



**SAINT LOUIS  
UNIVERSITY**

— EST. 1818 —

**SCHOOL OF  
EDUCATION**

3500 Lindell Blvd.  
Fitzgerald Hall  
St. Louis, MO 63103

P 314-977-4062 or  
314-977-2508  
F 314-977-3290

[www.slu.edu](http://www.slu.edu)

March 6, 2026

Director Shanika Williams  
Charter Schools Director  
Office of Quality Schools  
Missouri Department of  
Elementary and Secondary Education  
205 Jefferson Street  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0480

RE: Sponsorship of Frontier Schools, Inc. – Frontier STEM Academy–Columbia

Dear Director Williams:

Saint Louis University is pleased to inform you of its intent to serve as the sponsor of Frontier Schools, Inc., Frontier STEM Academy–Columbia. The proposed school is a mission-driven, STEM-focused public charter school that seeks to empower students through high expectations, hands-on learning, and a strong commitment to college and career readiness.

Frontier STEM Academy–Columbia will be located in the City of Columbia and plans to open in the 2027–2028 school year, initially serving approximately 184 students in grades pre-kindergarten through second grade.

The proposed charter and governing board meet the requirements outlined in RSMo §§160.400–160.425 and §167.349. Given the demonstrated success of Frontier Schools, Inc. in Kansas City, Saint Louis University has confidence that the board and school leadership will provide a high-quality public education option for families in the Columbia area.

This application is being submitted early in the approval cycle to allow adequate time for meaningful community engagement and outreach in the Columbia area. Philanthropic funds have been awarded to support these efforts and will be released upon approval by the Missouri State Board of Education. These philanthropic funds will allow the school's founding team to engage families and community stakeholders well in advance of the planned opening.

As required by RSMo §160.405.3, Saint Louis University is formally submitting this application to the Missouri State Board of Education for consideration and approval at a future board meeting.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Boyd, Ph.D.  
Assistant Dean  
School and Community Partnerships  
School of Education  
Saint Louis University

CC: Mr. Dennis Davis, Frontier Schools, Inc. Board Chair  
Mr. Ugur Demircan, Frontier Schools, Inc. Superintendent  
Mr. John Lyman, Columbia Public Schools, Board Chair  
Dr. Jeff Klien, Columbia Public Schools, Superintendent