

Osceola Public Schools

Member North Central Association

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Osceola, AR 72370
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AUG 30 2011

CHARTER SCHOOL OFFICE

Dear Dr. Duncan,

On behalf of the Osceola School District, I respectfully request an approval to apply for a new charter agreement. The Osceola School District is undergoing intensive progress and the proposed changes will enable our school to continue to progress in a constructive direction.

The Osceola School Board voted to approve this request on August 26, 2011. With the support of our community, the Osceola School District and Osceola School Board wishes to further our efforts to make the charter school a successful component of the district.

As superintendent of Osceola School District, I request that the Arkansas Department of Education approve this request to apply for an open enrollment public charter school. Please contact me personally if you have any questions about this request.

Michael H. Cox

Michael H. Cox
Superintendent

School District: Osceola School District

Contact Person: Michael Cox, Superintendent
2750 West Semmes
Osceola, AR 72370
phone-870-563-2561
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mcox@osd1.org

School(s): Osceola Academic Center

Proposed Charter School Name: Osceola STEM Academy
Location: 112 School Street,
Osceola, AR 72370
on the previous Osceola Academic Center campus

Grade Levels: 1st-8th Grade

Student Enrollment Cap 450 Students

Purpose/ Special Emphasis: The Osceola STEM Academy will be a 1st-8th grade conversion charter school with an emphasis on project/process/product based learning in the area of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). The charter school will provide an academic choice for parents and students in our area by implementing a research based learning environment focused on authentic assessments. Students will be exposed to authentic learning, hands-on projects and interactive simulations. Additional components of the charter include: cross curricular teaching, quarterly required projects and partnerships with the community; this includes: parental agreements, business/industry advisory boards and community service projects. Our goal is to foster an environment which serves as a gateway to prepare students to be College/Career Ready and to utilize 21st Century Transferrable skills while exploring a relevant learning environment that adheres to the high skill and high demand field of STEM.