

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 at least 28 calendar days prior to the scheduled Charter Authorizing Panel (CAP) meeting.

Section 1: Administrative Data

District/ School/ Applicant Name	Cabot Public Schools - Cabot Panther Academy
District/ School LEA (if assigned)	4304703
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

Request # 1	Amendment Request Topic: Additional grade levels		
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,		



mission and approved charter, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student/community need the amendment address, and • The expected benefits for students. 	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. 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. 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.
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Request # 2	Amendment Request Topic: Increase student enrollment cap	
Provide a clear description of the amendment you are requesting.	Increase the student enrollment cap from 500 to 650.	
Explain why this amendment is needed at this time. Describe: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the proposed change aligns with the school's mission and approved charter, • The student/community need the amendment address, and • The expected benefits for students. 	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. 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. 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.	

Request # 3	Amendment Request Topic: Additional Campus	
Provide a clear description of the amendment you are requesting.	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.	
	In order to help our students to "reimagine education by building relationships,	



<p>Explain why this amendment is needed at this time.</p> <p>Describe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the proposed change aligns with the school's mission and approved charter, • The student/community need the amendment address, and <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 screening, 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:  Date: 12/16/2025

School Leader (if different) Name: Michael Byrd

Signature:  Date: 12/17/25



DESIGN DATA

GENERAL CODES:

STANDARD BUILDING CODE (SBC)
ARKANSAS FIRE PREVENTION CODE (AFPC)

1997 EDITION
1992 EDITION

SEISMIC:

SEISMIC ZONE (2)
LONOKE COUNTY

AFPC '92 ED., 1-420(103)
'93 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:

EDUCATION -- 500 PEOPLE
ASSEMBLY -- 250 PEOPLE

SBC 406

OCCUPANCY LOAD:

PEOPLE, ALL BUILDINGS

SBC TABLE 1103.1

BUILDING TYPE:

TYPE IV CONSTRUCTION (UNPROTECTED)

TABLE 600

GROSS BUILDING AREA: (MEASURES FROM EXTERIOR WALL FACE)

AREAS 1, 3, 4, AND 6
AREA 2 AND 5
AREA 7

6,000 SQUARE FEET
12,000 SQUARE FEET
9,000 SQUARE FEET

MEANS OF EGRESS:

MAX. TRAVEL DIST. TO EXIT 250 FT
MAX DEAD END CORRIDOR 20 FT
MIN. CLEAR CORRIDOR WIDTH 44 IN.
MIN. CLEAR OPENING AT EXIT 32 IN.
MIN. NUMBER OF EXITS 2

SBC TABLE 1104
SBC TABLE 1104
SBC TABLE 1104
SBC TABLE 1104
SBC 1104.2

ALLOWABLE BUILDING HT: 80 FT.

SBC TABLE 400

ALLOWABLE SQ. FOOTAGE:

ALL AREAS

SBC TABLE 400
12,000 SQUARE FEET

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:
GROSS NEW BUILDING AREA A:
GROSS BUILDING AREA: (MEASURES FROM EXTERIOR WALL FACE)
GROSS EXISTING BUILDING AREA B:
GROSS NEW BUILDING AREA B:
GROSS BUILDING AREA: (MEASURES FROM EXTERIOR WALL FACE)

5,809 SQUARE FEET
3,996 SQUARE FEET
9,805 SQUARE FEET
5,809 SQUARE FEET
3,996 SQUARE FEET
9,805 SQUARE FEET

MEANS OF EGRESS:

MAX. TRAVEL DIST. TO EXIT 200 FT
MAX DEAD END CORRIDOR 20 FT
MIN. CLEAR CORRIDOR WIDTH 72 IN.
MIN. CLEAR OPENING AT EXIT 32 IN.
MIN. NUMBER OF EXITS 2
ALLOWABLE BUILDING HT: 55'

IBC TABLE 1004.2.4
IBC TABLE 1004.3.2.3
IBC TABLE 1004.3.2.2
IBC TABLE 1004.3.2.2
IBC 1005.2.1
IBC TABLE 503

ALLOWABLE SQ. FOOTAGE:

ALLOWABLE (IBC TABLE 503)

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.