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Charter Home Schools

Letter of Intent to Apply For An Open Enrollment Public Charter School

Name of Sponsoring Entity: Rural Arkansas STEM Education Initiative, Inc.

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The applicant will be an "eligible entity" under the following category: An organization that is nonsectarian in its program. Admissions policies, employment practices, and operations; and has applied for tax exempt status under §501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (A.C.A. §6-23-103, as amended 2007). Application in process.

Name of Proposed Charter School: North Arkansas Science & Math Charter School (Subject to change after gaging response at public meetings).

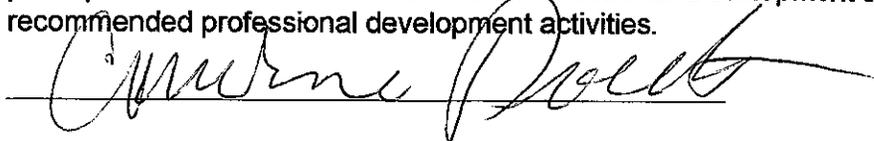
Location of the Proposed Open Enrollment Public Charter School: The school will be located in either Boone or Marion County; to be determined during the planning period.

Grade Levels: 9 – 12th **Proposed Enrollment Cap:** 650

Description of Proposed Program: The North Arkansas Science & Math Charter School is being designed in an exploratory way; in an attempt to replicate the highly successful Haas Hall Academy charter school in similar small traditional school settings. Looking at the most recent data, Haas Hall Academy has the lowest per pupil expenditure and the highest rate of return per dollar (highest standardized test scores and lowest college remediation rate) of any public school traditional or charter in the state of Arkansas.

There are 27,468 high schools in the U.S., this year Haas Hall has been ranked 215th by US News and World Reports. This week they set history by scoring 100% pass rate for all End of Course tests given by the state. Haas Hall, a small school with an enrollment of 280, has created a positive and nurturing educational environment. The environment at Haas Hall Academy is what makes us truly unique. Scholars are required to work in small groups in many classes. Scholars have been encouraged to form their own study groups and work together to accomplish many tasks. Haas Hall Academy has increased its general course offerings such as: Algebra III; Finite Mathematics; Discrete Mathematics; International Relations; Debate; Current Issues; Personal Finance; Child Development; Sociology; Dance Technique I and II; Haas Hall Academy has increased its course offerings in foreign languages. We offer four years of Spanish, German and French.

The administration, faculty and staff will be working with this proposed charter to replicate their curriculum, explore distance sharing of HHA's more sophisticated course offerings, and modeling for administrators and teachers. Faculty selected for the proposed charter will also participate in Haas Hall's before school Professional Development activities, and any other recommended professional development activities.

 4/30/2012