

Phone 317 276 2000

September 8, 2015

Ms. Kristin Hines
Director of Charter Schools
Office of Education Innovation
Office of Mayor Greg Ballard
City of Indianapolis

Dear Kristin,

The success of our company is linked to the success of our home city of Indianapolis. That is why we are so deeply engaged in efforts to help move our city forward. As we think about the key drivers of our community's future success, we are convinced that we have no more important priority than to improve the educational outcomes of all of our children.

As a result, Lilly has, among other things, been a strong supporter of innovative new models and for dramatically improved public school options in underserved, low-income neighborhoods. In addition, we have also been a passionate advocate of efforts that prepare and motivate students to study and excel in STEM subjects. Not only are these subjects intrinsically worthy of study, they are also critical to propel our economy forward. Economic growth and prosperity will be fueled by entrepreneurs and employees who leverage the power of science and technology. As a result, it is essential that we have a larger share of adults with proficiencies in STEM disciplines.

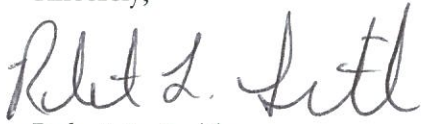
The Purdue Polytechnic High School has the potential to be at the intersection of our primary interests in education: an innovative STEM-based model that will provide another compelling option for students, many of whom will be from low-income families.

We appreciate the fact that Purdue has recognized the need to deliver more innovative learning experiences and provide opportunities to students who may have STEM capabilities, but lack access to tailored programs. Purdue Polytechnic can help close this gap for many children. This unique educational experience will blend classroom instruction with real-world opportunities, and challenge students outside of the classroom. It will infuse liberal arts into the curriculum and integrate teaching across the STEM disciplines. If successfully executed, this school has the potential to develop a new generation of graduates ready to transition to a career or college. Among the benefits, these students will be on a path to high-wage, high-demand jobs.

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We believe Purdue Polytechnic High School has the potential to be an outstanding addition to the mayor's portfolio of charter schools. Please accept this letter of support for their application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert L. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "R".

Robert L. Smith
Senior Director – Corporate Responsibility, Eli Lilly and Company
President – Eli Lilly and Company Foundation