



ARKANSAS  
DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION

**Charter Amendment Request Form**

**Charter Name:** Southeast Arkansas Preparatory High School

**LEA Number:** 3543700      **Phone Number:** 870-850-7323      **Submission Date:** 01/31/2019

**Charter Leader:** Alexander Noguera

**Email Address:** anoguera@saphs.org

**Type of Amendment Requested:**

**Waiver**

**Waiver Topic:** Uniform dates for beginning and end of school year

**Statute/Standard/Rule to be Waived**

Arkansas Code Annotated

- | Code Number         | Code Title   |
|---------------------|--|
| ● A.C.A § 16-10-106 | Uniform dates for beginning and end of school year |

**Rationale for Waiver**

We are requesting this waiver to start on the 13th of August. We are asking this for multiple reasons: 1) it better serves our model of a slightly extended school year and PD built into the schedule; 2) it will ensure there is enough time in the summer for summer school and for actual time off; and 3) it will help keep us consistent for our students and parents in our programming. Specifically to the extended school year and built-in PD, we have multiple PD days within the school year without students and we go above the required 178 school days for students. While we hold this waiver we understand we cannot and we will not start school prior to the 13th of August.

**Waiver Topic:** Guidance Counselor

**Statute/Standard/Rule to be Waived**

Standards for Accreditation

- | Section Number | Section Title      |
|----------------|--------------------|
| ● 4-E.1        | Guidance Counselor |
| ● 4-E.2        | Guidance Counselor |

**Rationale for Waiver**

As a small school, we have taken the role of a guidance counselor and split it across different people to do different tasks. Our dean and some of our teacher leader coordinators all have aspects of the role to fully encompass the position.

**Waiver Topic: Library Media Specialist**

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**Statute/Standard/Rule to be Waived**

**Arkansas Code Annotated**

Code Number	Code Title
● A.C.A. §16-25-103	Library media services program
● A.C.A. §16-25-104	Library media specialist

**Standards for Accreditation**

Section Number	Section Title
● 4-F.1	Library Media Specialist
● 4-F.2	Library Media Specialist

**Rationale for Waiver**

As a small school with 1:1 technology access, we do not have a traditional library in the building. Instead, our English classes have class libraries and students have access to online novels that the school is continuing to expand.

**Waiver Topic: Business Manager**

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**Statute/Standard/Rule to be Waived**

**Arkansas Code Annotated**

Code Number	Code Title
● A.C.A. § 16-15-2302 b	General business manager -- definition

**ADE Rules**

Section Number (if applicable)	Rule Title
● 4	Qualifications of General Business Manager
● 5	Sanctions

**Rationale for Waiver**

Our business manager once worked in Arkansas Public Schools and Cooperatives, and was fully certified under the law and rules. She then left the state for a period of time (approximately 5-6 years) and the certifications have lapsed during that time. She is currently working with CASBO to get back to full certification in accordance with the law and rules. This waiver will help allow this person time to complete the re-certification process.

**Waiver Topic: School Board Elections**

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**Statute/Standard/Rule to be Waived**

**Arkansas Code Annotated**

Code Number	Code Title
● A.C.A. § 16-13-608 c	Length of director's terms
● A.C.A. § 16-13-611 b,c,e,f	Vacancies generally

- A.C.A. § 16-13-612 c Vacancy--conviction of felony
- A.C.A. § 16-13-613 Temporary vacancies--vacancies created by failure to participate
- A.C.A. § 16-13-615 Local option to elect directors from single-member zones
- A.C.A. § 16-13-616 Qualification of directors
- A.C.A. § 16-13-630 Election by zone and at-large
- A.C.A. § 16-13-631 Effect of minority population on elections
- A.C.A. § 16-13-634 School district board of directors--size  
b,c,d
- A.C.A. § 16-14-101 et. seq. Elections

**Rationale for Waiver**

Our school board is an appointed board. These parts of the code relate to the election of school boards, their members, and other election related topics. Our school board uses an application process and appointment from there.

**Waiver Topic: School Board Size**

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**Statute/Standard/Rule to be Waived**

Arkansas Code Annotated

- | Code Number          | Code Title                               |
|----------------------|--|
| ● A.C.A. § 16-13-634 | School district board of directors--size |

**Rationale for Waiver**

Our school board would like the option to expand to 9 members for its maximum capacity. This will allow the board to seek out expertise in a variety of areas and involve more community members in the governance of the school.

**Waiver Topic: School Board Meetings**

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**Statute/Standard/Rule to be Waived**

Arkansas Code Annotated

- | Code Number                     | Code Title |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| ● A.C.A. § 16-13-619 d<br>(3,4) | Meetings   |

**Rationale for Waiver**

Our school board members are active participants in the community. At times, there are conflicts for them to be at our meetings in person. This would allow our board members to participate remotely by phone, with proper verification, and engage in the business and governance of the school.



**RE: CURRENT ENROLLMENT AND FRL POPULATION**

Our current enrollment as of January 15, 2019 is 88 students.

9<sup>th</sup> Grade: 26 African American, 1 White, 1 Asian

10<sup>th</sup> Grade: 24 African American, 1 White

11<sup>th</sup> Grade: 21 African American

12<sup>th</sup> Grade: 14 African American

Our current percentage of free and reduced students is 77.3%.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Alexander Noguera". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Alexander Noguera  
Superintendent/Principal  
Southeast Arkansas Preparatory High School



**RE: BUDGET PROJECTIONS FOR AMENDMENT REQUEST**

At the current moment we do not have a person in the role of Library Media Specialist or Guidance Counselor. Thus, there are no budget projections for this to impact our school.

Alexander Noguera  
Superintendent/Principal  
Southeast Arkansas Preparatory High School