**Académie Lafayette**

**Grantee:**

Académie Lafayette

**PR Award Number:**

S282E190030

**Duration (Years):** 5

**Year 1 Funding:**

$549,375

**Total Expected Funding:**

$1,341,461

**Académie Lafayette:**

201 East Armour Boulevard, Kansas City, MO 64111

Académie Lafayette is a Missouri charter Local Education Agency (LEA) in Kansas City, Missouri. The LEA currently operates three French immersion charter schools spanning the K-8 grade levels. The objectives of this project are:

1. Expand the middle school to serve grades 9-12.
2. Increase the percentage of educationally disadvantaged students served.
3. Continue the level of academic excellence, significantly exceeding the proficiency of all students in Missouri on the state assessments and graduating college ready students.

The design of the high school will be centered around a full diploma International Baccalaureate (IB) program, as the middle school has an IB middle years program. The four broad components of proposed project activities are provisioning of the school building to support the high school grade levels; supporting the start up of the IB program; supporting increased constructivist instruction and professional development of the staff. Quantitative performance measures and outcomes for each project objective are specified.

The school will grow to serve 276 students over the course of this project with an eventual enrollment of over 500 students at capacity. The academic outcomes for Académie Lafayette students demonstrate that it is an exceptionally high-quality charter school. The proficiency of the LEA’s students on the state assessments is dramatically better than the overall state with the proficiency rates exceeding the state by 25 percentage points in English Language Arts and 26 percentage points in math. The LEA students’ proficiency on the State tests is the 5th highest among the 558 LEAs in Missouri. It exceeds that of any charter or public school district in Kansas City or St. Louis, including those in their relatively affluent suburbs. The proficiency of Académie Lafayette’s educationally disadvantaged students exceeds the proficiency of similar groups of students in Missouri and either exceed or are comparable to those for ALL students in the State.

The strongest testament to this project supporting the expanded capacity of Académie Lafayetteis community demand. In August 2017, 178 children or 57% of applicants for kindergarten had to be placed on a waiting list. Kansas City parents are becoming increasingly aware of the educational choices and are selecting Académie Lafayette for their children. "I cried for three days," said the mother of Lila, Arlo and Ira after receiving her wait list position --#89. Académie Lafayette was their only choice. Their home was not in the preferred zones for other high performing schools. The KCPS school they were assigned was low performing and across town. Private school was too expensive. "We felt we had no choice. We moved to Kansas.”