

Unit Represented	Comments	Remaining Questions	
Charter Schools	We need more detail as to how waivers will be used to enhance innovative practice and opportunity for students as related to teacher licensure.	Please discuss the qualifications/background of new hires to explain how they will provide a quality educational opportunity for all students.	
Special Education	1. Verify that the full Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) will be offered. 2. Explain who will provide OT, PT, Speech services and who will conduct any needed special education evaluations? 3. Explain the Charter's Child Find Plan. 4. Confirm that all state and federal special education regulations and laws will be followed.		
PSA	1. Ensure the elementary literacy curriculum is on the State Approved Curriculum list. The curriculum listed in the application is not on the approved list. 2. Ensure the dyslexia program used to provide dyslexia interventions is on the State Approved Dyslexia Curriculum list.		
Alternative Education	Question 16-Though they will be requesting a waiver from AE, the question of how they will reach the students with the greatest needs and provide them with the necessary interventions to be successful is not answered.	If at a later date how will it be determined that an ALE is needed? What will be the process for obtaining approval for an ALE according to law and rules?	
GT & AP	1. At least one AP course in each of the four core content areas is required. These are not included in the course offerings on pages 11-13. Later in question 15, it states, "Omni Classical will offer Pre-Advanced Placement and AP classes in following years, dependent upon the need." Note recent changes to Pre-AP from College Board (see commissioner's memo with details-https://adecm.ade.arkansas.gov/ViewApprovedMemo.aspx?id=5051). 2. A waiver related to GT is included in the application. The response to question 15 on page 15 indicates the school will "follow guidelines and work with local colleges or universities to allow students to participate in dual-enrollment classes."	1. What AP courses will be offered? How will the need for Pre-AP or AP classes be determined? 2. What guidelines are being referenced in the response to question 15? How will services be provided for students prior to when they are eligible for dual-enrollment classes? What training will teachers receive to ensure they are appropriately differentiating for advanced learners?	
Literacy (RISE)	1. The K-6 curriculum that is listed in the application is not on the state approved curriculum list. 2. Act 489 (Right to Read) needs to be addressed for how all K-12 teachers will show proficiency/awareness.		
Licensure	Description meets AQT for Teacher licensure.	Director and Principal descriptions should describe what specific Bachelor's degree and work experience will be required. Stated contract out for school counselor if needed. At what point will that happen?	
Library Media	More details are needed to address how teachers will be "trained" to oversee the use of media, and how and who will provide instruction in the library media standards. It is encouraging that the school intends to add a certified library media specialist in the future.	Who is making the selections of materials to place in the media center? There was no request for a waiver of AC 6-25-105 (policies for selection, removal and retention of materials). Who and how will that be addressed?	
Family and Community	There are some good ideas presented, particularly your Family First focus. Ensure there is a rich focus on two-way communication, beyond "informing" families. There are a few statutory obligations which are not addressed fully.	Please address the following: - LEA understands that by August 1st annually, it must review and update accordingly the District Engagement Plan. [A.C.A. § 6-15-1704(a)(1-2)] - LEA understands its obligation to train all volunteers at least annually. [A.C.A. § 6-15-1703(b)] - How will families be engaged in development of annual engagement plans? (I would assume that is through your Community Action Committee, it just isn't clear. Additionally, how will parents who are not on that committee have opportunity to share their barriers and needs?) - How does the LEA provide assistance to parents in understanding how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children? [ESSA § 1116(e)(1)] - How does the LEA build ALL staff capacity to work with parents as equal partners? This may include workshops, conferences, trainings, webinars, and online resources that will be used. [ESSA § 1116(e)(3)]	
Fiscal Services		Will the district be able to meet the Standards of Accreditation for grades K-8 with only six teachers?	
Guidance and Counsel	I'm glad to see that training will be provided to all teachers and staff in the areas of counseling as it does take everyone in the building to ensure students are taken care of. A strong counseling program is vital to the physical and mental health of students and plays a huge role in their academic success. In Arkansas, a comprehensive school counseling plan is required that designs the program and is carried out by a school counselor. The plan, program, and counselor are an integral part of the school community. Without them, preventative and responsive services are not provided which leaves students at risk. With the changes made, there are now no concerns.	What evidence-based practices, programs, and training will be used? Who will be responsible for the development of the comprehensive school counseling plan and the implementation of the plan? Who will counsel kids who are in immediate crisis? If you hire a licensed educator that is also a licensed counselor, how will you ensure that the counselor has sufficient time to carry out the duties of the comprehensive school counseling plan under standard 4-E.3?	
	We need more details about how you will be implementing dyslexia legislation outline in A.C.A. §§ 6-41-601. The things that will need to be addressed at this time are: 1. What program will you be using for your dyslexia program? A.C.A. § 6-41-602 requires the school to implement a comprehensive dyslexia program as defined in the law. As of 2020-21, Arkansas legislation requires schools to purchase curriculum from the Approved Curriculum List. The approved dyslexia programs can be reviewed on Arkansas K-12 Dyslexia Approved Programs list . Each program name listed has a Program Provider Profile attached indicating if there are any areas that need to be supplemented. DESE has created guidance around how to review a program and determine the needed supplements. 2. Who will serve as your dyslexia interventionist(s)? Have the interventionist(s) been trained in the program? Do they have sufficient time in their schedule to serve all identified students using the program with fidelity. 3. Please provide details about your planned screening process. * Identify the Initial Screener(s) that will be used to address the six required areas (phonological/phonemic awareness, alphabet knowledge, letter/sound correspondences, decoding, encoding, and rapid naming) for all K-2 students. The Initial Screener must be administered to each K-2nd grade student using DIBELS or an equivalent screener. DIBELS does not address all six areas so additional screener must be identified for the areas that are not addressed. * Identify the Level I Screener that will be used to assess the same six areas. The Level I Screener is an informal diagnostic measure of the same six areas identified in the initial screener. * Identify the assessments that will be used for the Level II Screeners. The Level II Screeners are standardized norm-referenced assessments like CTOPP, WRMT-III, WRS... that require specific credentials and training in order to administer, score, and interpret. 4. Identify how you will identify the students in grades 3-12 that are required to be screened. The law requires screening of any student in grades 3-12 that is experiencing difficulty as noted by a classroom teacher. 5. A.C.A. § 6-41-608 requires each teacher to receive dyslexia awareness training on: (1) The characteristics of dyslexia; and (2) The evidence-based interventions and accommodations for dyslexia. Professional awareness may be provided: (1) Online; (2) At an education service cooperative; or (3) At another venue approved by the department.		
Curriculum	The PE course will need to be changed to Health and Safety Education and Physical Education (1.0 credit) to ensure that Health is included. By year 2027-28, only 30 courses are being offered, but in the opening explanation, a waiver for the required 38 is only being requested for the first few years. Civics, Economics with Personal Finance, and Oral Communications are Arkansas graduation course requirements, but they are not listed in the course offerings for grades 9-12. Some of the courses are not ADE approved courses (for example - Logic).	Could you provide more information on how the school will ensure that courses offered are ADE approved?	

