

**Arkansas Department of Education**  
**Office of School Choice and Parent Empowerment**

## **Charter Amendment Request Form**

Submit this form and all required documentation to [ade.charterschools@ade.arkansas.gov](mailto:ade.charterschools@ade.arkansas.gov) at least 28 calendar days prior to the scheduled Charter Authorizing Panel (CAP) meeting.

### **Section 1: Administrative Data**

District/ School/ Applicant Name	<b>Cabot Public Schools - Cabot Panther Academy</b>
District/ School LEA (if assigned)	<b>4304703</b>
Superintendent/ Point Of Contact	Michael Byrd - Superintendent, Aaron Randolph - Point of Contact
Email Address	aaron.randolph@cps.k12.ar.us
Phone Number	501-843-3363
Date of Waiver Request Submission	12/16/25

### **Section 2: Amendment Type** *(Select all that apply)*

Add a new campus / site  
 Relocate an existing campus / site  
 Increase enrollment cap  
 Change grade levels served (single or multiple campuses)  
 Change educational program / model  
 Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_

If requesting a new or relocated campus, attach facilities documentation (lease, FUA, or proof of site control) and fire / safety / occupancy documentation, if available.

### **Section 3: Description of Requested Amendment, Rationale, and Impact of the Requested Amendment**

<b>Request # 1</b> <b>Amendment Request Topic: Additional grade levels</b>	
Provide a clear description of the amendment you are requesting.	We are seeking to add grades Kindergarten (K) through Fourth Grade (4) to the charter's authorized grade levels. These students would be served in a hybrid, and not a completely digital, instructional model.

**If this amendment request affects multiple campuses/sites, complete the table below.**

Campus / Site Name	Current Grades	Proposed Grades	Effective School Year
Cabot Panther Academy	5-12	K-12	2026-2027

Explain why this amendment is needed at this time. Describe:	The mission of Cabot Panther Academy (CPA) is to "reimagine education by building relationships, inspiring every student to reach their full potential, teaching them academics and life skills, guiding them to become successful, productive citizens, and helping them find their own strengths and unique abilities." The new hybrid model for students in grades K-6 will offer families the flexibility and personalization often sought in education,
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How the proposed change aligns with the school's</li></ul>	



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>mission and approved charter,</li> <li>The student/community need the amendment address, and</li> <li>The expected benefits for students.</li> </ul>	<p>blending in-person instruction with guided at-home learning components. This approach supports diverse family needs while maintaining academic rigor and structure. In addition, this addition will allow for the lessons learned from the success in our older grades to be used as we support younger learners.</p> <p>A district-wide survey provided 66 responses of parents/guardians who would pursue such a learning option. In addition, four interest meetings held, provided further support of an alternative education model for students in this age range. In addition, central office administrators hear from families on a weekly basis who are seeking a different educational setting outside of 5 days per week.</p> <p>By extending CPA's framework into the foundational elementary years (K-4), we can ensure seamless vertical alignment of curriculum, teaching philosophies, and school culture from the earliest stages of a student's academic journey through grade 6. In addition, the program will use existing district-adopted curricula to ensure students could transition to and from the hybrid setting without significant gaps in their learning.</p>
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<b>Request # 2</b>	<b>Amendment Request Topic:</b> Increase student enrollment cap
<b>Provide a clear description of the amendment you are requesting.</b>	Increase the student enrollment cap from 500 to 650.
<b>Explain why this amendment is needed at this time.</b> <b>Describe:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How the proposed change aligns with the school's mission and approved charter,</li> <li>The student/community need the amendment address, and</li> <li>The expected benefits for students.</li> </ul>	<p>By increasing the enrollment cap, in order to ensure we can support 100+ K-6 learners in the hybrid model, we are further opening up learning opportunities for our charter. The more students, whom we can support learning in a diverse fashion, we are able to better carry out the mission of our charter.</p> <p>As mentioned above, both the district-wide survey and administrator-led interest meetings demonstrated a population of our community, who would pursue such a learning option for their students. By allowing for 100-200 K-6 students, we can comfortably enroll students into this program.</p> <p>The requested increase of 150 students (from 500 to 650) is directly tied to the projected enrollment necessary (100-200) to launch and stabilize the new K-6 option. Further, this increase ensures that CPA can meet the anticipated demand for the innovative K-6 hybrid program without compromising the educational quality or facility capacity at the existing charter school settings.</p>

<b>Request # 3</b>	<b>Amendment Request Topic:</b> Additional Campus
<b>Provide a clear description of the amendment you are requesting.</b>	<p>We would like to house our K-6 campus at Magness Creek Elementary School. This campus currently houses 307 students in grades K-4, but the campus could support another 150 students without any physical changes.</p> <p>In order to help our students to "reimagine education by building relationships,</p>



<p><b>Explain why this amendment is needed at this time.</b></p> <p><b>Describe:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How the proposed change aligns with the school's mission and approved charter,</li> <li>• The student/community need the amendment address, and</li> </ul> <p>The expected benefits for students.</p>	<p>inspiring every student to reach their full potential, teaching them academics and life skills, guiding them to become successful, productive citizens, and helping them find their own strengths and unique abilities;" we need to make sure that we are leveraging the needed support services we have available. To that end, we plan on using an existing K-4 campus, which is staffed with identical Admin and counselors, along with G/T, SPED, ELL, Media Specialists, Interventionists, etc. at the same level as our other K-4 campus. As student enrollment at Magness Creek is lower than all but one other K-4 campus, these support staff members can better accommodate the addition of a large number of additional students.</p> <p>Parents/guardians at the interest meeting shared with district administration that they wanted the "flexibility of homeschool, along with the support of being a [Cabot] Panther." Parents and guardians appreciated that their students would be a part of a campus community and could receive all the same services, which they would if they were enrolled in a full-time role. In addition, parents also mentioned wanting their students to be included in fun "party days" and other celebrations that exist in our existing schools.</p> <p>By leveraging existing district assets and staff, we can lessen the financial impact of this additional learning model in our lower grades. With those realized savings, funding can be better used to ensure all students in this program receive the individualized support. Further, as this campus already has the infrastructure needed for mandated testing, dyslexia screeding, and other required support mechanisms. Experienced staff can work with students in the hybrid model just as if they were fully on-site.</p>
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## Section 4: Certification

I certify that the governing board of the Cabot Public School District approved submission of this

charter amendment request on December 16, 2025.

School Board Chair / Authorized Designee Name: Sarah Owen

Signature: Sarah Owen Date: 12/16/2025

School Leader (if different) Name: Michael Byrd

Signature: Michael Byrd Date: 12/17/25



# DESIGN DATA

## GENERAL CODES:

STANDARD BUILDING CODE (SBC)	1997 EDITION
ARKANSAS FIRE PREVENTION CODE (AFPC)	1992 EDITION

## SEISMIC:

SEISMIC ZONE (2)	AFPC '92 ED. 1-420(103)
LONOKE COUNTY	'93 REVISIONS

## HANDICAPPED:

AMERICAN DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)	1990 EDITION
ARKANSAS ARCHITECTURAL BARRIERS LAW	ACT #122-1967
ARKANSAS STATE BUILDING SERVICES	SECTION 3-600, 1979
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS	

## OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION:

EDUCATION - 500 PEOPLE	SBC 406
ASSEMBLY - 250 PEOPLE	

## OCCUPANCY LOAD:

PEOPLE, ALL BUILDINGS	SBC TABLE 1103.1
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## BUILDING TYPE:

TYPE IV CONSTRUCTION (UNPROTECTED)	TABLE 600
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## GROSS BUILDING AREA: (MEASURES FROM EXTERIOR WALL FACE)

AREAS 1, 3, 4, AND 6	6,000 SQUARE FEET
AREA 2 AND 5	12,000 SQUARE FEET
AREA 7	9,000 SQUARE FEET

## MEANS OF EGRESS:

MAX. TRAVEL DIST. TO EXIT	250 FT	SBC TABLE 1104
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MAX DEAD END CORRIDOR	20 FT	SBC TABLE 1104
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MIN. CLEAR CORRIDOR WIDTH	44 IN.	SBC TABLE 1104
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MIN. CLEAR OPENING AT EXIT	32 IN.	SBC TABLE 1104
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MIN. NUMBER OF EXITS	2	SBC 1104.2
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ALLOWABLE BUILDING HT:	80 FT.	SBC TABLE 400
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ALLOWABLE SQ. FOOTAGE:	SBC TABLE 400
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ALL AREAS	12,000 SQUARE FEET
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## FIRE PROTECTION:

1. NONCOMBUSTIBLE WALLS
2. RATED CEILING ASSEMBLIES
3. PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS
4. FIRE ALARM SYSTEM

## CERTIFICATION STATEMENT:

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THESE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS HAVE BEEN PREPARED BY ME, OR UNDER MY SUPERVISION. I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE THESE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS ARE AS REQUIRED BY LAW AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE "ARKANSAS FIRE PREVENTION CODE" FOR THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

# DESIGN DATA - MAGNESS CREEK

## GENERAL CODES:

INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE (IBC)  
ARKANSAS FIRE PREVENTION CODE (AFPC)

2000 EDITION  
2002 EDITION

## SEISMIC:

SEISMIC USE GROUP II  
SEISMIC DESIGN CATEGORY D  
LONOKE COUNTY

2000 IBC W/2002  
AFPC REVISIONS

## HANDICAPPED:

AMERICAN DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)  
ARKANSAS ARCHITECTURAL BARRIERS LAW  
ARKANSAS STATE BUILDING SERVICES  
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS

1990 EDITION  
ACT #122-1967  
SECTION 3-600, 1979

## OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION:

EDUCATIONAL  
GROUP E

IBC 305

## OCCUPANCY LOAD:

316

IBC TABLE 1003.2.2.2

## BUILDING TYPE:

TYPE II-B CONSTRUCTION NON-SPRINKLED

TABLE 601

GROSS EXISTING BUILDING AREA A:

5,809 SQUARE FEET

GROSS NEW BUILDING AREA A:

3,996 SQUARE FEET

GROSS BUILDING AREA: (MEASURES FROM EXTERIOR WALL FACE)

9,805 SQUARE FEET

GROSS EXISTING BUILDING AREA B:

5,809 SQUARE FEET

GROSS NEW BUILDING AREA B:

3,996 SQUARE FEET

GROSS BUILDING AREA: (MEASURES FROM EXTERIOR WALL FACE)

9,805 SQUARE FEET

## MEANS OF EGRESS:

MAX. TRAVEL DIST. TO EXIT 200 FT

IBC TABLE 1004.2.4

MAX DEAD END CORRIDOR 20 FT

IBC TABLE 1004.3.2.3

MIN. CLEAR CORRIDOR WIDTH 72 IN.

IBC TABLE 1004.3.2.2

MIN. CLEAR OPENING AT EXIT 32 IN.

IBC TABLE 1004.3.2.2

MIN. NUMBER OF EXITS 2

IBC 1005.2.1

ALLOWABLE BUILDING HT: 55'

IBC TABLE 503

ALLOWABLE SQ. FOOTAGE:

IBC TABLE 503

ALLOWABLE (IBC TABLE 503) 14,500 SQUARE FEET

## FIRE PROTECTION:

1. PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS
2. FIRE ALARM SYSTEM
3. NON-COMBUSTABLE MATERIALS

## CERTIFICATION STATEMENT:

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THESE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS HAVE BEEN PREPARED BY ME, OR UNDER MY SUPERVISION. I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE THESE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS ARE AS REQUIRED BY LAW AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE "ARKANSAS FIRE PREVENTION CODE" FOR THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

LEWIS, ELLIOTT & STUDER INC.