



**DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY  
& SECONDARY EDUCATION**

## **Public School Waiver Request**

<b>District:</b>	<b>Maynard Schools</b>
<b>LEA Number:</b>	6102
<b>Superintendent:</b>	Dr. Amy Jackson
<b>Email:</b>	amy.jackson@maynard.k12.ar.us
<b>Contact for Waiver:</b>	Dr. Amy Jackson
<b>Contact Email:</b>	amy.jackson@maynard.k12.ar.us
<b>Contact Phone:</b>	573-718-1051
<b>Date Received by DESE:</b>	

**The following documents must be submitted with the waiver request:**

- 1. Board resolution approving the waiver request**
- 2. Evidence of stakeholder involvement, including teachers and student families**

## Waiver Request #1

<b>Topic:</b>	School Start Date
<b>Standards/Statutes/Rules:</b>	A.C.A. 6-10-106
<b>Duration Requested:</b>	Five years
<b>Name of Open-Enrollment Charter Holding the Waiver</b>	Maynard School District
<b>Schools, Grades, or Classes the Wavier Will Apply To</b>	K-12 (Pre-K)
<b>PURPOSE OF THE WAIVER (Must check at least one)</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance Student Learning Opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Promote Innovation <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Equitable Access to Effective Teachers

1. **Provide a DETAILED RATIONALE explaining how the waiver will enhance student learning opportunities, promote innovation, or increase equitable access to effective teachers. Include information about the problem or obstacle; if any, the waiver will help the district overcome.**

The member school districts of the Northeast Arkansas Education Service Cooperative are collectively and separately requesting a waiver from A.C.A. 6-10-106, which establishes the first allowable day of class as the Monday of the week that contains August 19. For the 2024-2025 school year, it will be Monday, August 19, 2024.

We respectfully request a waiver to allow the Maynard School District to set their start date "no earlier" than August 12 for each of the next five school years.

The advantages of the early start option include the following:

1. It gives us a greater chance of having more instructional time before state testing, even in years when we miss a significant number of days due to inclement weather.
2. It allows us to begin in mid-August when students and staff are eager to return to the new year and complete the year by the end of May before many of the summer activities begin in early June.
3. It provides a greater balance between the number of days in the first and second semesters of the school year.

2. **Provide a detailed explanation of how the services being waived will be provided for students.**

The requested waiver will not impact the calendar length chosen by the Maynard School District. It will only provide the flexibility to begin the school year earlier, providing the above advantages to students, staff, and parents. The services provided to our students will be the same as those supplied without waiver approval regarding days and/or hours of instruction.

**3. Provide a detailed explanation of how the district will monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the waiver.**

The district will monitor the following items: 1) # of instructional days or hours gained in advance of state testing by starting earlier, 2) student and staff attendance on those dates, and 3) state test results to try and determine what correlation exists between achievement results and instruction time before testing.

Maynard School District  
74 Campus Drive  
Maynard, AR, 72444  
February 13, 2024

Resolution Number: [610106] **Act 1240 Waiver Request**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MAYNARD SCHOOLS AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT TO REQUEST A WAIVER

WHEREAS, the Maynard School District Board of Directors is committed to providing a high-quality education to all students within the district;

WHEREAS, certain circumstances or regulations may require the district to seek waivers to better address the unique needs or challenges faced by the district;

WHEREAS, the **Act 1240 Waiver Request** is to apply for consideration by the State Board to allow the Maynard School District to set their individual district's first day of class to be "**no earlier than Monday, August 12.**" This pertains to the Arkansas Code of 6-10-106, which outlines uniform start and end dates. Currently, the Arkansas Code outlines a start date no earlier than August 14 and no later than August 26. If the waiver is approved, this will allow the district to have a uniform start date, making the semesters more equal in length and giving greater assurance of ending school in late May rather than June.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of Maynard Schools hereby authorizes the district administration to formally request a waiver for Act 1240 Waiver Request to apply for consideration by the State Board to allow the Maynard School District to set their individual district's first day of class to be "**no earlier than Monday, August 12.**" This pertains to the Arkansas Code of 6-10-106, which outlines uniform start and end dates. Currently, the Arkansas Code outlines a start date no earlier than August 14 and no later than August 26. If the waiver is approved, this will allow the district to have a uniform start date, making the semesters more equal in length and giving greater assurance of ending school in late May rather than June.

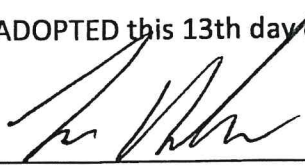
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent or designee is authorized to take all necessary steps and actions to submit the waiver request, including providing any additional information or documentation required by the relevant authorities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Directors expresses its support for the waiver request and acknowledges the importance of flexibility in addressing the unique needs and circumstances of the district.



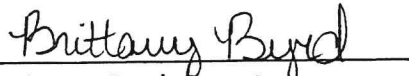
This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED this 13th day of February 2024 by the Board of Directors of Maynard Schools.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trent Melton', written over a horizontal line.

Trent Melton, President  
Maynard School's Board of Directors

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brittany Byrd', written over a horizontal line.

Brittany Byrd, Secretary  
Maynard School's Board of Directors

Note: Please consult with your district's legal counsel and ensure that the resolution complies with local laws and regulations before adopting it.

## **Stakeholder Involvement and Input Regarding Early Start Date for Maynard Schools**

Parents were polled on February 6, 2024 regarding submission of a waiver to the State Board for Consideration of setting a start date no earlier than August 12, 2024. The results were as follows:

### **Waiver to start August 12:**

- Parents/Stakeholders- 66 for, 2 against. 97% for, 3 % against
- Faculty/Staff- 44 for, 7 against. 86% for, 14% against.
- PPC Meeting was held on February 7 at 11:20 a.m.  
All were in favor.

## PPC Meeting

Date: February 8, 2024

Agenda: Waiver to start 24' - 25' school year earlier.

Members in Attendance: Cindy Flurry, Melinda Harris, Amanda Bundren, Karla Vandergriff, Jeanise Lawrence

Meeting is called to order.

Cindy Flurry read the waiver and explained the district is wanting to start the 24-25 school year on August 12 rather than August 19. 85% of the staff is in favor and 96% of the community/parents are in favor.

Motion to approve district seeking waiver made by Karla Vandergriff.

Motion seconded by Melinda Harris. All members in favor.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Cindy Flurry. Motion seconded by Amanda Bundren. All members in favor.

Meeting adjourned.