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**Contact:**  
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302-993-6993

October 30, 2014

Jennifer Nagourney  
Charter School Office  
Delaware Department of Education  
401 Federal Street, Suite 2  
Dover, DE 19901-3639

Dear Ms. Nagourney:

At the monthly meeting of the Delaware STEM Academy on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the Board of Directors voted to defer the opening of the Delaware STEM Academy until the 2016-2017 school year. The Board has come to this decision after careful consideration. The Board feels the time needed to finalize a facility, and have it ready to receive the Certificate of Occupancy by June 2015 is too short. The Board wanted to make this decision prior to the opening of the choice period, so there was limited impact on the community and the families who had expressed interest in enrollment at the school.

This would fall under a minor modification of our Charter, a one-time delay of start date.

In conclusion we are asking to defer the opening of the Delaware STEM Academy until August of 2016.

Sincerely,

**Ted C. Williams**  
President

Cc: Mark Murphy, Secretary, Department of Education



**The Delaware STEM Academy**  
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Wilmington, Delaware  
302-993-6993  
www.destemacademy.org

**Minor Modification Application to the Delaware Department of Education**

1. What modification does the school's Board of Directors wish to make to the term(s) of the charter?

*The Board of Directors of the Delaware STEM Academy wish to change the opening date of the School to August 2016. In the original charter the opening was slated for School Year 2015-2016.*

2. What is the effective date of the proposed modification?

*The date of this deferment of opening would be October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014*

3. The authorizer will review your most recent Performance Review Reports as part of your application.

*As a new Charter School this would be a one-time delay of our start date.*

4. Describe the rationale for the request(s).

*The school's Board of Directors feel an additional planning year would ensure the school building as well as the operations will be ready to take in 250 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students.*

5. Describe how the proposed modification will impact the operation of the school.

*During the 2015-2016 school year the school will utilize as a second planning year to ensure everything is in place for the 2016-2017 school year. The facility will be secured and community and families will be able to see where the school will be, as well as see designs of the building.*

6. Indicate the projected impact, if any, of the proposed modification on the school's present financial position, and its financial position going forward. If the modification promises to create financial challenges, indicate how those will be remedied.

*The additional planning year will allow the school to have additional time for fund raising. The school has not incurred many expenses and has not at this point hired any staff. The additional year will ensure the school has the time to make sure all finances are in order for the second planning year as well as the school opening.*