

January 14, 2025

Attn: Julie Whetzel  
Office of Charter Schools  
NC Department of Public Instruction



TILLERY  
CHARTER  
A CLASSICAL ACADEMY

Dear Ms. Whetzel,

Tillery Charter Academy (62A) is Montgomery County's only charter school that opened in August 2019. Our designation as a remote rural charter school is unique, just as unique as our nearly 300% growth since our opening. As Tillery Charter Academy has grown, the board of directors and the founding principal have also noted some unique challenges our families face. Back in October, the board met at its monthly meeting to discuss the possibility of and move forward with the opening of a remote academy to meet the needs of many families. Over the past six years, transportation to and from school has proven to be a hardship for many families. We have some families that drive nearly an hour and a half to get to school each morning. As time has gone on, this has become more and more of a financial burden, even after offering small stipends. A lot of families have left to attend the state's virtual school or their LEA's virtual academy even when they were happy with the education they were receiving at Tillery Charter Academy.

During the pandemic, our first year in operation, our academy was in a unique position having to serve students remotely in a very rural setting. Our leadership put together a plan that allowed each student in need to have a hotspot at home as many families lack quality internet access. We found the proper resources where every student received quality internet to complete assignments, video conference their teachers, listen to any videos for instruction.

Our team is prepared to meet the needs of students remotely. Our continued growth and past experience allows us to reach more students who may not have all of the resources and access.

Our Board of Directors has submitted and approved the following documents to submit to the Office of Charter School for their Remote Academy Amendment:

- Meeting minutes approving the remote instruction plan, the proposed budget, and the remote academy application.
- 2025-2026 Remote Instruction Plan
- Remote Charter Academy Amendment Application
- Remote Academy Budget
- Clarification Document for the Remote Academy Budget

We are very excited for this opportunity to bring another option for students to our remote rural area. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christine Fisher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christine Fisher, Board Chair  
[chrissy.lavoie@gmail.com](mailto:chrissy.lavoie@gmail.com)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Teresa Barber". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Teresa Barber, Principal  
[tbarber@tillerycharteracademy.org](mailto:tbarber@tillerycharteracademy.org)