



# Lincoln Public Schools

Stephanie Powers  
Administrator for Student Services

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To: School Committee  
From: Stephanie Powers, Administrator for Student Services  
Re: Request for Approval for Frontier Academy  
Date: June 8, 2011

We have received a request for private school approval by Frontier Academy, which is housed at the Carroll School on Baker Ridge Road. Last summer, Charles Cherington and Ashley Pettus, Program Founders, secured approval from the Lincoln School Committee to operate a one-year pilot program within the Town of Lincoln.

Frontier Academy has license agreement with the Arrowsmith Program of Toronto. The Arrowsmith Program is curriculum of computer-based, auditory and written exercises designed to improve cognitive functioning for students with learning disabilities. Frontier Academy utilizes the Arrowsmith Program along with a general education curriculum that follows the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks.

The Frontier Academy is operating at maximum enrollment (10 students), 3 teachers and a full time administrator. The program has the following components in place:

- **Physical Plant/Safety**

The classrooms spaces appear as appropriate for educating students.

- **Curriculum**

The students are being educated using curriculum materials in mathematics, science and technology, history and social science and English. The curriculum selected is individualized to the age and current performance of the students.

- **Educational Materials**

Textbooks and individual instructional materials, including computers and other technology, are available an in use by all students.

- **School Staff**

The instruction is provided by three teachers that have been evaluated by the Program Founders and determined to meet the teacher qualifications of Frontier Academy. The faculty has successfully met the CORI (criminal offender record information) requirements.

- **Administration**

The school has a clearly defined organization that facilitates its objectives.

- **Records**

The Frontier Academy maintains student records (e.g., attendance, health, discipline, progress reports) in a safe and secure office. The school is prepared efficiently to transfer transcripts of all students and former students to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and/or other schools should it cease operation, in accordance with G.L. c. 71, § 34G.

- **Student Services**

The Frontier Academy contracts with the Carroll School to provide adequate pupil personnel services for all students (e.g., health care procedures, guidance and counseling programs). A Student Conduct and Discipline Policy is clearly defined and made available to students and families.

▪ **Financial Support**

The Frontier Academy continues to maintain evidence of financial solvency and resources to sustain the educational program. The school has documentation of its legal status.

▪ **Student Learning Time**

The Frontier Academy, by following the academic calendar of the Carroll School, provides adequate student learning time (length of school year and school day). Teachers monitor the hours of instruction in each subject for each student.

▪ **Student Performance Assessment**

The school periodically evaluates students' skills, competencies, and knowledge and documents their progress.

Frontier Academy has approval from the Arrowsmith Program for renewal of their program authorization for a period of one year with "no right of renewal commencing on July 1, 2011 and continuing to and ending on June 30, 2012." Frontier Academy is not permitted to enroll any new students. Charles Cherington and Ashley Pettus are hopeful that at the end of this coming school year they will have formed a partnership with a school in the Boston area that will adopt the Arrowsmith Program and they will no longer have a need to seek the Lincoln School Committee's approval to operate as a private school.

The Superintendent is recommending that the School Committee approve Frontier Academy's request to continue operation as a private school in Lincoln for the 2011-2012 school year only for students who are currently enrolled in the program. The Superintendent is further recommending that this approval expire on June 30, 2012 and not be eligible for further renewal.

Mickey Brandmeyer  
Stephanie Powers  
Lincoln Public Schools  
Ballfield Road  
Lincoln, MA 01773

May 25, 2011

To the Lincoln School Committee:

Dear Committee members,

I am writing to request your renewal of Frontier Academy's permission to operate as an independent, private school in the town of Lincoln, MA. Frontier Academy has completed a successful first year, offering the Arrowsmith Program in combination with individualized academic instruction to students with specific learning disabilities. All of our existing students will be returning next year, (with the exception of the two students who began the Arrowsmith Program a year prior in Vancouver, BC and hence will be returning to mainstream schools in the Fall). We will continue to house our school in the Gatehouse of the Carroll School at 25 Baker Bridge Road.

The Arrowsmith Program, based in Toronto, has established a policy for expanding their program that limits licenses in the United States to established schools of 100+ students. The Program's leadership aims to integrate the Arrowsmith curriculum into existing schools along a "school within a school" model. Hence, this is the final year that we will be requesting permission to operate Frontier Academy as a standalone private school. Next year, a number of large private schools around the country will be initiating Arrowsmith Programs, and we expect that, the following year, several schools in the New England area will follow suit. We currently have a steady flow of visitors (parents, school administrators, learning specialists, and neuropsychologists) who are interested in learning about the Arrowsmith Program, and a number of schools in the Boston area are considering adopting the program in 2012. The Carroll School is one among these. Next year, Frontier Academy will continue to serve as a showcase for the Arrowsmith Program in Boston, while continuing to provide an intensive and highly individualized cognitive and academic curriculum to our students.

I am enclosing with this letter a number of documents for your consideration:

- Copies of the original FA prospectus and curriculum/assessment plan
- Addendum A: a description of updated changes to the original prospectus, including daily schedule.
- Addendum B: a description of the specific English and Math curriculum we have used this past year.

- Copies of the Curriculum Vitae of our two Arrowsmith-trained teachers (Mary Ellen Callura, Sari Buchalter) and our math specialist, (Katie Dolan L.C.S.W.), and the bio of our learning disabilities consultant (Carol Kinlan, M.Ed.)
- A copy of the renewed license agreement with the Arrowsmith Program, Toronto.
- Copies of the signed teacher contracts for next year.
- A copy of the lease agreement with the Carroll School.

Please let me know if there are additional documents that you require. We will be conducting year-end Arrowsmith testing as well as academic skills assessments during the final week of school, June 6-10, 2011.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ashley Pettus". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Ashley Pettus

School Head  
Frontier Academy  
25 Baker Bridge Road  
Lincoln, MA 01773  
617-838-1427

## Renewal Agreement

THIS AGREEMENT is made on March 31, 2011

### BETWEEN:

**Frontier Academy LLC**, a corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Massachusetts and having its head office at Boston, Massachusetts

(hereinafter referred to as "Frontier")

-- and --

**Arrowsmith Program U.S. Inc.**, a corporation incorporated under the laws of Canada and having its head office at Toronto, Ontario

(hereinafter referred to as "Arrowsmith")

WHEREAS Frontier entered into an Agreement with Arrowsmith dated June 24, 2010 (the "Agreement") involving the provision to students at Frontier of the Arrowsmith Program for the remediation of learning disabilities and cognitive impairments;

AND WHEREAS the Agreement provides, inter alia, that the term of the Agreement was for a period of one year with no right of renewal commencing on July 1, 2010 and continuing to and ending on June 30, 2011.

AND WHEREAS the parties hereto have agreed that the Agreement shall be renewed for a further period of one year commencing on July 1, 2011 and continuing to and ending on June 30, 2012.

NOW THEREFORE THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSES that in consideration of the respective covenants and agreements of the parties contained herein, the sum of one dollar paid by each party hereto to each of the other parties hereto and other good and valuable consideration (the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged by each of the parties hereto) it is agreed as follows:

1. **Definition of Agreement.** "Agreement" means the Agreement dated June 24, 2010 between Frontier Academy LLC and Arrowsmith Program U.S. Inc.

2. **Renewal Agreement.**

(a) The parties hereto agree to renew the Agreement for a period of one year with no right of renewal commencing on July 1, 2011 and continuing to and ending on June 30, 2012;

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(b) Frontier may continue to offer the Arrowsmith Program to students currently enrolled at Frontier Academy during the 2010-2011 school year but shall not be permitted to enroll any new students after the date of this Renewal Agreement.

3. **Amendment of Agreement: Payment of Fees.** Paragraph 8 (f) of the Agreement is deleted and is replaced by the following

(f) the Arrowsmith Program fee shall be paid in two installments equal to 50% of the total annual fee on October 15, 2011 and January 15, 2012 and shall be paid on the dates they are due as provided for herein and without deduction or any right of set off for any cause whatever and notwithstanding any dispute between the parties regarding any term of this agreement;

4. **Agreement to remain in effect.** All of the other terms and conditions of the Agreement dated June 24, 2010 shall remain in full force and effect

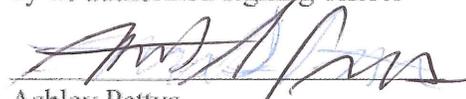
5. **Governing Law.** This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the Province of Ontario and the laws of Canada applicable therein.

6. **Transmission by Facsimile.** The parties hereto agree that this Agreement may be transmitted by facsimile or by a scanned copy being sent by email and that the reproduction of signatures by facsimile or such similar device will be treated as binding as if originals.

7. **Receipt of Agreement.** Each of the parties hereto acknowledges having received a signed copy of this renewal agreement.

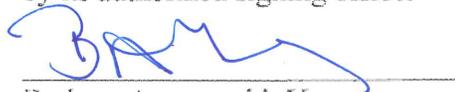
This renewal agreement is executed by Frontier Academy LLC at Boston, <sup>MA</sup> Massachusetts on March <sup>25</sup>, 2011, by Arrowsmith Program U.S. Inc. on <sup>April</sup> March <sup>12</sup>, 2011 at Toronto, Ontario.

Frontier Academy LLC  
by its authorized signing officer



Ashley Pettus  
(I have authority to bind the corporation)

Arrowsmith Program U.S. Inc.  
by its authorized signing officer



Barbara Arrowsmith Young  
(I have authority to bind the corporation)

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BAY