



FOUNDERS
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Online School

Amendment Request



RESPONSIVE EDUCATION SOLUTIONS TEAM

James Taylor	RES CFO/CTO
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Kacy Barton	RES Virtual Learning Systems Administrator
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Katie Stephens	RES AR Executive Director of Finance
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Aaron Duvall	AR CTE Director
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RESPONSIVE EDUCATION SOLUTIONS, INC. OVERVIEW

Founded in 1999

Operates more than 90 schools
across the country

6 School Brands

22,000+ Graduates

22,000+ Students

3,000+ Employees



Amendment Overview: Founders Online (Virtual Academy)

- 1) **Expansion LEA:** Responsive Education Solutions is seeking to add an additional LEA to Founders Classical Academies of Arkansas charter for the 2022-2023.

The new LEA, Founders Online, will serve as a virtual campus for FCA students across the state of Arkansas.

- 1) To increase the district enrollment cap to **3000 students** to reflect an additional virtual LEA of 500 students.



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Founders Schools in Arkansas

Current Locations:

FCA Bentonville

FCA Rogers

(opening August 2022)

FCA West Little Rock



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Founders Classical Academies seek to provide an excellent and distinctive classical education that pursues knowledge, promotes virtue, and prepares students for prosperous lives in a free society.



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Founders Classical Academies of Arkansas

In 2013, our Bentonville campus became the first and only tuition-free, open-enrollment, public classical charter school in Arkansas created as a result of collaboration between ResponsiveEd and the Hillsdale College Barney Charter School Initiative.

Since then, we have added our West Little Rock campus, and will open our Rogers campus in August.



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FCA Brief History / Highlights

- Opened K-8 in 2013
- Grew to K-12 in 2018
- Four graduating classes so far
- 3 National Merit Semi-Finalists
- 3 National Merit Finalist
- Achieving School and District
- “A” report cards
- Recognized by OEP for Outstanding School in multiple areas
- Athletic achievements / championships
- All-State Choir members



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Current Enrollment (21-22 SY)

Bentonville K-12 Campus: 956

West Little Rock K-12 Campus:
135

Current students participating
virtually through our approved
DLP: 94



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500 Students

The virtual LEA will have an enrollment cap of five hundred (500) students.



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Enrollment Cap Breakdown

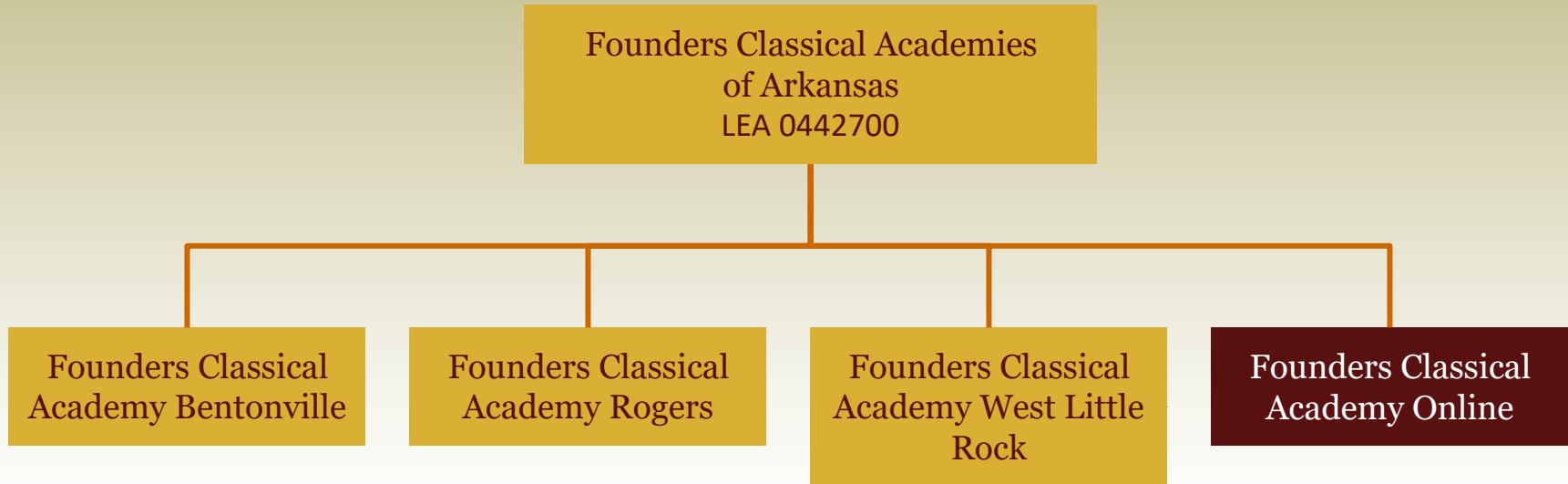
Geographic Region	22-23 SY	23-24 SY	24-25 SY
Northwest AR	75	125	150
Northeast AR	50	75	100
Central AR	75	125	150
Southern AR	25	40	60
Rural AR	25	35	40
Totals	250	400	500



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District Structure



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Purpose

To provide students across the state with a high quality college preparatory virtual education that includes best digital learning practices and adequate wraparound support on their journey to high school graduation and further higher education.

To provide flexibility to students and families in their pursuit of a college preparatory education.

To increase the impact of Founders Classical Academies across Arkansas through an innovative high quality virtual education experience.



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Founders Classical Academies offer unique opportunities for students in the traditional classroom, focusing on classical model of instruction.

The goal of a virtual school will be to enable the program to expand its mission and impact across Arkansas while keeping its original classical curricular focus.



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Additionally, having a school dedicated to virtual learning enables us to be more intentional with regard to both teachers and students.



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Demand for Virtual Learning

Online Schools Are Here to Stay, Even After the Pandemic

There is a minority of parents, a minority of students and even a minority of teachers for whom virtual schooling is the preferred mode.

The two (2) largest charter systems in the state of AR are virtual charter schools.



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Benefits to Students



- Highly trained **instructional team** specializing in online teaching and learning
- Programs and engagement activities **designed specifically** for the online environment
- Extracurricular opportunities that are **suitable** for the online environment
- Provides **options in locations** that previously would not have access to a classical school
- Intentionally **focused supports** from the instructional team



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Benefits to Teachers



- Highly **specialized** in online instruction
- Ability to **focus** on one method of instruction
- Our in-person teachers are no longer required to split their time between in-person and online students
- **Virtual PLC** (Best Practices)



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Benefits to Program Administration



- Tracking the **data** of online students vs. traditional
- Streamline **personnel and resources** to LEA
- **Virtual Teacher** Observations & Feedback
- Data Analysis of **student outcomes** (i.e. attendance, state assessments, local assessments)





Intended Outcomes

Students **engaged** in a **high quality virtual program** and **supported** through best learning practices that allow for active learning, effective content authoring, and personalized lesson design methods.

Increase in **student accessibility and engagement** in Founders Classical Academy academic model in remote or rural locations.

Increase in the **percentage** of Arkansans prepared for higher education.

Flexibility in student learning to meet individual and family needs.

Helping students prepare for a **successful life beyond high school** through accelerated learning, concurrent courses, workplace readiness, military career readiness, and acceptance into university, college and/or trade school.



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Amendment Request

1. **Expansion LEA:** FCA of Arkansas is seeking to add an virtual school for grades K-12 beginning in the 2022-2023 SY.
2. Increase enrollment cap to **3,000 students** to reflect virtual LEA expansion.



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WAIVERS

All waivers requested currently exist in the Founders Classical Academy District Charter.

All “new” additional waivers outside of existing waivers are requested only due to the lack of a physical building for the virtual LEA.

These waivers will only be applicable to the virtual LEA to meet AR DESE Standards of Accreditation.



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Founders Classical Academies



Knowledge



Virtue



Liberty



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