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August 30, 2012

Arkansas Department of Education
Charter School Office
Four Capitol Mall, Room 105-C
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Sirs:

The Fayetteville School District, in collaboration with the College of Education and Health Professions, University of Arkansas, proposes to develop a conversion district public charter school. Please consider this our letter of intent.

School district: Fayetteville Public School District
Contact individual: Vicki Thomas, Superintendent
Fayetteville Public School System
1000 W. Bulldog Blvd., Fayetteville, AR 72701;
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Name of proposed charter school: Leverett Elementary School

Name of the proposed district conversion charter school: Fayetteville School District/University of Arkansas
Universally Designed Elementary School

Location of the proposed district conversion charter school: 1124 W. Cleveland, Fayetteville, AR 72701

Grade levels of students to be served by the district conversion public charter school: K-4

Proposed student enrollment cap for district conversion public charter school: 400

Description of the purpose or special emphasis of the proposed school:

The Fayetteville Public School District and the University of Arkansas Universally Designed Elementary School provides a model inclusive elementary school. The school will be a model inclusive elementary school with particular focus upon serving students with autism spectrum disorders (and other developmental disabilities) and students who are English learners. In addition, the district conversion charter school will serve students with and without disabilities. Critical elements of the district conversion charter school are as follows: 1) nongraded organizational structure in which students progress at their own rate of learning, 2) individualized instructional plan appropriate to each student's learning needs, 3) all English speaking student, K-4, will learn a second language, 4) evidence-based instructional programming as designed through collaboration with the U of A College of Education, 5) a model professional development/lab school where elementary education majors can learn, observe and practice research-based strategies alongside master teachers, and 6) robust technology for student and teacher use.

Signatures:


Vicki Thomas, Superintendent
Fayetteville School District


Tom E.C. Smith, Dean
University of Arkansas

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