include this on the cost sheets, as we may choose to require cameras on all vans
  - We understand this will be an additional fee (one-time or on-going, you decide and put it onto the cost sheets)



# RFP Key Details: Living Wage

- Because of the benefits to both community and individual, FirstLine mandates the following **minimum** wages:

Occupation (SOC Code)	Max # of Staff Under Supervision (If applicable)	Hourly Wage (75th Percentile)	Hourly Wage (90th Percentile)	Minimum Paid Days Off	Benefits Description
Bus Drivers, School or Special Client (533022)	N/A		\$17.86	10	Health Care Paid Days Off
Monitors: Transportation Attendants, Except Flight Attendants (536061)	N/A	\$11.25		10	Health Care Paid Days Off

- SOC Code: Standard Occupational Classification code-see [www.bls.gov/soc/home.htm](http://www.bls.gov/soc/home.htm)

- **We also require at least 75% of the people employed under our contract to be full time employees.**



# RFP Key Details: Background Checks

- Background Checks
  - Please be sure you review Attachment B thoroughly and include the cost to conduct the necessary background checks in your overall bid for this contract.



# RFP Key Dates

- RFP Questions Due: Friday, April 8, 2016, 2:00 PM
- Proposal Submittal Deadline: Friday, April 22, 2016, at 2:00 PM



# Any Additional Questions At This Time?

- If there are additional questions that we did not or could not answer today, please feel free to reach out to Rebekah Cain at [rcain@firstlineschools.org](mailto:rcain@firstlineschools.org)  
(This information is in the RFP as well.)
- All questions emailed to Rebekah Cain by the deadline will be posted on our website, as with our RFPs.
- We will send an email out when these questions/answers are posted. All questions/answerers will be posted at once, to ensure equal access.
- Please be sure you have signed in, in order to receive these communications!



This concludes today's presentation