

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

Dear Dr. Duncan:

In accordance with the 2010 Application for an Open Enrollment Public School Charter, please accept our letter of intent to submit an application for eBLAST Academy to be located in McNeil, Arkansas.

Eligible Entity: **SAFE** (South Arkansas Foundation for Education), an organization that is nonsectarian in its programs and operations, and is exempt from taxation under Section 501 (c) (3).

Eligible Entity Identification number: 26-4651894

DLN: 17053170013049

Name of Proposed Charter School: **eBLAST Academy**

Grades: k-8 *Enrollment Cap:* 300

Location: The school will be open to all children in Arkansas. We will focus our recruitment efforts in the McNeil area. The Charter School will be housed in the former McNeil High School.

The purpose of the charter school will be to prepare k-8 school students to excel in high school, college, and beyond by providing a high-quality early childhood education, ensuring student mastery of the core subjects, and developing the key behaviors required for educational and personal success. We believe that a great foundation is the first step in a great education.

We will fulfill this mission by providing:

- Rigorous academic curriculum that focuses on high level literacy (reading and writing), mathematics, science and technological skills.
- Classroom instruction and student support that effectively remediate weaknesses and accelerates the learning of all students making sure that *No Student is Left Behind in the Race to the Top*.
- High quality and proven teachers' professional development programs that allow us to effectively build and maintain results driven curriculum and achievement oriented school culture.
- Meaningful parent involvement, support and training.

We look forward to making this great opportunity work for this area, as well as working with you and your staff towards the completion of our application and the successful start of our school year.

Contact Person: James Welch

Complete Mailing Address: **SAFE, 306 Walnut, McNeil, AR 71753**

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Respectfully submitted,



James Welch

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MAY 26 2010

CHARTER SCHOOL OFFICE