

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Changes in CSI's Portfolio of Charter Schools**

### **Four charter schools to open doors in Fort Collins and Colorado Springs**

DENVER, CO (July 30, 2019) – As families and schools across the state gear up for the back-to-school season, four charter schools overseen by the [Colorado Charter School Institute](http://www.csi.state.co.us) (CSI) are set to open their doors for the first time this fall.

#### **CSI Charter Schools to Open this Fall**

[AXIS International Academy](#) (Fort Collins) will serve students in grades K-5 and offer a homeschool enrichment program. AXIS offers a language immersion model where 50% of a student's instructional time is in English and the other 50% is spent in a partner language of Spanish, French, or Mandarin Chinese. The first day of school for AXIS students is scheduled for August 19<sup>th</sup>.

[Colorado Early Colleges Fort Collins West](#) and [Colorado Early Colleges Windsor](#) are replications of the Colorado Early Colleges network of schools. Colorado Early Colleges Fort Collins West and Windsor campuses will serve middle school students, extending the network's personalized education model to more students and giving them an earlier start to college and workforce readiness preparation. Colorado Early College Windsor will expand to serve high school students beginning the 2020-2021 school year. Additionally, Colorado Early Colleges Windsor is offering a K-12 homeschool enrichment program.

[Coperni 3](#) (Colorado Springs) will serve students in grades K-6 in the 2019-2020 school year, adding 7<sup>th</sup> grade in 2020-2021 and 8<sup>th</sup> grade in 2021-2022. Coperni 3 is a replication of the existing Academy of Advanced Learning in Aurora and Coperni 2 in Colorado Springs. The school offers a personalized learning program to prepare students for a 2030 workplace. The first day of school for Coperni 3 students is scheduled for August 1<sup>st</sup>.

As public charter schools, these schools are open to children of all backgrounds and learning styles and require no special entrance requirements.

#### **Supports for New Schools**

Each school new to the CSI portfolio engages in a Year Zero onboarding process. Year Zero begins when an applicant team's charter application is approved by the CSI Board of Directors and lasts until the school opens its doors for students on the first day of school.

As CSI Director of Student Services and Year 0 Lead, Clare Vickland, shares: "The primary goal of Year Zero is to establish and execute a plan for a successful school opening. This planning year focuses on taking the proposal for the school outlined in the charter application and transforming it into a school that is ready to serve students on day one. Throughout Year Zero, the founding teams work to meet any conditions and milestones outlined in the charter contract." Founding teams communicate regularly with CSI leadership to ensure the team is making progress towards school opening readiness tasks.

## **Two Schools Close**

At the end of the 2018-2019 school year, two schools shut their doors. While both received Performance ratings by the state for academic outcomes, closures were results of persistent operational issues.

Leadership at **Frontier Charter Academy** in Calhan decided to close the school at the end of the 2018-2019 school year, citing low enrollment the past two years. As of the 2018 October Count, the school was serving 18 students. Frontier Charter Academy opened in 2001 in Calhan and transferred to the CSI in 2011. The school offered a Core Knowledge educational program to K-8 students.

**Global Village Academy – Fort Collins** was unable to meet a contract milestone that required a viable facility plan by December 2018, thereby initiating the school's closure at the end of the 2018-2019 school year. Global Village Academy – Fort Collins opened in 2013 as a dual language immersion program.

With these changes to its portfolio, CSI projects that its schools will serve around 18,000 students in the coming school year.

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### ***About the Colorado Charter School Institute (CSI)***

*CSI is a statewide charter public school authorizer in Colorado, currently authorizing 41 schools from Durango to Steamboat Springs, Grand Junction to Colorado Springs and serving over 18,000 PK-12 students. As a charter authorizer, CSI focuses on the outputs—that is, the quantitative evaluation of academic, organizational, and financial school performance—providing schools the flexibility to focus on and make decisions about inputs like instructional strategies, educational programming, internal assessment system, facility selection, and staffing. The focus on outcomes rather than processes allows CSI to be neutral on educational model and maintain a diverse portfolio of school models, which include Classical, Early College, Alternative, and Montessori models. Learn more at [www.csi.state.co.us](http://www.csi.state.co.us) or read our [Media Kit](#), and follow CSI on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).*