

Innovative Quality Schools

An approved authorizer of chartered schools in Minnesota 6616 Brittany Road Minneapolis, MN 55435

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Innovative Quality Schools asks for proposals from the best in the world to start new public schools for Minnesota’s children and youth

The Board of Directors of “Innovative Quality Schools (IQS)” has issued a Request for Proposals to have any organization in the world submit proposals for new chartered public schools for Minnesota students. IQS is an approved authorizer of chartered schools in Minnesota. IQS Executive Director Robert Wedl, a former Minnesota Commissioner of Education, leads this new organization. Wedl suggests, “In addition to working to improve our current models of schooling, Minnesota needs to look to new and different models if we are to indeed educate all of our learners. The world around us is being redesigned through innovation. Education must join in that effort.”

IQS Board Chair is Dr. Kristin Anderson, a former Minnesota superintendent of schools in Rockford and Fertile Beltrami districts. Dr. Anderson, known for her quest for innovation, said, “Innovation does not mean proposals that are not well thought out. Rather, they are ideas that have a compelling design that is different and new. Charter schools are intended to be the research sector for public education.”

In addition to seeking new and different models of schools, IQS is also asking for proposals that do have a strong research base. Some specific models being solicited include schools designed from “Pre-k through Grade 3” whose purpose is to close the achievement gap before there is one. Another model intends to combine high school and college so that students complete a minimum of one year of post-secondary before they graduate from high school. Language immersion schools especially in rural Minnesota, project based high schools and schools which include a significant expansion of the use of digital platforms for learning anytime anywhere are also being solicited.

Proposals may be submitted at anytime. However, a June 1, 2011 deadline is set for schools intending to open in September 2012.