Executive Summary

Nuestro Mundo Incorporated (NMI) and Nuestro Mundo Community School (NMCS) are pleased to present this application for a fourth five-year contract to continue as an instrumentality charter school with Madison Metropolitan School District (MMSD) from 2019 to 2024.

Since the school’s inception in 2004, NMI and NMCS have worked under an MMSD charter to support academic success of students—particularly, students who have been historically underserved in MMSD—through NMCS’s innovative 90:10 dual language immersion (DLI) curriculum and learning models that incorporate a deep commitment to parent and community engagement. NMCS has a high percentage of English language learner (ELL) students (52%) and over a majority of its students are Hispanic/Latinx (61%). Central to the purpose of our charter is an instructional design that provides native language instruction for students who speak Spanish as their first language. NMCS was founded to support Latinx students’ academic success through a Spanish DLI model, but the DLI model enhances the educational experience of all of its students.

In its last charter renewal, NMI assured the Board of Education that NMCS would make significant progress in its academic outcomes and other metrics. It did! Some highlights of NMCS this charter term, as further detailed in the application:

- NMCS’s overall reading proficiency on the Measures of Academic Performance (MAP) test for all 3rd to 5th graders improved 21% since 2012-13; ELL students’ English reading proficiency improved 17% in the same time frame.
- MAP math proficiency scores have also climbed: NMCS overall proficiency rates have improved by 24% for all NMCS 3rd to 5th graders and 23% for ELL 3rd to 5th graders since 2012-13.
- High rates of growth have been achieved in all subgroups (including low income, ELL, and Special Education) in MAP Reading scores over the course of the current charter contract. The highest growth rate was Special Education students (87.5%).
• NMCS achieved the highest average daily attendance rates in the school district for the last six consecutive years. The average daily attendance rate for 2017-18 is 95.8%.

• NMCS continues to have high scores in school climate for staff (100% positivity for family engagement) and for families (94% positivity for institutional environment; 92% positivity for relationships). And, importantly, 77% of students say they feel they belong in NMCS.

• NMCS had the honor of receiving the Welcoming Schools Seal of Excellence from the Human Rights Campaign. A Welcoming School embraces family diversity, avoids gender stereotyping and works to end bullying and name-calling. NMCS is only one of 2 schools in Madison (and Wisconsin) to achieve the Welcoming Schools Seal of Excellence.

Over the next five years, NMCS will build on its strengths and use its past experience to further its mission to improve outcomes for ELL students, while supporting all of its students’ growth. NMCS will continue to make gains in reading proficiency (English and Spanish) and expects marked math growth across the board. It will continue to make all students feel welcome and safe at NMCS. It will increase enrollment of African American and other non-white students to reflect or surpass their respective percentages of student population in the NMCS attendance area.

Through a renewed charter, NMI and NMCS will improve academic achievement, develop bilingualism and biliteracy, and promote intercultural awareness for students in Madison.

NMI and NMCS are proud to be part of MMSD. We look forward to working with the administration to achieve our goals. We will have succeeded when all of our students and families are leaders who promote equity, justice, and social change in school, the community and our world—*Nuestro Mundo!*