



Letter of Intent Form
Change in Authorizer Request

A charter school currently operating in the state of Indiana may apply to Education One, LLC. for a change in authorizer request. The school must complete and submit this Letter of Intent Form, including all attachments, prior to submitting an initial proposal to Education One. All necessary documentation may be submitted via email to:

Lindsay Omlor
Lindsay@education1.org
 Managing Director, Education One, LLC.

Note: Submission of the Letter of Intent (LOI) does not obligate a school to submit an initial proposal to Education One. However, schools should be advised that the LOI is subject to Indiana’s Public Access Laws, including public records requests.

Name of Charter School	
Thea Bowman Leadership Academy	

Mailing Address		
Street Address: 975 West 6th Avenue (elementary campus)		
City: Gary	State: IN	Zip Code: 46402
Street Address: 3401 W. 5th Ave. (junior/senior high campus)		
City: Gary	State: IN	Zip Code: 46406

Board Chair Contact Information	
Name: Michael Suggs	Email: MSuggs@nisource.com
Office Phone: 219-765-5857	Cell Phone:

School Leader Contact Information	
Name: Michael Collins	Email: mcollins@tbla.email
Office Phone: (219) 883-4826	Cell Phone:
Name: Sarita Stevens	Email: sstevens@tbla.email
Office Phone: (219) 944-3100	Cell Phone:

History of School		
Year of Opening: 2003	Current Authorizer: Ball State	Charter Renewal Year: NA
Education Service Provider/EMO*: Leona Group	Number of Years with ESP/EMO: 1	

*Phalen Leadership Academies has been approved to serve as the new ESP starting in the 2016-17 school year.

School Information		
Current Grade Levels Served: K-12	Current Enrollment: 1,269	School District Where the School is Located: Gary Community Schools Corporation
<p>Brief Description of School:</p> <p>The Thea Bowman Leadership Academy was founded 13 years ago by African-American leaders who believed in the power of education to transform lives. Our founders were determined to create a school that overcame socioeconomic challenges and effectively prepared students to compete on a global level. Consequently, TBLA was created on the basic tenets of a clean, safe, nurturing learning environment; rigorous curriculum; effective teaching; discipline and decorum; and consistency. Since the school's inception, Thea Bowman has provided a strong public education to over 10,000 children. Academic excellence is a top priority for us and we are pleased to share that last year, 98% of our third grade students passed IREAD. Additionally, 95% of students at Thea Bowman graduate from high school. Our vision is to establish ourselves as a school that consistently outperforms the state ISTEP average passage rates, while also developing strong children and young adults who exhibit high character including honesty, empathy for others, a superior work ethic and deep commitment to give back to the community.</p>		

Required Attachments

In addition to completing the information requested above, please also submit the following attachments:

1. **Board Letter:** A letter, signed by the charter school board chair, that includes the following information:

- Brief explanation for why the charter school board would like to change authorizers
- Brief statement verifying that the school is in good academic standing, or has shown significant improvement results, as illustrated by the Indiana State Assessment Proficiency Results
- Brief statement verifying that the school is in stable financial health, and is also in good financial standing with the current authorizer
- Brief statement verifying that the school has a history of compliance with all applicable laws and its current charter

NOTE: *This letter should not exceed two (2) pages in length.*

2. **Mutual Agreement to Terminate or Not Renew the Charter Agreement:** The outgoing authorizer and the charter school's board must both submit statements to Education One with their intent to terminate or not renew the charter school contract. This could be a joint letter or two separate letters from both entities. The letter(s) must be signed and dated by the responsible parties.