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# *LISA Academy*

**Amendment Request**  
**April 14, 2020**


# Our Mission and Pillars

It is the mission of LISA Academy to provide an academically rigorous college preparatory program, in partnership with students, families, and the community, and guide all students in gaining knowledge, skills, and the attitude necessary to direct their lives, improve a diverse society, and excel in a changing world by providing dynamic, resource-rich learning environments.




**L**

All students will learn effective educational practices.




**I**

LISA seeks to be on the forefront of education, implementing cutting edge educational practices



**S**

Working with the support triad of teachers, students, and parents as a team we can help students succeed.



**A**

With effective practices, interventions, and family support students achieve academically



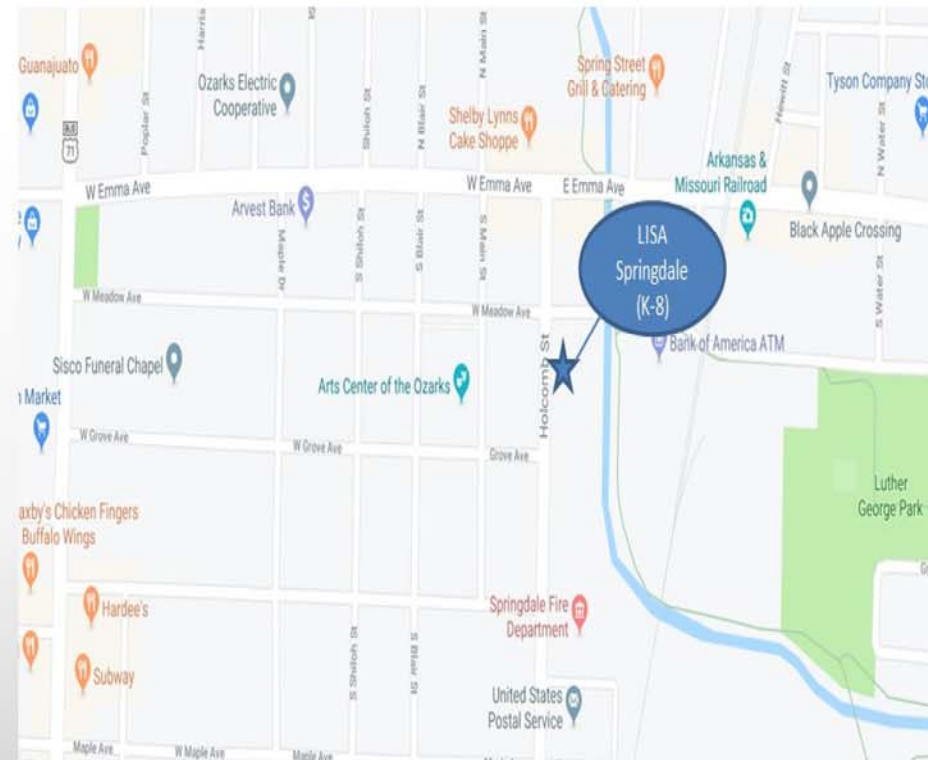
# Current Structure



Currently, LISA Academy serves over 2800 in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade on both sides of the Arkansas River in Central Arkansas as well as in Springdale. Beginning in Fall of 2020:

- West Little Rock: 4 building serving 1,400 students in grades k-12
- LISA Academy North Middle and High School: 550 students in grades 6-12
- LISA Academy North Elementary School: 676 students in k-5
- LISA Academy Springdale: 230 students in k-8

LISA Academy's current overall enrollment cap is 3,432. Locations of current schools are indicated on the maps below:



# What makes LISA Academy Successful?

- Planning Academic Success for all students
- Embracing Diversity
- Preparing all students for College and Career
- Embedding STEM engagement
- Involving Parents
- Collaborating with others





# LISA Academy's Proven Track Record of Student Achievement and Growth



**LISA Academy Public Charter Schools**  
2018-19 ESSA School Index and Report Card

Superintendent: Dr. Fatih Bogrek

School	ESSA Letter Grade	ESSA Growth Score	School	ESSA Letter Grade	ESSA Growth Score
LISA North High	<b>A</b>	86.5	LISA West Middle	<b>B</b>	83.37
LISA North Middle	<b>A</b>	85.83	LISA Chenal	<b>C</b>	82.69
LISA North Elementary	<b>B</b>	86.1	LISA West High	<b>C</b>	80.19

All LISA Schools showed significant growth in 2018-19 school year

## LISA Leads in A/B School Rankings

67%

47%

20%

*LISA North High School had the highest growth in the state of Arkansas for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year*

# Student Engagement Beyond the Classroom



- Science Fair
- Academic Competition Teams
- Sports
- Other Extracurricular Programs



# Diversity at LISA Academy



LISA Academy has **steadily increased** low income and minority student populations each year since its inception, with a current minority enrollment of about 80% and a 64% FRLP participation.

In fact, LISA Academy has been recognized as the **most racially diverse school** in the State of Arkansas (*Public School Review, 2016*).

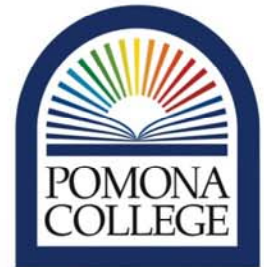




# College and Career Preparation



- 95% or more College Acceptance Rate.
- *U.S. News* recognized LISA North and LISA West High Schools as the #3 and #7 Best High Schools in Arkansas for 2017.
- *The Washington Post* recognized LISA North and LISA West High Schools as #2 and #4 in Arkansas among America's Most Challenging High Schools for 2017





# Parental Involvement




**Teamwork between families and school is crucial for student success**

- Home Visits (500+ Home Visits)
- Voly (880+ Volunteer Hours)
- Family Activities, including: Doughnuts with Dads, Muffins with Moms, and Cookies with Grandparents, Pot-Lucks
- Thanksgiving Dinner with Intervention Students/Families
- Watch D.O.G.S
- Parent-Teacher Communication
- Weekly newsletter
- Open-Door Policy
- PTO
- Homeroom Picnics
- Open Houses
- Parent-Teacher Conferences



# STEM Exploration



- **Learning Blade-** STEM career exploration on-line program used in Career Orientation and Science classes  LearningBlade
- **Girls of Promise Coding Summit**
- **PLTW** – elementary through high school
- **Space Camp** – trip each year for elementary
- **Science Fair** – all middle school students participate each year
- **STEM Festival** – annual event for entire state. Students prepare and demonstrate projects.



Girls of Promise  
WOMEN'S FOUNDATION OF ARKANSAS





# Arkansas STEM Festival



- LISA Academy & UA Little Rock initiated in 2015.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> annual STEM Festival was held on March 8, 2019, with over 2,000 students in attendance from across the state.
- The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Arkansas STEM Festival was scheduled to be held on March 13, 2020 at the State Fair Grounds, but was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

[www.arstem.org](http://www.arstem.org)





# LISA Solar Car Places



## 5<sup>th</sup> in National Competition

The LISA Academy North Solar Car Team recently won 5th Place in the National Solar Car Challenge Race in their second year at the competition. The team competed with other teams from around the Nation at the Texas Motor Speedway in Dallas, TX over several days in July of 2019.



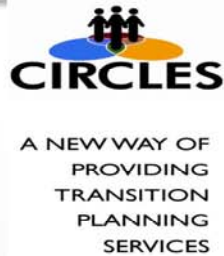


# Collaboration and Sharing Best Practices



LISA Academy provided a Conference for Arkansas Educators to share effective practices

LISA Academy participated in a pilot of the Arkansas Circles program to help special education students develop personal plans for transition to higher education and/or career services.



Springdale School District visit with LISA Administrators

Nov 28, 2019



Visiting teachers from Helena-West Helena Schools

# Collaboration Success:



## Ozark Montessori Academy – LISA Academy

During the 2018-2019 school year Ozark Montessori Academy and LISA Academy formed a partnership to support the students of OMA . LISA provided consulting and support services to improve the academic program for the second semester and as a result, students' scores improved significantly on the ACT Aspire in the spring of 2019.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
English	55.9%	71.7%
Reading	22.1%	41.5%
ELA	23.5%	35.8%
Math	25.0%	47.2%
Science	33.8%	45.3%
STEM	8.8%	17.0%



# Collaboration Success:



## Ozark Montessori Academy – LISA Academy



Q & A with OMA Staff



Information Night for OMA Parents



Information Night for OMA Parents



Meeting with Latino and Marshallese Community Leaders

# Collaboration Success:



## Ozark Montessori Academy – LISA Academy



**Information Nights  
for families in the  
Hispanic and  
Marshallese Communities.  
*Translators provided  
for all sessions.***





# Collaboration Success:



## Ozark Montessori Academy – LISA Academy



LISA leaders met with Springdale Schools leaders



LISA hosted OMA students at the Arkansas STEM Festival



LISA Robotics Students demonstration at OMA





# Collaboration Success:



## Ozark Montessori Academy – LISA Academy

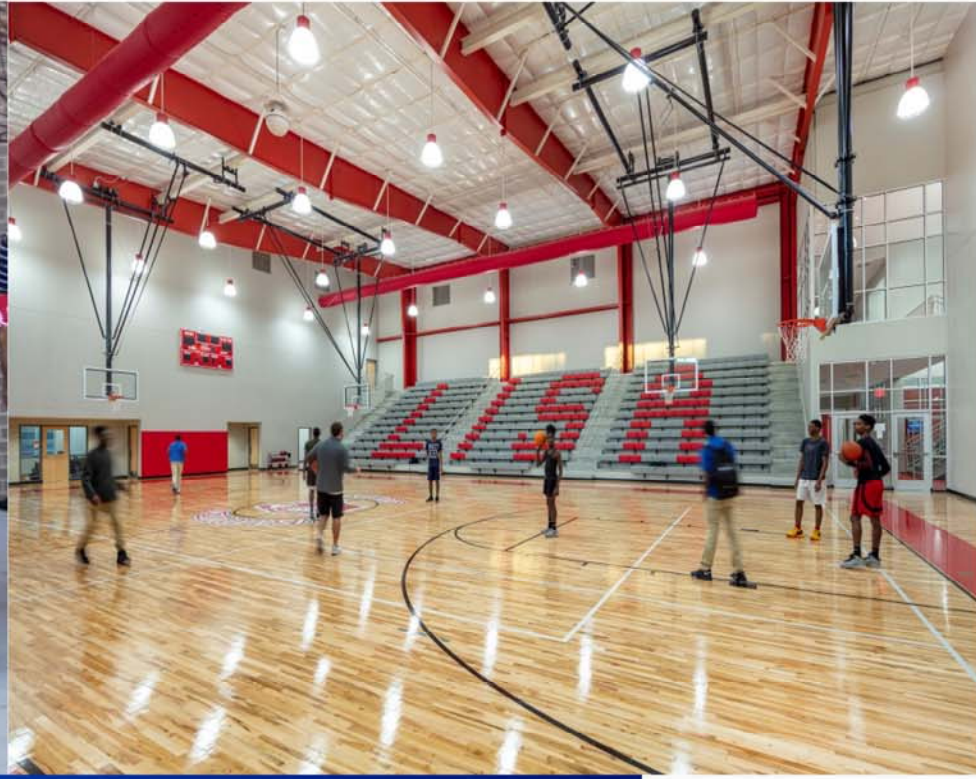
On August 12, 2019, LISA Academy Springdale successfully opened with 230 K-8 students, including over 100 students who were enrolled at OMA at the time of the transfer of the charter.





# LISA North Grand Opening

October 3, 2019





# Recent Collaboration Success: Little Rock Preparatory Academy – LISA Academy



Little Rock Preparatory Academy and LISA Academy agreed to a partnership for the 2019-2020 school through a Memorandum of Understanding. Under this agreement LISA has provided a Project Manager as a point of contact, along with other staff to provide consulting services.

Little Rock Preparatory Academy currently serves 255 K-8th students in two buildings. The primary school (K-4) is located on S. Spring Street and the middle school (5-8) is on West Markham. As a CEP school, all LRPA students are currently qualified for the free lunch program.



# Recent Collaboration Success: Little Rock Preparatory Academy – LISA Academy



After approval of the merger of LRPA and LISA Academy, the two schools have worked together for the transition. LISA Academy has offered priority consideration for employment to current LRPA staff for the 2020-2021 school year at LISA as well as priority enrollment for current LRPA students.

In the fall of 2020 LISA Academy will open its new high school campus in the building that was the LRPA middle school at 6711 West Markham. This will allow reconfiguration of the LISA West schools, including adding a Maker Space at the Middle School, and will provide seats for all LRPA students who have elected to enroll at LISA Academy.







# LISA Academy Criteria for Expansion

To investigate the interest and feasibility of expanding in other areas, LISA Academy formed an exploratory committee to investigate possible locations for expansion. Some important criteria in determining if an area is suitable for a new school include:

- Student K-12 population of 10,000+
- Limited school choice
- Population Growth
- Proximity to a college/university
- Diversity
- Industry that demands STEM-trained workforce

# Student K-12 population of 10,000+



The total number of students enrolled in public schools in Benton and Washington counties has grown steadily since 2014, with a current enrollment of 88,867, compared to 60,582 in Pulaski County.

	Benton & Washington County	Pulaski County
Public School Enrollment	88,867	60582
Charter School Enrollment	3,546	9818
Private School Enrollment	5480	12649
Home School Enrollment	4221	2160
Charter School %	3.99%	16.21%



# Limited school choice



The families and students in Northwest Arkansas have fewer choices when it comes to public school options than do their counterparts in Central Arkansas.

	Benton & Washington County	Pulaski County
Public School	127	100
Charter School	14	28
Private School	36	52
Charter School %	11.0%	28.0%

# Population Growth



Washington and Benton Counties both have high projected population growth in the next 10-15 years. With continued population growth, demand for more capacity and choice for students also increases.

“The Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC) is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Benton and Washington counties.

The estimated and projected populations for 2040 ... for all the cities and incorporated Benton and Washington counties area. These projections were based on the population projection from the Arkansas Census State Data Center (CSDC) and also used previous growth rates developed for the 2035 Plan.





# Proximity to a College/University

Northwest Arkansas offers a unique opportunity to be near Arkansas' largest university, the University of Arkansas. In addition, John Brown University, Northwest Arkansas Community College and several other institutions make this area an ideal location for the expansion of LISA Academy.



# Diversity



With a history and culture of appreciating and embracing other cultures, LISA Academy schools are a perfect fit for an area like Northwest Arkansas, which is home to many cultures and languages.

	Benton-Washington	Pulaski
Total LEP Students	31,954	11,007
Total LEP Students Percent	36%	18%
Total Home Language Other than English	26,459	7,414
Total Home Language Other than English Percent	30%	12%







# Industry that Demands STEM-trained Workforce

A variety of industries are represented throughout Northwest Arkansas. Well-known names such as Walmart, Tyson Foods and JB Hunt are joined by local companies such as Superior Industries and Washington Regional, all of whom are demanding more and more college graduates and career ready candidates for their STEM industries. LISA Academy schools in Northwest Arkansas will prepare students who will enter college and/or the workforce qualified and ready for the next step.

# Rationale for Rogers Campus



Rogers clearly meets our criteria for an expansion location, while the specific location also provides an additional opportunity to reach underserved populations in the area.

LISA Academy has provided a highly successful college prep, STEM Focused educational option for families in Central Arkansas for over 15 years. Based on data collected from families over multiple years, LISA Academy is a preferred choice for many because of the following unique qualities:

- Small, safe environment
- Personalized, student-focused approach to learning
- Strong family engagement
- Accessibility of school leadership to respond to needs
- Close physical proximity of all grade bands provides convenience for families

Offering a different model to families in the Rogers and the surrounding community will provide a choice for families who prefer free, public education in a smaller, more specialized environment. Adding a second campus in the NWA area will also allow LISA Academy to better support the already successful LISA Academy Springdale campus.

# Rogers Campus Plans



LISA Academy's expansion plan includes the development of a campus in Rogers, located at 428 Horsebarn Road. The proposed property is centrally located to both Rogers and Bentonville and is easily accessible to residential areas of both communities. LISA Academy is working with a 3rd party who would purchase the property and build to our specifications, allowing the school to lease the facilities once they are completed. This location would house a K-12th grade campus.

Depending on demand, we request the flexibility to begin with a grade band with the greatest demand and add grades each year until a full K-12 system is in place.

The eventual campus would house the following schools in two buildings:

- LISA Academy Rogers-Bentonville Elementary School (K-5)
- LISA Academy Rogers-Bentonville Middle School (6-8)
- LISA Academy Rogers-Bentonville High School (9-12)





# Rogers Campus Enrollment Projections

Tentative enrollment projections anticipate full enrollment by 2033.

<b>School Year</b>	<b>Projected gradess</b>	<b>Total Projected Enrollment</b>
2022-23	k - 6	216
2023-24	k - 7	288
2024-25	k - 8	365
2025-26	k - 9	442
2026-27	k - 10	519
2027-28	k - 11	597
2028-29	k - 12	676
2029-30	k - 12	729
2030-31	k - 12	783
2031-32	k - 12	837
2032-33	k - 12	837
2033-34 and after	k - 12	945

# Proposed Location of Rogers Campus





# Amendment Request

## **LISA Academy requests the following:**

1. Adding a new K-12 campus in Rogers, opening in fall of 2022 with flexible grade configurations.
2. Increasing LISA Academy's enrollment cap by 950 students, to be implemented in phases over multiple years. The projected year to reach this cap is 2033.
3. Keeping existing waivers in place.



**Thank you!**