

Charter Amendment Request AMS Schools – Arkansas August 7, 2025



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  - a. AMS Schools Arkansas Amendment Request Presentation (attached separately), which includes:
    - i. AMS Fort Smith Needs Analysis and Facility Identification Information

Note: Per instructions from Assistant Commissioner Darrell Smith, AMS Schools – Arkansas is not submitting a Facilities Utilization Agreement as facility identification and selection is still underway as detailed herein and in the AMS Schools – Arkansas Amendment Request Presentation. We affirm that the facilities we operate will be compliant with ADE/IDEA accessibility regulations and will remain so while AMS occupies the location.



July 28, 2025

Mr. Darrell Smith, Assistant Commissioner Office of School Choice and Parent Empowerment Arkansas Department of Education Four Capital Mall, Little Rock, AR 72201

Re: AMS Schools – Arkansas Amendment Request

Dear Assistant Commissioner Smith,

Pursuant to Section 4.02.4 of the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Public Charter Schools, we are submitting a Charter Amendment Request Form with additional documentation pertaining to the request. The purpose of this submission is to request the following amendment to the AMS Schools – Arkansas charter:

- 1. Add a new K-8 campus in Fort Smith, Arkansas to open in the Fall of 2026 or 2027\* as AMS Fort Smith.
- 2. To increase AMS Schools Arkansas' enrollment cap of 750 students to 1,560 students to account for AMS Fort Smith serving up to 810 students.
- 3. To maintain all current waivers held by AMS Little Rock for AMS Fort Smith.

We ask that this amendment request be placed on the August 7, 2025, meeting agenda of the Charter Authorizing Panel for consideration.

We appreciate the Department's time and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Erik Greenberg
Chief Executive Officer, AMS Impact Group
&
Kristina Winters
Superintendent, AMS Impact Group
&
Zachary Larison
Chief of Staff, AMS Impact Group

#### Cc:

 Mr. Martin Mahan, Superintendent, Fort Smith Public Schools, mmahan@fortsmithschools.org.

<sup>\*</sup>The school's opening year will depend on facility selection. If AMS secures Proposed Location #1, the school will open Fall 2027. If AMS secures Proposed Location #2, the school will open Fall 2026. Please refer to the attached PowerPoint presentation for more information.

Sent via email



# **Charter Amendment Request Form**

The Charter Amendment Request Form and all required documentation must be received via email (<a href="mailto:ade.charterschools@ade.arkansas.gov">ade.arkansas.gov</a>) at the Arkansas Department of Education at least 35 days prior to the Charter Authorizing Panel meeting.

Char	rter Name: AMS Schools - Ark	LEA: 6065700				
Supe	erintendent or Director: Kris	tina Winters				
Ema	il: kwinters@amsschools.org	Phon	e: 501-295-3424			
	Tun	a of Amandment(s)	Paguastad			
	тур	e of Amendment(s)	Requested			
	Add a New Campus (Must a	also submit the Facilities Utiliza	ation Agreement)			
	Address:	Pending (See amendment attachments for more information)				
	School District:	Fort Smith Public Schools				
	Relocate Existing Campus	ies Utilization Agreement)				
	Campus Name:					
	Current Address:					
	Proposed Address:					
	School District:					
	Increase Enrollment Cap					
	Current Cap:	750				
	Proposed Cap:		1,560			
_						
Ц	Change Grade Levels Served					
	Current Grade Levels Served:					
	Proposed Grade Levels Served:					

• W	Vaiver(s)				
tatute/Standard/Rule to be Waived: Maintain all current waivers held by AMS Little Rock					
or Al\	MS Fort Smith.				
	Rationale for Waiver:				



II. Budget Projections

	AMS Fort Smith	Campus Proform	na		
	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031	FY2032
Projected# of Students	753*	753	753	753	753
Estimated State Revenue Per Pupil	10,276	10,403	10,533	10,664	10,797
State Foundation Funding	8,487	8,615	8,744	8,875	9,008
Teacher Salary Equalization	185	185	185	185	185
ESA Funding	1,076	1,076	1,076	1,076	1,076
Charter Facilities Fund	490	490	490	490	490
PD Funding	38	38	38	38	38
Estimated Federal Revenue Per Pupil	1,178	1,196	1,214	1,232	1,251
# of Staff	57	57	57	57	57
Revenue					
Federal	887,589	900,903	914,417	928,133	942,055
State	7,530,307	7,626,210	7,723,551	7,822,352	7,922,636
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Total Revenue	8,417,897	8,527,113	8,637,968	8,750,485	8,864,691
Expenditures					
Salary & Benefits	3,852,408	3,918,966	3,986,690	4,055,598	4,125,713
Prof Tech & Other Services	1,586,096	1,611,785	1,637,999	1,664,750	1,692,049
Building Lease	1,462,500	1,454,173	1,445,305	1,435,860	1,425,801
Building Services and Utilities	162,268	164,700	167,192	169,747	172,366
Supplies and Materials	495,779	508,173	520,877	533,899	547,247
Other Expenditures	455,963	456,386	456,963	457,553	458,159
Total Expenditures	8,015,014	8,114,183	8,215,026	8,317,408	8,421,334
Year End Balance	402,883	412,930	422,942	433,077	443,356

<sup>\*753</sup> students is 93% to capacity. Total capacity for the school is 810 students.



III. Current year to date enrollment by race and grade (2024-2025)

AMS Little Rock	Hispanic or Latino of any Race (Ethnicity)	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	White	Two or more races	Grand Total
K - Kindergarten	6	2	2	47		10		67
01 - First Grade	5	1		42		7		55
02 - Second Grade	13	1		41		6		61
03 - Third Grade	9	2		46		1		58
04 - Fourth Grade	9	2	2	42		5		60
05 - Fifth Grade	7			42		1		50
06 - Sixth Grade	12		1	45	1	5		64
07 - Seventh Grade	8			47		1		56
08 - Eighth Grade	2		2	20		4		26
Grand Total	71	8	5	372	1	40	0	497

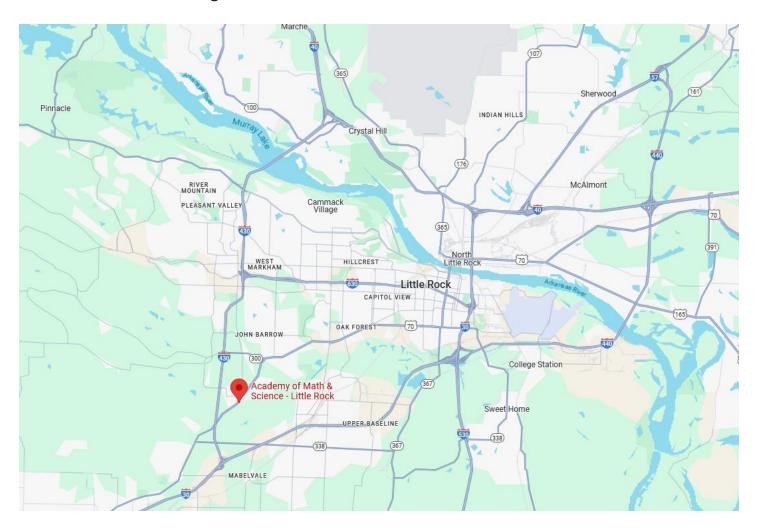
## IV. Current year to date free and reduced lunch (2024-2025)

School	# Free/Reduced Lunch Eligible Students	Total Enrollment	FRL Percentage	
AMS Little Rock	411	497	83%	



## V. Map of present location

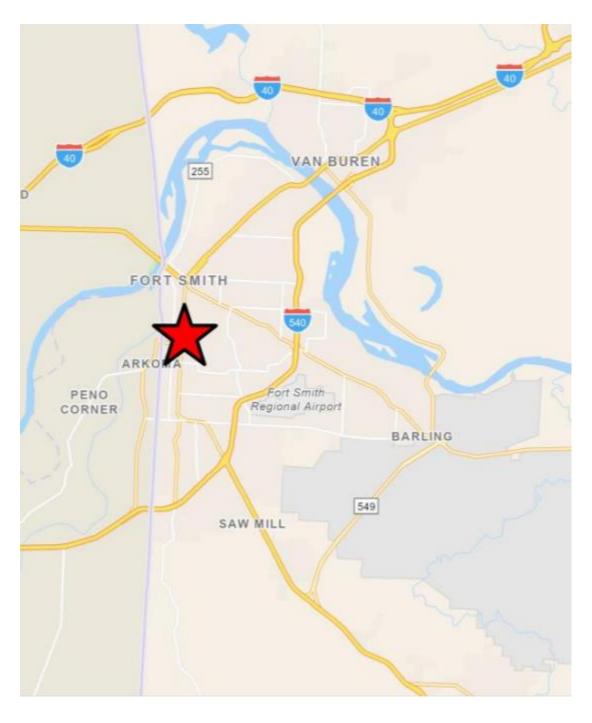
AMS Little Rock: 6423 Stagecoach Rd, Little Rock, AR 72204





## VI. Map of proposed locations:

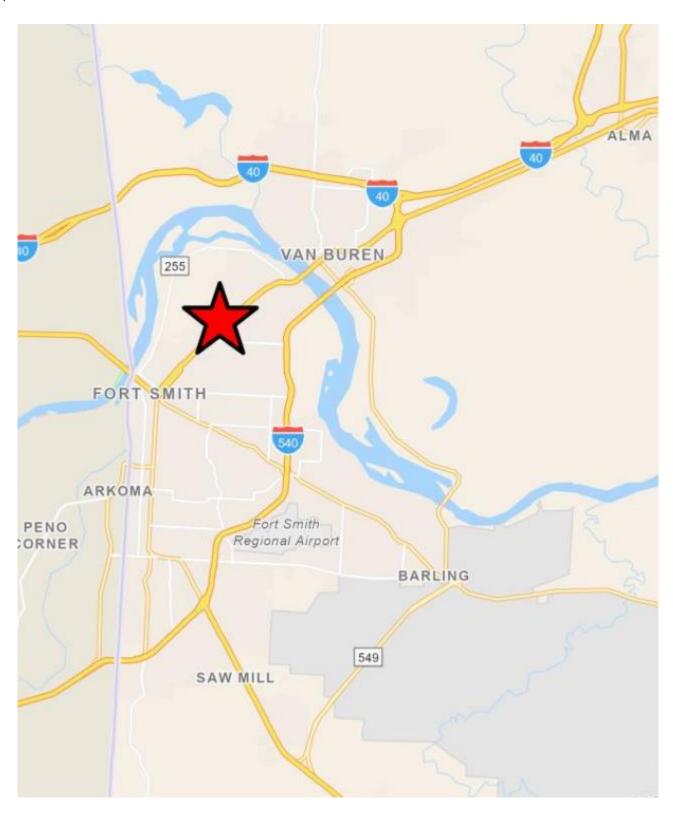
Proposed Location #1: 2121 Towson Ave, Fort Smith, AR 72901





## VI. Map of proposed locations:

Proposed Location #2: 3300 Harris Avenue, Fort Smith, AR 72904





#### VII. Desegregation Analysis

#### I. <u>Introduction</u>

AMS Schools-Arkansas (AMS) is seeking an amendment to open one (1) new campus within the boundaries of the Fort Smith School District. The Fort Smith campus will house Grade Levels K-8 with a maximum enrollment of 810 students. The Fort Smith campus, as an open-enrollment public charter school campus unconfined by district boundaries, expects to obtain most of its students from within the boundaries of the Fort Smith (FSSD), Alma (ASD), Charleston (CSD), Greenwood (GSD), Lavaca (LSD) and Van Buren (VBSD) School Districts. This analysis is provided to inform the decision making of the charter authorizer regarding the effect, if any, that the opening of a new charter school campus in Fort Smith would have on the efforts of the FSSD, ASD, CSD, GSD, LSD and the VBSD to comply with court orders and statutory obligations to create and maintain a unitary system of desegregated public schools.

#### II. General Analysis

AMS, in this analysis, has carefully reviewed the potential impact that the opening of a new charter school campus in Fort Smith would have upon the efforts of affected school districts to comply with court orders and statutory obligations to create and maintain a unitary system of desegregated public schools. In conducting its review, AMS has found that neither FSSD nor its surrounding school districts listed above (ASD, CSD, GSD, LSD and VBSD) are under any court orders concerning their desegregation obligations, and are unitary in all aspects of their school operations. Therefore, the opening of a new AMS charter school campus in Fort Smith cannot be said to have a negative impact on the, FSSD, ASD, CSD, GSD, LSD and VBSD's ability to comply with their statutory obligations to create and maintain a unitary system of desegregated public schools.

#### III. AMS Student Information

According to enrollment figures provided earlier in this charter amendment request form as of February 3, 2025, the AMS Little Rock campus had a student population of 496 students, of whom 74.2% were Black; 13.7% were Hispanic, and 8.7% were White.

#### IV. <u>Fort Smith Campus Student Information</u>

Concerning the proposed Fort Smith campus, the FSSD had a student population of 13,683 students, of whom 37.4% were Hispanic; 35.7% were White, and 9.8% were Black. The ASD had a student population of 3,052 students, of whom 80.8% were White and 6% were Hispanic. The CSD had a student population of 875 students, of whom 92.5% were White. The GSD had a student population of 3,850 students, of whom 78.8% were White, and 7.9% were Hispanic. The LSD had a student



population of 747 students, of whom 82.8% were White and 5.2% were Hispanic. The VBSD had a student population of 5,603 students, of whom 62.4% were White, and 21.8% were Hispanic. Ark. Code Ann. §6-23-106 also requires that AMS's operation of the charter school campuses will not serve to hamper, delay or in any manner negatively affect the desegregation efforts of a public school district or districts within the state. AMS's careful review of the relevant statutes and orders affecting the FSSD, ASD, CSD, GSD, LSD and VBSD, and the student populations of such districts, shows that such negative effect is not present here.

#### V. Conclusion

In conclusion, AMS submits that upon the basis of its review, no statutory or other impediments concerning the creation and operation of desegregated public schools prohibit the State's charter school authorizer from granting its amendment request to open one (1) new AMS open-enrollment public charter school campuses, AMS Fort Smith to open in the Fall of 2026 within the boundaries of the Fort Smith School District.



#### **VIII. APPENDIX: Additional Amendment Support Materials**

For more information supporting this amendment request, please refer to the submitted PowerPoint file "AMS Schools – Arkansas Amendment Request Presentation – August 2025" (attached separately), which includes a community needs analysis for AMS Fort Smith and more information about the proposed facility locations.

On behalf of AMS Schools – Arkansas and AMS Impact Group, we appreciate the Charter Authorizing Panel's time and consideration of this request. We look forward to serving Arkansas students and families in need for years to come.

### Thank you!

