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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Three School Districts File Charter Authorizer Notices of Intent

**OLYMPIA, Wash.** – The State Board of Education (SBE) received notices of intent from [Tacoma](#), [West Valley](#) (in Yakima) and [Highline](#) school districts that they plan to submit applications to become charter school authorizers in 2014.

Charter authorizer notices of intent were due October 1, 2013, and charter authorizer applications are due December 31, 2013. The SBE will rigorously evaluate the applications and approve or deny them by April 1, 2014.

A charter school authorizer is an entity with the powers and duties to review, approve or reject charter school applications; enter into, renew or revoke charter contracts with nonprofit corporations seeking to operate charter schools; and oversee the charter schools the entity has authorized. Eligible authorizers are:

- School district boards of directors that have been approved as authorizers by the SBE, for charter schools located within the school district's own boundaries;
- The Washington Charter School Commission, for charter schools located anywhere in the state.

Last month the SBE approved Spokane Public Schools as the first school district authorizer. Spokane is now soliciting applications from nonprofits to operate charter schools within their district.

More information about charter schools can be found on our website at: [www.sbe.wa.gov/charters.php](http://www.sbe.wa.gov/charters.php).

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About the State Board of Education: The State Board of Education provides advocacy and strategic oversight of public education. The Board is comprised of 16 members: five are elected by school board directors, seven are appointed by the Governor, two serve as student representatives, and one serves as a private school representative. The Superintendent of Public Instruction is also a member.