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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 eSTEM Public Charter School (Subject to change after gaging response at public meetings).

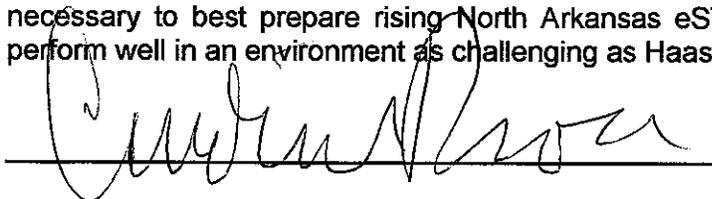
Location of the Proposed Open Enrollment Public Charter School: The school will be located in either Boone or Marion County; to be determined during the planning period.

Grade Levels: K – 8th **Proposed Enrollment Cap:** 450

Description of Proposed Program: The North Arkansas eSTEM Public Charter School will use the original eSTEM Public Charter School© design, with permission from the author. e-STEM Elementary Public Charter School© is a school for the study of the *economics* related to the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. The school has been designed to address, in a small way, a critical shortage of American citizens able to both fill jobs in the STEM fields and able to *create* jobs in the STEM fields.

The school incorporates a language tract, Latin in grades K-4 (as a foundation for English and other foreign languages) and Spanish in grades 5-8. The eSTEM program includes a K-12 Economics curriculum based on the National Association of Economic Educators standards. Twenty key economic areas are covered every year at all grade levels, with the instruction differentiated for age. A Technology and Engineering theory curriculum that recognizes that teaching applications, networking, etc. is futile due to the rapid change in the field. What students DO need is an understanding of the theories of integration. Advanced, classical curriculums in Language Arts, World History, American History, Geography; Art and Music are also included in the original program design chosen.

This school is being designed to be a feeder school for a high, being proposed separately, that will be based on the best practices of the highly successful Haas Hall Academy. The school model will be modified to incorporate the newly adopted Common Core. Additionally, Haas Hall faculty and staff will serve as curriculum and course design consultants, making revisions as necessary to best prepare rising North Arkansas eSTEM Public Charter School Students to perform well in an environment as challenging as Haas Hall.

 6/30/2012