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March 31, 2020

Via Email to [ade.charterschools@arkansas.gov](mailto:ade.charterschools@arkansas.gov)  
Arkansas Department of Education  
Charter School Office  
Four Capitol Mall, Room 304-B  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Re: Letter of Intent to Apply for an Open Enrollment Public Charter School

To Whom It May Concern:

It is the intention of the National Education Support Network in affiliation with American Quality Schools Corporation, a current charter eligible entity under IRS section 501(c)(3), to apply for an open-enrollment public charter school in Northwest Arkansas area. Launched in 1999, American Quality Schools (AQS) is a not-for-profit educational management company that operates charter schools in the Midwest. The primary contact for this project is Mr. Rick W. Mills, CEO, National Education Support Network, 9830 S. Bell Avenue, Chicago, IL. 60643, 773-401-2279, [rmills398@gmail.com](mailto:rmills398@gmail.com).

The Arkansas Military Academy will be a military academy that uses the junior ROTC curriculum with a "first responders" electives concentration and focuses on a college-preparatory instructional framework. These schools create learning environments that promote self-discipline, leadership, teamwork, health and physical fitness. In addition, the academies will incorporate remote/online learning options for both students and faculty. This will include a supplemental virtual learning program and an online educational resource repository.

The proposed school will serve 600 students in grades 9-12 from diverse demographic backgrounds. Academies of this type have historically drawn significant numbers of students from underrepresented populations. These students thrived in this strong, support-oriented educational approach. Equity in learning opportunity and quality of educational experience is key in these academies.

We have collectively opened eleven military academies in four school districts, each of which have been highly successful. We look forward to working with the State of Arkansas and the selected community to serve it students, parents, and citizens.

Sincerely,



Rick W. Mills  
CEO



NATIONAL  
EDUCATION  
SUPPORT  
NETWORK

A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO EDUCATION

**National Education Support Network**

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