



# CSUSA PROPOSAL FOR EMMA DONNAN

Prepared for the IPS Board of School Commissioners  
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Charter Schools USA  
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### **The Concept**

In order to achieve better academic outcomes for students and families, Indianapolis Public Schools and Charter Schools USA propose to partner together under the guidance of the State Board of Education to create a 1321, IPS k-8 school operated by Charter Schools USA. The school would allow students to enter the CSUSA educational model earlier and produce greater learning gains over time through a systemic k-12 approach. The vision is to not only create a feeder pattern, but also to attract additional students to the IPS system. This could serve as a model for how, under the guidance of the SBOE, "takeover" schools can be transitioned back to the school corporation over time without jeopardizing progress that has been made by the turnaround provider and without major disruption to the community.

### **The Specifics**

The Emma Donnan facility would have a target enrollment of 840 students. For fall of 2015, IPS would support the targeted recruitment of 300 IPS students from selected schools, including a logical geographic feeder, to the newly formed k-6 grades of the k-8 school. CSUSA would keep the students already enrolled and recruit an additional 300 students, targeting those who are not currently attending an IPS school. This would result in a net gain of hundreds of new students to the IPS system. Siblings (those children in the same family unit residing at the same address) of students currently attending a CSUSA operated school would be permitted to enroll as well. Children of teachers teaching at a CSUSA operated school could also enroll, but parents would have to provide transportation. Students would matriculate from Emma Donnan to either Manual or Howe. CSUSA proposes that the 300 students targeted for recruitment to attend Emma come from schools in the same general area, producing a natural feeder pattern; however, students from other schools identified by IPS as part of the targeted recruitment program would also be enrolled. CSUSA and IPS do not follow the same academic calendar. CSUSA believes that the ability to implement a calendar reflective of its educational model is essential to producing results. CSUSA recognizes that there may be additional costs associated with providing transportation on days IPS is not in session and proposes a cost sharing arrangement be built into the contract to address this.

### **The Contract**

We envision a tri-party agreement, entered into by CSUSA, IPS, and SBOE for the Emma Donnan Campus. The contract would provide detail on specifics; however, generally, IPS could provide services such as transportation and food service. CSUSA would continue to provide all academic, management, and operational functions as well as any before/after care services. Funding would be provided at the same per pupil amount CSUSA would receive under the current model, adjusted for any overall changes to the state funding formula. The contract would be for an initial term of 5 years and include annual performance goals. A contract extension would be provided for each year the goals are met.