



DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY EDUCATION

2021 District Conversion Public Charter School Application

Fort Smith Virtual Academy

Name of Proposed Charter

- ☐ **Initial Application - Deadline July 1, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.**
Applications will not be accepted after this time.

- ☐ **Final Application - Deadline September 10, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.**
Applications will not be accepted after this time.

Any application that is substantially incomplete will not be forwarded to the authorizer for consideration. An application will be considered substantially incomplete if it does not provide enough information to enable staff at the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to provide a meaningful review.

**Division of Elementary and Secondary Education
Charter School Office
Four Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR 72201
501-683-5312**

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name of Proposed Charter:	Fort Smith Virtual Academy
School District:	Fort Smith Public Schools
Superintendent:	Terry Morawski
Superintendent Phone:	479-785-2501
Superintendent Email:	tmorawsk@fortsmithschools.org
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1. Describe the public hearing which was held for the purpose of assessing support for the establishment of this public charter school. Include the number of attendees and the feedback and/or public comments that were received.

A public hearing was held on June 8, 2021 at 5:30 pm at the Fort Smith Public Schools Service Center Auditorium at 3205 Jenny Lind Road, Fort Smith, AR. Notice of the charter school hearing was posted on the school district website & Facebook page, FS Virtual Option website & Facebook page and published in a local newspaper, Times Record. Fort Smith Schools sent out Parent-link phone & text messages to parents.

Twenty-one (21) people signed into the June 8th meeting. Martin Mahan, Deputy Superintendent of Fort Smith Public Schools welcomed attendees and introduced Dr. Terry Morawski, Superintendent of Fort Smith Public Schools, welcomed attendees and introduced Dr. Samantha Hall, Assistant Director of District Innovation. Dr. Hall introduced members of the charter planning committee present at the meeting, Mr. Mahan and Dr. Gary Udouj, Director of Career Education and District Innovation, and recognized members of the charter planning committee members who were not present. Dr Hall presented a brief overview of the proposed conversion charter school and the process. She explained we were still in the planning and application stage and were holding a hearing to get input and feedback from the community stakeholders about the opportunity for a new school. Dr. Hall presented background information, an explanation for a need for this type of option for students in the Fort Smith district, an overview of the vision for the virtual charter school, a timeline for implementation and an invitation to serve on the charter planning committee. Questions and comments were taken from community stakeholders attending the public hearing. Discussion centered around the curriculum, the role of teachers in the environment, access to district services, options for flexibility and personalization, other resources that would be provided for students and opportunities for students to be connected to the school and their peers. Attendees were interested in opportunities the charter school could offer their students and had many questions about the need for the conversion charter school in Fort Smith. Community members were interested and very positive about the possibility the school could offer students.

A notice of the event, agenda, roster and notes from the public hearing are attached.

2. Describe the educational need for the charter. Include quantitative data related to academic achievement.

Careful consideration has been given to determine the need for a local virtual school. In 2017, Fort Smith Public Schools (FSPS) conducted a comprehensive needs analysis, identified eight key beliefs and seven focus areas for improvement; and developed a strategic plan, Vision 2023. Key elements identified through Vision 2023* indicated a need for Fort Smith Virtual Academy (FSVA). FSPS also conducted a thorough analysis of academic data, some of which is included here.

School Year	District/ Charter	Graduation Rate	ACT Aspire – All Grades: Percent Meets/Exceeds Standards				
			Literacy	Math	Science	English	Reading
2017-18	Fort Smith School District	88.92%	46.81%	47.38%	39.42%	-	-
	Arkansas Connections Academy	-	40.60%	24.47%	31.93%	-	-
	Arkansas Virtual Academy	75.23%	38.38	30.95%	35.64%	-	-
2018-19	Fort Smith School District	90.49%	46.06%	45.93%	37.08%	68.16%	40.39%
	Arkansas Connections Academy	-	37.11%	24.24%	32.77%	64.58%	39.66%
	Arkansas Virtual Academy	66.06%	33.47%	27.73%	33.45%	65.34%	36.66%
2019-20	Fort Smith School District	90.40%	-	-	-	-	-
	Arkansas Connections Academy	73.97%	-	-	-	-	-
	Arkansas Virtual Academy	68.79%	-	-	-	-	-

ACT Aspire Summative Assessment data for SY2019-20 and SY2020-21 is not available due to the interruption of testing caused by the Covid-19 Pandemic.

At the public hearing, parents expressed the need for students participating in the virtual option to feel connected both to the school and to their peers. As a separate LEA, FSVA will be able to provide students from across the district with a sense of identity and belonging. FSVA will also provide a space for students to interact in-person with teachers, staff, and peers. The separate LEA will also provide the opportunity for students to participate in clubs and activities which will be developed based on student interests.

Across the United States, the provision of online public schools is growing due to the demand of students and their families needing more flexible options. There are virtual schools available to students on a statewide basis; however, the performance of those schools has been declining in math and literacy. Furthermore, FSPS has increased their graduation rate over the course of the past three years, and it far exceeds the graduation rate of the two statewide virtual schools serving students in Arkansas. FSPS can offer an online opportunity while allowing students to retain the identity and culture associated with the local community and District. FSPS can provide, in addition to the opportunity to take classes online, FSVA-based core teachers, FSPS-based specialty teachers,

access to the Peak Innovation Center, access to FSPS support services and the chance to take part in locally based athletic, Gifted and Talented Education (G/T) and music programs. FSPS is confident that we will be able to provide a more robust program within our District that will result in better outcomes for our students.

After reviewing the data and the district demographics, including the student population, the needs of potential students and their families, it was determined FSPS educational opportunities should be expanded beyond traditional schools to allow students virtual opportunities. FSVA will strive to serve students in the following categories: students who are homeschooled, students who are medically fragile, students who seek accelerated and/or unique learning opportunities, and/or students who are experiencing circumstances that hinder success in a traditional school structure.

***Vision 2023 Key Beliefs and Focus Objectives**

- Key Belief 2: All students deserve equitable access to a high-quality education in a safe and accepting environment structured to foster the learning process.
- Key Belief 4: All students have the potential to become productive citizens in our diverse and rapidly-changing world.
- Key Belief 5: The involvement of families is important to the success of students.
- Key Belief 7: Embracing change enhances our ability to achieve at our highest potential.
- Focus Objective “Career Pathways”: Each student will have early exposure to education and career planning, resources and guidance to prepare them with the skills and knowledge they need to be successful, life-long learners.
 - Strategy: Develop and implement education and career pathways so that each student graduates with a viable plan and relevant skill set for his or her future.
 - FSVA: Equip students with the knowledge and skills to make informed choices when they reach high school.
- Focus Objective “Equity”: Each student will have equitable access to programs, resources and opportunities.
 - Strategy: Develop and implement a system-wide plan to provide all students with the resources they need to optimize learning.
 - FSVA: Provide non-traditional access to learning to meet the needs of students who may benefit from it.
- Focus Objective “Instruction”: Each student will engage in high-quality instruction that targets identified individual needs from preschool through graduation.
 - Strategy: Design, develop and implement programs to promote rigor, relevance, collaboration, critical-thinking skills and learning environments designed to meet each student’s unique needs and aspirations.
 - FSVA: Provide a non-traditional learning environment based on the tenets of this strategy focused on meeting the unique needs and aspirations of the students.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027
Grades to be Offered	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8
Enrollment Cap	500	500	500	500	500

3. What type of educational model will the school follow?

- ☐ Traditional
☒ 100% Virtual
☐ College Prep
☐ Credit Recovery/ALE

☐ Other:

4. Provide the mission statement of the proposed charter school:

Fort Smith Virtual Academy will provide an equitable, challenging, individualized, technology-based educational experience to equip students with the academic and social skills to embrace their roles in our culturally diverse community and rapidly changing world. The educational process will empower future-focused individuals to engage in service-oriented experiences, develop personal reflection skills and discover meaningful career paths.

5. Provide a list and brief description of the programmatic features that the school will implement in order to accomplish the mission.

FSVA will focus on providing educational experiences to equip students with the academic and social skills to embrace their roles in our culturally diverse community and rapidly changing world. The educational process will empower future-focused individuals to engage in service-oriented experiences, to develop personal reflection skills and to discover meaningful career paths. FSVA will provide students with flexible learning choices, accelerated learning opportunities, real-world experiences and support to overcome challenging circumstances.

The FSPS proposes a district-conversion charter school that will operate as a new LEA. The proposed school will offer a virtual learning experience blended with real-world experiences that are differentiated to meet the needs of a diverse population. FSVA will provide a tuition-free public option for all K-8 students, with a curriculum and services which can also address the needs of students who are homeschooled, who are medically fragile, who seek accelerated and/or unique learning opportunities, or who are at-risk or experiencing circumstances that hinder success in a traditional school structure.

The FSVA curriculum will include both core classes and grade-appropriate electives. Housed in the Peak Innovation Center, FSVA will work in partnerships with students, parents, teachers, higher education, local businesses and the community to provide career-focused field experiences, service projects, and integrated curriculum activities based on specific student interests. Students and parents will have an optional weekly opportunity to participate in face-to-face activities. These activities may address academic and social-emotional needs and include conferences with teachers, participation in clubs, opportunities for assistance, and team-building. FSVA will also provide time for students to collaborate, acquire extra help, socialize with peers, and/or develop interests in a safe, monitored environment. FSVA students will have the option to participate in co-curricular activities, including athletics, band, choir, orchestra and G/T at their zoned FSPS campus.

Field experiences will offer FSVA students opportunities to interact with other students and adults to develop collaboration, communication, creativity and critical thinking skills. Field experiences will allow students opportunities to fully participate in their community by finding areas where they can serve others. The two focus areas will be community service learning and career exploration.

Students in grades K-5 will focus primarily on community service learning with more career exploration opportunities as they progress. Sixth through eighth grade students will continue community service learning while the exploration of future college and career choices will be the focus. Clubs will also be created based on students' interests such as: Quiz Bowl, BioMed, Book Clubs, Chess, Debate, Disc Golf, Esports, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Fashion Club and more.

There are many benefits to our unique learning model including a rigorous curriculum aligned to state standards, high quality instruction by FSPS certified teachers, flexible learning anytime and anywhere, and a Personalized Learning Plan (PLP) developed to meet each student's unique learning needs, and support from a public traditional school district with a proven track record.

6. Describe a plan for school improvement that addresses how the conversion charter school will improve student learning and meet the state educational goals.

FSVA students will participate in an individualized online academic curriculum aligned to the Arkansas Curriculum Frameworks. The district and school administration, along with the School Improvement Plan (SIP) committee, will review the online curriculum selected and/or developed to ensure it is aligned with Arkansas Frameworks and all curriculum requirements.

7. Describe how the licensed employees and parents of the students to be enrolled in the conversion public charter school will be involved in developing and implementing the school improvement plan and identifying performance criteria.

FSVA faculty and staff along with a group of stakeholders, including parents of students to be enrolled, will collaborate to prepare the school improvement plan (SIP). The SIP Team will collaboratively develop goals and evaluation plans to measure the effectiveness of the school. They will also set both academic and non-academic goals annually along with measurable objectives to assure the goals are met. Examples of academic goals cited in our response to number nine of this application include performance on state required exams in reading and math, the percentage of students who complete minimum field experiences, etc. Nonacademic goals could relate to student satisfaction and/or parent satisfaction of the students' participation in FSVA or survey results related to the different field experiences in which FSVA students participate.

In addition, the SIP Team will organize a PTSA to serve as the vehicle for students and parents to have a voice in the operation of the virtual academy, to provide feedback to the FSVA staff and to advocate for FSVA to non-FSVA parents and to the greater Fort Smith community. The quarterly PTSA meetings will provide timely information on various topics of interest to parents of virtual learners. The President of the FSVA PTSA will serve on the FSPS City Council PTA.

8. Describe how the concerns of licensed employees and parents of students enrolled in the conversion charter school will be solicited and addressed in evaluating the effectiveness of the improvement plan.

The SIP team will review data annually and make recommendations about goals, evaluation measures, persons responsible for action items and resources needed. The Team will meet at least three times per school year.

9. Establish performance criteria that will be used to measure the school's progress in improving student learning and meeting or exceeding the state educational goals. The mission of the school should be reflected in the performance criteria.

Goal	Measuring Instrument	Performance Level that Demonstrates Achievement	When Attainment of the Goal will be Assessed
FSVA students will attain proficiency in reading.	3rd-8th grade: State mandated tests K-2: State mandated tests	Meet or exceed state average in Reading	Annually with state required assessment
FSVA students will attain proficiency in mathematics.	3rd-8th grade: State mandated tests K-2: State mandated tests	Meet or exceed state average in Mathematics	Annually with state required assessment
FSVA students will attain proficiency in language arts.	3rd-8th grade: State mandated tests K-2: State mandated tests	Meet or exceed state average in Language Arts	Annually with state required assessment
FSVA students will attain proficiency in writing.	3rd-8th grade: State mandated tests K-2: State mandated tests	Meet or exceed state average in Writing	Annually with state required assessment
FSVA students will develop a PLP to support college & career readiness.	PLPs	Meet or exceed personal goals	Assessed at least quarterly
FSVA students will participate in a minimum of one field experience per quarter and indicate it was relevant to their interests and educational careers.	Field Experience records Survey results	Meet minimum attendance goal and 90% student/parent satisfaction and indication of educational relevance	Assessed quarterly

CURRICULUM

10. Will the school provide the required courses as outlined in the Standards for Accreditation and the 38 Required High School Course Offerings? If not, explain what changes will be made. What additional electives will be offered?

FSVA will serve students in K-8th grade, therefore, the school will provide the required courses as outlined in the Standards for Accreditation but not all 38 required high school course offerings. Only the state and district courses approved for high school credit in the 8th grade will be offered.

11. Describe the process that will be used to ensure all curriculum materials used in the educational program are aligned with the Arkansas Academic Standards?

Content specialists employed by FSPS in collaboration with the FSVA staff, will ensure that units of study, lessons, learning activities, and projects with the online curriculum are fully aligned with the Arkansas Academic Standards found within the various frameworks. Documentation of this joint annual review by FSPS content specialists and FSVA staff will be maintained by FSVA staff.

STUDENT SERVICES

12. Describe how the school will provide guidance and counseling services for all students.

FSVA is seeking a waiver of the requirement to have a counselor employed for this school. FSPS plans to adhere to the requirements outlined in Act 190, Comprehensive School Counseling in Arkansas and provide guidance and counseling services for all students by having counselors from the surrounding schools provide the SEL curriculum resources and work with individual students. The required counseling plan will be developed collaboratively under the supervision of the District Student Services Director, school administrator, and teachers. Based on each student's PLP, the PLP team, consisting of student, parent and teacher, will work together in scheduling support. FSPS career counselors will provide college and career guidance for each student as appropriate.

13. Describe how the school will provide library media services for all students.

FSVA is seeking waivers of the requirements to hire a licensed library media specialist and provide a brick-and-mortar library/media center; however, FSVA will provide access to virtual books through Sora, a user-friendly app that empowers students to discover and enjoy ebooks and audiobooks from their school, for both leisure and class-assigned reading. Virtual students will also be able to access the other FSPS school campus media centers throughout the district. Additionally, FSPS will work to partner with the Fort Smith Public Library to provide more opportunities. The Arkansas Library Media Services Standards will be taught and embedded in the ELA courses.

14. Describe how the school will provide special education services for all students.

FSVA will comply with all state and federal special education regulations and laws. FSVA will ensure that students with disabilities have equal access to the appropriate educational setting. If a student qualifies for enrollment for an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP), then an IEP will be developed to ensure that the student who has a disability identified under the law will be properly accommodated by every teacher pursuant to rules and regulations set for under the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). If a student qualifies for a 504 Plan, modifications and accommodations will be provided in accordance to all applicable state and federal laws. Students will be screened and assessed for screening purposes at the FSVA campus. IEP meetings will be held at the FSVA campus and/or virtually to maximize participation in the meetings. FSVA will provide all necessary transportation services for students receiving special education services.

15. Describe how the school will provide dyslexia screening and services for all students.

Dyslexia screening will be provided virtually by an FSPS dyslexia interventionist in accordance with the requirements outlined in Act 1268 of 2015. FSVA students identified with characteristics that could be associated with dyslexia will receive state-approved dyslexia intervention services. Virtual students will receive a daily ZOOM invitation to participate in their group's intervention session at the designated times.

16. Describe how the school will provide screening and instruction for English Language Learners.

FSVA is committed to providing screening and instruction for English Language Learners by complying with all federal and state regulations. Licensed teachers and trained paraprofessionals (paras) will work with students to increase their language skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Professional development is provided for teachers and paras to support the language development and academic needs of English language learners. In addition, support will be provided for the parents to be fully engaged in their children's education by providing them with training, information, and translation services through Cafecitos and Family Literacy.

17. Describe how the school will address the needs of gifted and talented students.

FSVA will offer students access to G/T services. FSPS employs highly trained G/T teachers. Grade appropriate G/T services will be available to students, either through participation in on-campus G/T classes and/or enrollment in accelerated G/T courses within the digital platform. FSVA students will have the opportunity to work at an accelerated rate and access advanced courses. For example, a student in 7th grade may enroll in and complete Algebra I instead of taking Math 7. These opportunities will also help address the needs of gifted and talented students. Additionally, FSVA teachers will differentiate instruction for all students based on their individual academic needs. The field experiences that FSVA will provide also include enriching learning activities that will extend the learning that takes place within the digital platform.

18. Describe how food services will be provided for students.

FSPS has a high-quality food service department that serves students at 26 campuses. FSVA students will be able to pick up take-home meals from their neighborhood school. Meals may be boxed for 5 days to prevent virtual students from having to make a daily trip to the campus.

SCHOOL GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

19. Describe the student recruitment process and timeline that will provide an equal opportunity for all parents and students to learn about and apply for admission to the proposed public charter school.

Enrollment will be open to all students who are residents of the State of Arkansas and the Fort Smith School District enrolling in grades K through 8 in the Fall of 2022. Enrollment will begin early in the Spring of 2022 with students who will be classified as current PK through 7th grade students who are residents of the Fort Smith School District or are eligible to attend Fort Smith Public Schools. Pursuant to School Choice Act 2015, non-resident students may request a waiver.

The FSPS students and their parents will be provided multiple opportunities to learn about the enrollment process through recruitment information distributed through class meetings, newsletters, evening meetings and electronic communications at schools within the FSPS district. The recruitment information will include a description of the instructional program, application process and the selection process. Information about FSVA will be presented to community groups, such as the Chamber of Commerce or Kiwanis Club and will be available in school parent centers.

Application to the FSVA will be voluntary and offered as a choice. A one-year commitment by the student and the parent to attend FSVA will be strongly encouraged. All applications will be completed electronically and the date and time of submission will be electronically recorded. In the event more students apply for admission to FSVA, a random anonymous lottery will be hosted.

20. Describe the facility where the school will be located.

The physical site of Fort Smith Virtual Academy will be within the newly opened Peak Innovation Center located at 5900 Painter Lane in Fort Smith. The structure is the former Hutcheson Shoe building that was converted to a regional Career & Technology Center which will open in Fall 2021. Office and other dedicated spaces for teachers & students are found within this building and will be designated as the physical location of FSVA. This facility will be in compliance with all requirements for accessibility in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and IDEA and all other state and federal laws and local zoning ordinances.

WAIVERS

Complete the following tables indicating all sections of Title 6 of the Arkansas Code Annotated, the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education rules, and the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts from which the public charter school seeks to be exempted in order to meet the goals of the school.

Waiver #1 Topic	Attendance Records
Arkansas Code Annotated	6-18-213(a)(2)
Standard for Accreditation	
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	Given the nature and intent of a self-paced learning environment, and given the perpetual availability of the online curriculum, FSPS will adjust our daily schedule to accommodate the needs of our learning community and to ensure we are providing the best educational experience possible for virtual students. A separate attendance policy will be adopted for FSVA. FSPS requests a waiver to report daily attendance.

Waiver #2 Topic	Instructional Day
Arkansas Code Annotated	
Standard for Accreditation	1-A.4.2
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	Given the nature & intent of a self-paced learning environment, and given the perpetual availability of the online curriculum, FSPS will need the flexibility to adjust our daily schedule to accommodate the needs of our learning community and to ensure we are providing the best educational experience possible for virtual students. As such, FSPS requests a waiver of the requirement that the planned instructional time in each school day shall not average less than six (6) hours per day or thirty (30) hours per week.

Waiver #3 Topic	Class Size
Arkansas Code Annotated	6-17-812(a)(2)
Standard for Accreditation	1-A.5
ADE Rules	DESE Rules Governing Class Size & Teaching Load
Rationale for Waiver	<p>In an online setting teachers may successfully work with a larger number of students. FSPS proposes the following alternatives for traditionally non-large format classes in the virtual format:</p> <p>K: not to exceed 20:1 1-5: not to exceed 30:1 6-8: not to exceed 240 (Teaching Load)</p>

Waiver #4 Topic	Recess
Arkansas Code Annotated	6-16-102(a)(5)
Standard for Accreditation	1-A.4.3
ADE Rules	DESE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards and Body Mass Index, Section 7.11
Rationale for Waiver	<p>K-8: FSPS understands the importance of physical activity and nutrition. The district remains committed to providing K-5 students with the opportunities through the virtual Health & PE courses. This waiver supports the flexibility needed by the virtual option to meet its academic goals.</p>

Waiver #5 Topic	120 Clock Hours for Unit of Credit
Arkansas Code Annotated	
Standard for Accreditation	1-A.2
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	<p>While FSVA will be a K-8th school, some 8th grade students may take high school credit-bearing classes. Due to the flexible nature of the courses, FSVA is requesting a waiver for seat time, not any graduation requirements. This waiver assists in providing the flexibility needed to reach the academic goals.</p>

Waiver #6 Topic	Principal--Employment of/Licensure
Arkansas Code Annotated	6-17-302
Standard for Accreditation	4-C.1; 4-C.2
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	Due to the scope and nature of the K-8 virtual school, a director will oversee daily operations. The director will be a licensed administrator but may not be licensed as a principal for both K-6 and 5-12. This waiver will provide flexibility in selecting the most qualified leader for FSVA.

Waiver #7 Topic	Teacher Licensure
Arkansas Code Annotated	6-15-1004; 6-17-309; 6-17-401; 6-17-902; 6-17-919
Standard for Accreditation	4-D.1
ADE Rules	DESE Rules--Licensure--Educator Licensure
Rationale for Waiver	Teachers will be licensed in Arkansas except for those situations where a local teacher cannot be identified or for classes with a low number of students. In these cases, FSVA intends to contract with a curriculum provider who will employ teachers who are licensed in the state they reside. All FSVA teachers will meet the Arkansas Qualified Teacher requirements as necessary. While certified administrators and teachers will be sought, FSVA requests the discretion to hire the best leaders and teachers available for the school. This waiver will aid in increasing student achievement by providing students with the most effective teachers and a full catalogue of courses. We are not seeking a waiver of special education licensure requirements.

Waiver #8 Topic	School Nurse
Arkansas Code Annotated	6-18-706
Standard for Accreditation	2-E.1
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	As a virtual academy FSVA will not require a school nurse. FSPS will assign a nurse to review medical records, write health plans, and be available when students are on campus for scheduled activities, such as testing. This waiver supports the virtual academy goals.

Waiver #9 Topic	Library Media
Arkansas Code Annotated	6-25-103; 6-25-104
Standard for Accreditation	4-F.1
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	As a virtual academy FSVA will not require a. FSVA will not employ a LMS or utilize a media center. These tools will be available online through partnerships with online libraries or local libraries. District LMS will be available to provide instruction and assistance. This waiver supports the virtual academy goals.

Waiver #10 Topic	Flag Display; Period of Silence; Pledge of Allegiance
Arkansas Code Annotated	6-10-115; 6-16-105; 6-16-106; 6-16-108
Standard for Accreditation	
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	Peak Innovation Center will display the US & Arkansas flags and, as FSVA is housed within, will adhere to their standard. A group Period of Silence or recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in a virtual setting would be difficult without a synchronous live lesson start time each day.

Waiver #11Topic	High School Credit in 5-8
Arkansas Code Annotated	
Standard for Accreditation	1-A.1.2.9
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	The waiver is requested to enable qualified students below 9th grade to take foreign languages, Algebra 1, and other similar courses for which FSPS has received course approval. This waiver again supports the academic goals of FSVA.

Waiver #12 Topic	Food Services
Arkansas Code Annotated	6-18-705
Standard for Accreditation	3-D.1
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	As a virtual academy FSVA will not serve meals. Students will have access to meals at the neighborhood school campuses. FSPS will provide child nutrition services for the students at FSVA as needed (i.e., sack lunches for field experiences, testing days, etc.).

Waiver #13 Topic	Report Cards
Arkansas Code Annotated	6-15-903(a)(2)
Standard for Accreditation	
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	FSVA parents will have real time access to report cards via the online platform. Emailed or printed report cards will be available to parents upon request.