

MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA ITEM:**March 2015****CONSIDERATION OF DESIGNATION OF A+ HIGH SCHOOLS****STATUTORY AUTHORITY:**

Section 160.545 RSMo

Consent
ItemAction
ItemReport
Item**DEPARTMENT GOAL NO. 1:**

All Missouri students will graduate college and career ready.

SUMMARY:

Established by the Outstanding Schools Act of 1993, the A+ Schools Program was a school improvement initiative designed with primary goals to ensure that all students:

1. Graduate from school;
2. Complete a selection of high school studies that are challenging and for which there are identified learning expectations; and,
3. Proceed from high school graduation to a college or postsecondary vocational or technical school or high wage job with workplace skill development opportunities.

This program previously provided grant awards to Missouri public high schools that demonstrated a commitment to these goals, as well as improved their attendance rates, eliminated general track courses, and worked cooperatively with their community, local businesses, labor and postsecondary educational institutions.

The scholarship component is now a function coordinated by the Department of Higher Education. However, the State Board of Education grants A+ designation to Missouri high schools. Currently, a total of five hundred twenty-nine (529) public high schools have received A+ designation.

In February 2015, four (4) high schools met the requirements of the program and are being recommended for A+ designation:

Delta C-7 High School
 Frontier STEM High School
 Frontier School of Excellence – Upper
 North Technical High School

RECOMMENDATION:

The Department recommends that the State Board of Education designate Delta C-7, Frontier STEM High School, Frontier School of Excellence-Upper and North Technical High School as A+ schools.