

## **NEW CHARTER SCHOOL NAMES PRINCIPAL, RECEIVES MORE THAN 400 STUDENT PRE-ENROLLMENT FORMS**



Belle Isle, FL — Since announcing plans to open Cornerstone Charter Academy, a new, K-12 public charter school, the school's Governing Board has been busy getting ready for the first day of school. Scheduled to open in August 2010, Cornerstone Charter Academy will be located in the school facilities at Pine Castle United Methodist Church in the heart of the area encompassed by the cities of Belle Isle and Edgewood, and the unincorporated Pine Castle area. On Wednesday, February 24, the Cornerstone Charter Academy Governing Board authorized commencement of contract negotiations with Dr. Oleh A. Bula, its top ranked candidate for Principal of the charter school. Dr. Bula brings over 18 years of experience in leadership in business, military and education.

A former United States Marine Officer, business manager, and school administrator, Dr. Bula is a dynamic leader. He has been a high school administrator in both Brevard County at Satellite High School and Orange County at Boone High School since 2000. Dr. Bula brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise in current educational issues to Cornerstone Charter Academy. He has taught as a professor of Education at the University of Central Florida since 2001 in the Department of Educational Studies and at Brevard Community College in the Educator Preparation Institute for new teachers entering the field of education from alternate careers such as engineering, nursing and business. Dr. Bula is a visionary leader with plans to create a K-12 school with the highest standards and expectations for all students. Dr. Bula taught chemistry and physics at University High School and coached track and field before becoming an administrator in Brevard County. He also worked for the Spaceport Florida Authority as the manager of academic and international programs, developing new and innovating educational opportunities for students in space education. Dr. Bula has a Bachelor's degree in Chemistry from Boston University, Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Central Florida and his Doctorate in Education Law from the University of Central Florida. Dr. Bula is a published educational researcher in the field of Science Teaching and School Administration. He is also a Florida Supreme Court Certified Mediator. Dr. Bula is married with three children, ages 9, 13, and 14. His wife Suzanne is an Elementary School teacher.

City of Belle Isle Mayor Bill Brooks, Chairman of the Board, said all the final candidates were "extremely well qualified, making the Board very excited about the level of interest being shown by top academic professionals. We plan to quickly fill the remaining senior leadership positions at the school and then begin hiring teachers and support staff." Edgewood's Mayor Mike Teague added that "Community support for Cornerstone Charter Academy has exceeded expectations. The school has already received more than 400 families express interest during the pre-enrollment period."

Anticipated capacity for the first year is 750 students. Its application unanimously approved last year by Orange County Public School District, Cornerstone Charter Academy will finalize its charter schools' contracts with the District on March 23rd. The school's website, [www.cornerstonecharter.com](http://www.cornerstonecharter.com), has more information about the school.

# **Cornerstone Charter Academy**

## **An Orange County Public Charter School**