



# Act 1240 Digital Learning Waiver Request

Status: **Submitted to ADE DESE**

Jacksonville North Pulaski School District (6004000)

School Year 2022-2023

**!** New Digital Learning Waiver requests can not be created after May 1st. Existing drafts and revisions will continue to be reviewed.

Applications will be reviewed in the order received. Incomplete applications will be returned to the district.

A notification letter will be sent to the superintendent at the email address listed above upon approval by the Arkansas State Board of Education.

NOTE: The approved application must then be posted on the district website - State Required Information.

**District:**  
**LEA #:** 6004000  
**Superintendent:** Jeremy Owoh  
**Email:** jowoh@jnpsd.org  
**Phone:** (501) 241-2080  
**Duration Requested (not to exceed three years):** 1 Year  
(School year 2022-2023 to 2022-2023)

The proposed waiver(s) will apply to the following schools:

LEA(s)	Grades/Courses	Interaction	Delivery	Platforms
6004003 - Bayou Meto Elementary School	K-5, 6-8, 9-12	Asynchronous	Virtual (Online) / Remote (Distance)	LMS
6004011 - Bobby G Lester Elementary School		Synchronous		CMS
6004012 - Jacksonville Elementary School				
6004008 - Jacksonville Middle School				
6004009 - Jacksonville High School				
6004005 - Murrell Taylor Elementary School				



## Waivers

Waiver Topic	Standard for Accreditation	Division Rules	Arkansas Statutes	Indicate if the district is applying for the waiver and explain how the district waiver will be utilized.
<b>Attendance</b>			6-18-213(a)(2)	<p>The JNPSD will not be requesting this waiver for K-5, because they will have daily check-ins with JNPSD teachers.</p> <p>The JNPSD will be requesting this waiver for 6th grade because asynchronous instruction will be provided in non-core classes.</p> <p>The JNPSD will be requesting for 7-12 because they will receive instruction through a DESE approved service provider (Flexpoint, Virtual Arkansas).</p>



Waiver Topic	Standard for Accreditation	Division Rules	Arkansas Statutes	Indicate if the district is applying for the waiver and explain how the district waiver will be utilized.
<b>Class Size</b> Number of students:	1-A.5	DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load	6-17-812(a)(2)	The district will not be requesting this waiver because K-12 classes will have enrollment under the max class size cap in each grade level based upon state law.
<b>Teaching Load</b> Number of students:	1-A.5	DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load	6-17-812	The district will not be requesting this waiver.
Teacher of Record provides virtual instruction to only students who are remote. Please note that 100% virtual (online) or remote (distance) classes are considered large group instruction courses as per DESE Rules for Distance and Digital Learning and teaching load would not apply as per DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load.				
<b>Six Hour Instructional Day</b> (Waiver applies to virtual/remote students only)	1-A.4.2		6-16-102; 6-10-126	The district will be requesting this waiver because of the nature of synchronous and asynchronous instruction.
<b>Clock Hours</b>	1-A.2			The district will need this waiver since some virtual students may not need 120 clock hours to master the course.



Waiver Topic	Standard for Accreditation	Division Rules	Arkansas Statutes	Indicate if the district is applying for the waiver and explain how the district waiver will be utilized.
<b>Recess</b> (Waiver applies to virtual/remote students only)	1-A.4.3	DESE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards and Body Mass Index, Section 7.11	6-6-102(a)(5)	The district will be requesting this waiver because there is no way to provide supervised social time in a virtual setting. However, recess/break time will be built into each K-5 schedule.

## Digital Model

Please complete the following application with responses describing the school and district digital programming.

### Interaction / Delivery

What are the ways teachers and students will interact with digital content (Synchronous or Asynchronous)? Please describe instructional expectations and participation for students.



# LEA INSIGHTS

## K-5

Interaction: Synchronous instruction from a JNPSD dedicated teacher of record will take place following the in person classroom schedule. The schedule mirrors the building schedule and during intervention time (titan time), small group instruction time, and independent work time students will work asynchronously.

Students in grades K-2 will be provided daily virtual SOR instructional lessons for a maximum of 45 minutes. K-2 includes required daily synchronous instruction based on the Science of Reading to ensure students in these grades develop the bottom of the rope reading skills needed to be successful. Reading will be a primary focus for the schools in the JNPSD. The school will implement research-based curriculum and strategies for students who are reading at, above, or below grade level. Students reading or writing below grade level will receive additional support through increased frequency of targeted synchronous sessions and multi-tiered instructional support. Teachers use formative assessment data to determine a student's greatest area of need. A variety of supplemental instructional support programs are available to support student learning in the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, comprehension, fluency, and writing. Teachers regularly monitor student performance in these programs and make adjustments as needed based on guidelines for implementing multi-tiered instruction.

Delivery: All content is delivered virtually and fully remote, with the exception of assessments and screeners.

Platforms: The learning management system will be Google Classroom and student support will be provided by Read and Write from Texthelp.

## 6

Interaction: Synchronous instruction from a JNPSD dedicated teacher of record will take place daily in core content classes. All supplemental content classes will be delivered asynchronously by a DESE approved digital learning provider, (Flexpoint).

Delivery: All content is delivered virtually and fully remote, with the exception of assessments and screeners.

Platforms: The learning management system will be Google Classroom for core content classes, and Flexpoint's platform for all supplemental content classes. Student support will be provided by Read and Write from Texthelp.

## 7-12

Interaction: Asynchronous instruction will be provided by a DESE approved digital learning provider. Core content will be provided by Virtual Arkansas, and supplementary content will be provided by Flexpoint or Virtual Arkansas, depending on student course choice. Participation in the course class means engaging in the course content. Participation includes viewing videos completely, reading the course content and assigned readings completely, studying and preparing for assessments, and reviewing all information required for each week. Attendance in an online course means



# LEA INSIGHTS

Information required for each week/attendance in an online course means logging into the Student Information System (SIS) and engaging in the course on a regular basis. Attendance also includes attending live Zoom sessions. This course requires both participation and attendance to be successful.

**Delivery:** All content is delivered virtually and fully remote, with the exception of assessments and screeners.

**Platforms:** The learning management system will be either Flexpoint's platform or Virtual Arkansas's platform for all core and supplemental content classes. Student support will be provided by Read and Write from Texthelp.



What delivery approach will the school or district utilize to meet the needs of both teachers and students (i.e., virtual (online) / remote (distance) or blended (hybrid)? Please explain.

## K-5

Delivery: All content is delivered virtually and fully remote, with the exception of assessments and screeners.

Platforms: The learning management system will be Google Classroom and student support will be provided by Read and Write from Texthelp.

## 6

Delivery: All content is delivered virtually and fully remote, with the exception of assessments and screeners.

Platforms: The learning management system will be Google Classroom for core content classes, and Flexpoint's platform for all non core content classes. Student support will be provided by Read and Write from Texthelp.

## 7-12

Delivery: JNPSD will provide online opportunities through Virtual Arkansas, the State Virtual School (SVS). Virtual Arkansas utilizes a bichronous model of learning, which incorporates a synchronous and asynchronous approach to teaching and learning.

Platforms: Students will engage in their digital coursework through the CANVAS Learning Management System (LMS). Students have access to this content 24 hours a day and 7 days of the week.



Will teachers be dedicated to primarily remote instruction or serving in a dual role, teaching both remote and in-person learners?  
Â \*If teachers will serve in a dual role, describe whether it will be simultaneously, meaning remote and in-person at the same time with course/schedule specific considerations.

K-5

Teachers will only be serving as virtual instructors. There will be one teacher at each grade level providing instruction.

6

JNPSD Teachers will serve as virtual instructors for half the day and as in person instructors for our 6th grade ALE program the second half of the day. They will not be serving two roles simultaneously. There will be two teachers; one licensed to teach 6th grade ELA and social studies, one licensed to teach 6th grade Math and Science. Virtual scholars will be with Flexpoint instructors for non core classes, while the JNPSD teachers are instructing the 6th grade ALE students.

7-12:

JNPSD will be using Virtual Arkansas for its delivery of instruction for our 100% virtual students. Virtual Arkansas provides a certified Arkansas teacher in each course who is fully dedicated to our online learning students.

Describe the expectation for teacher instruction, interaction, and frequency with virtual students.

K-5

JNPSD teachers will have daily instruction with students that will follow the building schedules and use the same materials and curriculum as building teachers.

6

Synchronous instruction from a JNPSD dedicated teacher will take place daily in core content classes. All non core content classes will be delivered asynchronously by outside providers (Flexpoint).

7-12

For students utilizing Virtual Arkansas courses, teachers actively monitor their courses, provide synchronous sessions, and maintain regular communication via the LMS and SIS messaging systems. Each week teachers send a grade report to the student and parent/guardian and initiate further contact with students demonstrating difficulties. Students are provided the opportunity to attend two live Zoom sessions with each of their teachers.





If utilizing district waivers for **class size**, what supports will the district put in place to support the teacher and students? How will the district monitor and determine if the supports are adequate for teachers who exceed class size in digital learning settings?

The district will not be requesting this waiver.

If utilizing district waivers for **teaching load**, what supports will the district put in place to support the teacher and students? How will the district monitor and determine if the supports are adequate for teachers who exceed teaching loads in digital learning settings?

The district will not be requesting this waiver.

## Technology / Platforms

Identify the learning management system/content management system that schools and districts will use? (Canvas, Buzz, Google Classroom, etc.)

K-5

Platforms: The learning management system will be Google Classroom and student support will be provided by Read and Write from Texthelp.

6

Platforms: The learning management system will be Google Classroom for core content classes, and Flexpoint's platform for all supplemental content classes. Student support will be provided by Read and Write from Texthelp.

7-12

Platforms: The Canvas Learning Management System (LMS) will be utilized through Virtual Arkansas. This LMS is supplemented with the Student Information System (SIS) Genius.

Describe the digital content that will be available to students, including any digital curriculum and supports that are available to teachers. If the district is using a content management system (CMS), please specify grades levels and subjects that the CMS will address.



# LEA INSIGHTS

The following digital materials are available to students:

## Elementary (K-5)

Benchmark Universe will be used to integrate literacy, science, and social studies curriculum.

Lexia Core5 will be used to supplement foundational reading skills.

The Revealed Math digital experience will be used for math instruction.

Students will have access to all of the teacher created content asynchronously.

## 6

Students have access to a digital library.

My Perspectives digital component will be used to teach ELA.

Lexia PowerUp will be used to supplement foundational reading skills.

## 7-12

The digital content gives Virtual Teachers the resources they need to close learning gaps, plan lessons, execute goals, measure success, and intervene to help students grow. Virtual teachers receive initial and ongoing training on the digital content which includes: navigating the digital content, customizing courses and assessments, troubleshooting, adding activities, Virtual Arkansas provides access to over 150 courses in grades 7-12 which are designed and written by Arkansas certified teachers and subject matter experts (SME's). In addition, course designers and developers are trained through Quality Matters and Virtual Arkansas course design and development internal training focused on the National Standards of Quality (NSQ) for online courses. Virtual Arkansas courses are designed and developed using the Arkansas State Standards, Quality Matters standards, and the National Standards of Quality of Online Courses as their foundation. This process includes an internal review of the courses by Quality Matters certified online course reviewers. Courses are designed to be fully ready for student interaction and teachers have all the content needed to effectively provide support and instruction to students.

The digital content will be available to students within a platform that provides student progress tracking capabilities. Students will have access to age-appropriate, engaging lessons, and tools that support learning, including text, text to speech software which includes translation capabilities, Digital content combines direct-instruction videos featuring expert, virtual teachers with rigorous assignments, performance tasks, and assessments to engage students to help ensure subject-area mastery. The digital content features self-paced learning options, which allows students to spend more time on what they need and less on the content they've already mastered. If a student needs additional support to master a learning goal, the digital instruction is designed to provide point-in-time resources and support. planning instruction, and designing interventions. Virtual facilitators receive initial and ongoing training to support the students assigned to them. Virtual students, teachers, and facilitators will have ongoing support from the Virtual Arkansas support personnel, including the VA Principal VA Student Success Counselor VA Facilitator Coordinator VA



# LEA INSIGHTS

VA Principal, VA Student Success Coach, VA Facilitator Coordinator, VA Math Student Success Coach, VA English Student Success Coach, VA Reading Specialist, and the VA Special Populations Coordinator.

Flexpoint, a DESE approved virtual service provider, will also be available for non-core classes.

Available Supports For K-6 JNPSD Teachers:

JNPSD has provided curriculum maps for JNPSD teachers. This resource is a Google Site that contains pacing guides, lesson resources, digital assessments, and rubrics.

JNPSD teachers will receive the same professional development and coaching as on site teachers.

JNPSD teachers will be housed in buildings and will participate in collaborative team meetings with their grade levels and participate in Solution Tree priority coaching.

JNPSD teachers will participate in building response to intervention teams.

JNPSD teachers have access to instructional technology resources like Google intensive training, an e-learning hub website, and the district instructional technology coordinator who can provide extra support when needed.



What video communication software is required for any remote student? Please describe the video communication software the teacher will use to facilitate live conferences between two or more participants.

K-6:

JNPSD instructors will use Google Meet as the communication software. Flexpoint and Virtual Arkansas instructors will use Zoom.

7-12:

Students will be utilizing Zoom video conferencing software to participate in synchronous learning sessions with their teacher. The Zoom software is downloaded to the district-provided device. The Virtual Arkansas teacher will utilize Zoom to facilitate synchronous sessions with students during scheduled Zoom sessions during the week. ZOOM provides a suite of teaching and learning features which include recording, polling, break-out rooms, a whiteboard with collaborative and annotation tools, chat, translations, screen sharing, hand raising, reaction emoticons, and remote control option. The remote control option is where the Virtual Teacher is given permission to take control of the user's computer screen to provide navigation and technical support. The Zoom link and Zoom schedule are placed in a common location within each course for easy access.

Describe the technology access (device and connectivity) that will be provided to each digital learning student to ensure each student receives a free public education.

JNPSD's virtual learning options are at no cost to students or families. All students in JNPSD will be issued a district-provided chromebook, unless families choose to opt out of checking out the device. The chromebook handbook has been integrated into the district handbook. Families who opt for the virtual option should plan to have Wi-Fi available at home. If families do not have access to Wi-Fi, they may contact the JNPSD Central Office at 501-241-2080, for details on how to obtain access to "CIPA Compliant" Wi-Fi free of charge.

The JNPSD technology department has developed a system by which parents/scholars can receive assistance troubleshooting technology issues related to the use of the district issued chromebooks. The troubleshooting guide is available online. In some cases a tech specialist may "remote in" to the chromebook to solve the issue. If all efforts to troubleshoot fail, parents may contact the school to set up an appointment to bring in the faulty device and trade for a working device.



## Student Supports

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Describe the manner and frequency the district or school will use to monitor the wellness and safety (food security, physical, mental health, etc.) of students in a total remote setting. (This may be in-person, video communication, etc.). Identify supports available to assist students within the district.



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It is important for our staff to see and interact with our virtual students in real-time. K-12 virtual students are required to be in numerous live virtual sessions over the course of each week, with their cameras on. This not only enhances student learning but it also allows staff working with students to note if there is anything amiss with the student or their home environment.

## K-6

Each JNPSD teacher's Google Classrooms will have a "Counselor's Corner," where counseling resources will be linked and all emergency service numbers will be posted. Additionally, a form will be posted in the "Counselor's Corner" to set up synchronous counseling services with a JNPSD building counselor. JNPSD teachers will be housed on site and will have the same access to services for their students as the on site teachers. Whether students learn on-site or virtually, JNPSD will continue to provide nutritious meals prepared with love and safety in mind. Breakfast and lunch will be delivered twice a week. A list of bus stops will be generated based upon enrollment. The list of stops with approximate times will be publicized, published and posted to the district website, social media, and local media outlets prior to the first day of school.

The district ARCARE nurse will be available through telemedicine support for our remote scholars.

## 7-12

Virtual Arkansas employs a Student Success Counselor who oversees the Off-Campus and Fully Online (100% Virtual) Program SEL program. This program implements methods and strategies to monitor the wellness of its online students.

Virtual Arkansas teachers are trained to employ actions and behaviors to ensure the physical and mental health of students. Virtual Arkansas uses a variety of methods of communication to do this and partners with schools to ensure students are cared for. When a situation arises where intervention is determined to be needed beyond what can be done virtually, Virtual Arkansas will contact the partnering school including the facilitator and counselor to step in to provide intervention. Virtual Arkansas teachers are trained to report any suspected maltreatment/abuse to the Department of Health Services.

Whether students learn on-site or virtually, JNPSD will continue to provide nutritious meals prepared with love and safety in mind. Breakfast and lunch will be delivered twice a week. A list of bus stops will be generated based upon enrollment. The list of stops with approximate times will be publicized, published and posted to the district website, social media, and local media outlets prior to the first day of school.

The district ARCARE nurse will be available through telemedicine support for our remote scholars.



Describe the manner and frequency the district or school will use to monitor the academic and student engagement in a virtual setting. Describe the additional supports available for students struggling with engagement.

#### K-6

Engagement: Engagement will be monitored using a four prong approach; attendance, assignment submission, app usage reports, and Go Guardian reports.

#### 7-12

Engagement will be monitored by the DESE approved service provider in Flexpoint and Virtual Arkansas courses using attendance and assignment submission. Virtual scholars will participate in their JNPSD counselors Google Classroom to stay abreast of college and career updates and have immediate access to resources and support for graduation and counseling services. Holistic success in the virtual option is monitored by the principal of the Alternate Learning program, who will serve as the student success manager for secondary virtual students.

JNPSD has access to the Virtual Arkansas Genius SIS and the CANVAS LMS to monitor students in real-time. The LMS and SIS both have the capability to easily produce login and various other reports to help identify student activity and engagement levels. Virtual Arkansas teachers will initiate intervention when a teacher determines a student isn't actively engaging or successfully mastering the content. In cases where needed, Virtual Arkansas will involve the partnering school. VA has wrap around supports built into their program. This support includes a dedicated Principal, Student Success Counselor, Special Populations Coordinator, Math Student Success Coach, ELA Student Success Coach, and a Reading Specialist. Virtual Arkansas engages in robust intervention strategies and techniques that are employed through the Student Intervention Team (SIT).



Describe the Academic Response to Intervention plan for remote (virtual) students, including additional supports and personnel.

#### K-6

JNPSD teachers will follow the District RTI handbook for RTI referrals, criteria, and direction.

#### 7-12

Virtual Arkansas teachers have been trained in the RTI process to identify and intervene with immediacy when a student is determined to not be successful. They are trained to deliver Tier I and II interventions and, if those are not successful, refer students to the Student Intervention Team (SIT). Additionally, Virtual Arkansas has wrap-around student support built into their program. The support personnel includes a dedicated Principal, Student Success Counselor, Special Populations Coordinator, Math Student Success Coach, ELA Student Success Coach, and a Reading Specialist. Virtual Arkansas engages in robust intervention strategies and techniques that are employed through the Student Intervention Team (SIT) which meets weekly. This team will accept teacher referrals from teachers who have engaged struggling students with various intervention strategies but have not been successful. The intervention team will look at teacher notes and available student data to determine next steps in accordance with appropriate Response to Intervention (RTI) strategies.

Virtual Arkansas teachers have been trained in the RTI process to identify and intervene with immediacy when a student is determined to not be successful. They are trained to deliver Tier I and II interventions and, if those are not successful, refer students to the Student Intervention Team (SIT).





Describe the district or school's formative assessment plan to support student learning.

K-6

The formative assessment plan that is implemented in the virtual academy will mirror the on-site teacher assessment plan. The CFAs are developed by the content PLCs and are designed by the teachers in like content areas. Unit assessments are administered at the end of each unit, and the results are maintained digitally and evaluated in the grade level PLC.

7-12

Virtual Arkansas courses have periodic formative assessments, checks for understanding, and pre-tests to determine students' mastery of learning throughout the modules of a course that are aligned to the summative module assessments. There are varied methods of assessment utilized both through the asynchronous course with open-ended discussions/assessments, choice response activities, multiple-choice, and hybrid assessments(open-ended and multiple choice). Teachers also use weekly live Zoom to do informal formative checks to ensure clarity for students on asynchronous learning tasks. These strategies of formative assessment, both formal and informal, are utilized in order to guide the RTI process and methods of intervention.

Describe how dyslexia screening and services will be provided to digital learning students.



JNPSD will ensure that dyslexia law requirements are met for digital learners. For all K-2 virtual learners, initial screening assessments will be administered on-site by the scholars' teachers in order to determine areas of strength and weakness in reading. Initial screeners identified in the JNPSD Dyslexia Handbook will be utilized to meet the state required screening in the following six areas: phonological awareness, sound/symbol recognition, alphabet knowledge, decoding skills, rapid naming skills, and encoding skills.

Level 1 screeners, for students in grades 3-12, who are experiencing difficulty in any of the six screening areas, as noted by their virtual teacher, will be scheduled and administered on-site. For any virtual learner requiring further dyslexia screening, Level 1 and/or Level 2 screeners will be administered on-site via scheduled appointment times, following parent/guardian consent.

To meet the unique needs of our identified scholars with characteristics of dyslexia, JNPSD will provide explicit, direct, systematic, sequential, cumulative, multisensory and research-based phonics interventions, which will be delivered in a virtual small group setting to support the components of reading instruction. Dyslexia interventions will be delivered with fidelity as the author of the program intended by trained dyslexia interventionists and tailored to the specific needs of each scholar. Scholars will be serviced by a JNPSD Reading Specialist. The JNPSD reading specialists will create small virtual groups and set an intervention schedule for each group, determining the set time and frequency in which interventions will occur. Virtual learners will engage in synchronous small group dyslexia interventions using Google Meet and Google Classroom.

In addition, Virtual Arkansas provides accessibility tools to support students with dyslexia including ReadSpeaker that will read any text in the course to students. Virtual Arkansas will provide the needed accommodations per the individual 504 plan uploaded into the SIS by the partnering school. In addition, Virtual Arkansas employs a Reading Specialist who will coordinate with the local school if screening or additional services are required.



Describe how Gifted and Talented supports and services will be provided to digital learning students.

Jacksonville North Pulaski School District (JNPSD) will ensure that GT Program Approval Standards are met for digital learners. JNPSD will provide whole group enrichment for students in grades K,1st, and 2nd. A licensed GT teacher will provide a 30 minute lesson through a live meet using google or zoom. Lessons will be the same as those provided in face to face sessions.

Identified Students in grade 3-5 will be served in a “Resource Room”. A licensed GT teacher will provide 150 minutes of direct instruction each week. The class will meet using google meets and all assignments will be documented in google classroom.

Identified students in grades 6-8, have 2 options for services. They may take a virtual seminar class or virtual accelerated courses in all four content areas. The seminar is taught by a licensed GT teacher and follows a curriculum aligned with the district GT scope and sequence. Accelerated courses are taught by licensed teachers who follow an accelerated curriculum map aligned to Arkansas Course Frameworks.

Jacksonville North Pulaski School District will provide whole group enrichment for students in grades K,1st, and 2nd. A licensed GT teacher will provide a 30 minute lesson through a live meet using google or zoom. Lessons will be the same as those provided in face to face sessions.

Identified Students in grade 3-5 will be served in a “Resource Room”. A licensed GT teacher will provide 150 minutes of direct instruction each week. The class will meet using google meets and all assignments will be documented in google classroom.

Identified students in grades 6-8, have 2 options for services. They may take a virtual seminar class or virtual accelerated courses in all four content areas. The seminar is taught by a licensed GT teacher and follows a curriculum aligned with the district GT scope and sequence. Accelerated courses are taught by licensed teachers who follow an accelerated curriculum map aligned to Arkansas Course Frameworks

Identified students in grades 9-12, have multiple options for services. They may take virtual accelerated courses, Advanced Placement and concurrent credit courses in all four content areas. All accelerated courses are taught by licensed teachers who follow an accelerated curriculum map aligned to Arkansas Course Frameworks. Advanced Placement courses follow the College Board Curriculum Binders and concurrent courses use the materials required by UALR.

Identification will follow the same policies as face to face students. A student may be referred by a parent, teacher, other individual with knowledge of the student, or self referred. After referral, the GT facilitator will arrange for individualized testing (testing will be by appointment and may require face to face administration) and data will be reviewed by a GT placement committee. After a decision is made the student will be placed in the appropriate service option



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appropriate service option.

In addition, All current 7-12 grade Virtual Arkansas teachers will deliver the GT Program Option of Secondary Course Content (I.C, pg 21, GT Program Approval Standards). These teachers have completed Secondary Course Content training and will provide copies of training certificates and quarterly documentation of differentiation to participating districts, as required in the description of this program option in GT Program Approval Standards. Virtual Arkansas will ensure that any new hires will also complete this required training in order to provide this GT program option. Training and differentiation documentation will be obtained by contacting Kirsten Wilson, Virtual Arkansas Director of Curriculum and Instruction. An approved teacher of the gifted (licensed GT coordinator/GT teacher), employed by the participating school district maintains oversight of the students' activities at a minimum by collecting differentiation documentation on at least a quarterly basis and meeting with identified students monthly, as required by I.C.3 from GT Program Approval Standards.

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Describe how English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL / ESL) supports and services will be provided to digital learning students.



# LEA INSIGHTS

## K-12

Student screening will be provided to students as required and for those who are referred for ESOL. All ELPA assessments are required to be administered onsite by the ESOL instructors. The location, date and time for these assessments will be determined and announced to the guardian of the student. Student support and intervention will be provided by the ESOL instructor on a scheduled day(s) and time through the instructors own Google Classroom. The main page on Google Classroom will show the virtual schedule along with links to each group's Google Meet. Virtual teachers will provide support as the committee determines in the student learning plan.

Students who have lower proficiency scores will still be served as our "pull out" groups. These students will be provided the same opportunity as our face to face students, and they'll be expected to join our virtual synchronous sessions 2x/week in 30 minute sessions. Students who score higher on their ELPA 21, but still require some support will be considered as needing "push-in services." On campus, we would be in their classroom once a week, but for virtual we will be there as a support for the same amount of time (one synchronous 30 min session per week). Secondary scholars that are placed in the ELL class at JMS and JHS will be able to join in on live scheduled sessions via Google Meet. Any additional assistance will be provided for these scholars either through Google Meet, or GoGuardian Chat.

ESOL Specialists will collaborate with JNPSD virtual teachers a minimum of once each quarter to check on EL classroom progress; this will include documentation that gives us information on their grades, attendance, virtual participation etc.

Students who join their virtual class each week will be provided virtual lessons of our EL Achieve curriculum with supplements from Lexia English and the Rosetta Stone when needed.

## ELPA Screeners and Testing

Students who needed to be screened at the beginning of the year were contacted by phone and scheduled to come to a determined location to take their Screener Assessment. (These cannot be done virtually.)

Students who need to take the ELPA 21 exam will be contacted by whatever means necessary (phone, message, email) to bring their child/children to a determined location to take their assessments. Students will be asked to come 2 days during the testing period because the test is so long. (4 parts: Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking).

In addition for 7-12, All ELL accommodations are determined by the districts' Language Proficiency and Assessment Committee (LPAC) and will be shared with Virtual Arkansas who will ensure accommodations are provided so that English Learners have access to the core curriculum via providing integrated support. The district will regularly communicate with Virtual Arkansas regarding the ELL students' progress and make any necessary adjustments to needed accommodations and supports



to needed accommodations and supports.

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Describe how all Special Education services and supports will be provided to digital learning students, including the process for special education evaluations and conferences.



# LEA INSIGHTS

## Special Education Instructional Services and Supports

Special Education teachers will provide instruction to both remote and in person learners. Instruction will be provided simultaneously for group learning. Virtual learners will participate in group instruction through video conferencing using Google Meet. One-on-one support and individualized instruction will be provided specific to each scholar's goals in their IEP or as stated in the Remote Learning Plan. One-on-one virtual sessions between the teacher and scholar will be scheduled a minimum of twice weekly.

Special Education teachers will record lessons and post them in their Google Classroom. Additionally, they will provide individual student assignments through Google Classroom. Digital learning platforms will be utilized to support and enhance learning as related to IEP goals.

Related services, including Speech, OT and PT, will be scheduled according to the minutes in the scholars IEP or as stated in the Remote Learning Plan. Sessions will be held virtually via Google Meet.

## Special Education Referrals

Any person with knowledge may make a referral on a virtual scholar for an evaluation for special education and related services. The meeting may be held either in person or virtually. The referral process will proceed as required by law.

## Special Education Evaluations/Reevaluations

Once the committee has determined that an evaluation is needed, the parent/guardian will be contacted by the person doing the evaluation (School Psychology Specialist, Speech Therapist, Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, etc.) and a mutually agreed upon time will be set for the scholar to come onsite for the completion of the evaluation. The parent/guardian will be responsible for getting the scholar to the school. All conferences for Special Education will have the option to be held either in person or virtually.

## State and Federal Requirements

The district will follow state and federal requirements of IDEA including Annual Reviews and Reevaluations for all virtual scholars. All timelines, paperwork and meetings will be completed as required by the law

This is the text that Virtual Arkansas sent us for 7-12, can you read it over and see if anything needs to be changed?

Virtual Arkansas teachers will provide information for evaluations and conferences when requested. Jacksonville North Pulaski will upload the modification/accommodation sheet to the Student Information System (SIS) within the first 10 days of school or enrollment if enrollment occurs after school begins. Virtual Arkansas courses are designed in such a way that all applicable accommodations/modifications can be met in the course in conjunction with services provided by the partnering school.



Special Education programs delivered in a virtual learning environment will follow all IDEA/Arkansas Rules and Regulations for Special Education. Information discussed during meetings will be documented and placed in the student's file. All modifications/accommodations will be provided according to students IEP. During virtual learning, students who have been identified as needing special education services will be served through Zoom, or other communication platforms. Based on progress monitoring data, students needing Special Education services may be required to meet face-to-face with district special education certified staff.

Virtual Teachers use curriculum and instructional strategies that include the following evidence-based practices, including Universal Design for Learning, which is designed to meet the needs of students with disabilities:

1. Provide explicit instruction,
2. Model learning strategies,
3. Make instruction accessible,
4. Provide tools to support learning, provide appropriate feedback, and capitalize on technology.

The digital curriculum and learning management system provide accommodations for Special Education students and families. These accommodations include addressing multiple learning preferences, accommodations for assessments, video captions/transcripts, color and contrast considerations, read-aloud and translation tools, multiple means of representation of key concepts (verbal, concrete manipulative, numerical, graphical, and symbolic.) For Special Education students with language challenges, Virtual Teachers can enable Canvas' embedded ReadSpeaker tool, a robust language-support feature. This tool allows students to hear on-screen text read aloud. Students and families will be supported in using the tools during asynchronous learning through the initial course orientation and the Virtual Teacher will facilitate the usage of the tools, as needed, during synchronous learning.





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Describe common and frequently used digital accommodations that the district or school has provided to general education teachers to assist students in digital learning classes.

K-6

Google Read & Write is used to provide assistive technology for all students districtwide. Read & Write has a variety of tools embedded into the Chrome browser that students use for all work; text to speech, text to picture dictionaries, voice notes, and simplify text on the internet.

Orbit note, which will allow students to engage with PDF materials if needed.

Go Guardian allows teachers to monitor student engagement and assist students by directing them to certain sites and resources if needed.

## Teacher Supports

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Describe district and school supports to provide on-going digital content and instructional supports for teachers.



## K-6

Professional development is being offered to JNPSD teachers for all new digital content and curriculum programs.

JNPSD teachers have access to instructional technology resources like Google intensive training, an e-learning hub website, and the district instructional technology coordinator who can provide extra support when needed.

## 7-12

JNPSD will be utilizing Virtual Arkansas as our digital content and digital instruction solution for core classes. Virtual Arkansas provides robust online teacher training and development for all new teachers entering the field of online teaching. All Virtual Arkansas teachers are provided both directed/scheduled and embedded professional development activities, book studies, and weekly collaborative teams. Virtual Arkansas provides a team of instructional and digital content experts for just-in-time support for all teachers. Virtual Arkansas also has a team of technology support specialists to assist with any technology.

As part of the Professional Learning Community process, Virtual Teachers will use student data to drive a continuous plan-do-check cycle of improvement. If there is a support need beyond what the Virtual teacher can provide, the Virtual Campus Coordinator will facilitate the support. On-going and job-embedded support will occur throughout the school year based on student achievement data and classroom observations.

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Identify the daily or weekly amount of time teachers will need to develop and plan for instruction based on options selected and digital supports provided. How will the district support teachers with digital content and planning?



## K-6

Virtual instructors will have a scheduled planning time Mon. - Fri. no less than 200 minutes per week. On a weekly basis, each teacher will be provided with a full one-period prep period at a minimum of three times each week. Two prep periods will be utilized for PLC and RtI.

Professional development is being offered to JNPSD teachers for all new digital content and curriculum programs.

JNPSD teachers have access to instructional technology resources like Google intensive training, an e-learning hub website, and the district instructional technology coordinator who can provide extra support when needed.

In addition, K-6 JNPSD virtual teachers will be housed in schools and included in all coaching, professional development, and PLC time.

## 7-12

JNPSD will be utilizing Virtual Arkansas for our digital content and digital instruction solution. The Virtual Arkansas teachers will be scheduled with a minimum of two hundred (200) minutes each week for each teacher to schedule time for conferences, instructional planning, and preparation. Virtual Arkansas teachers will utilize curriculum developed by Arkansas subject matter experts (SME's) aligned to Arkansas standards. Schools will provide a facilitator or facilitators, depending upon the number of students, to aid Virtual Arkansas teachers as they provide instruction to the students. Virtual Arkansas will provide training to the partnering school's facilitator(s) and ongoing support to facilitator(s) through Virtual Arkansas' Facilitator Coordinator. Prior to the start of school, Virtual Arkansas will support Virtual Teachers with digital content and planning through training on the primary digital content. This training includes guides for recommended pacing, adding supplemental content, and navigating the platform. This digital content and planning component will be supported by Virtual Arkansas.

## District Supports



Describe how the district will ensure equitable access to opportunities for success for digital learner's needs (poverty, homelessness, migrant, foster care, and military connected students) A link (URL) to the district equity plan may be acceptable if it meets this criteria.

(<https://drive.google.com/file/d/14rILY6DTAIPk1ZsR-2nvtsOET4I-unUO/view?usp=sharing>) to the district equity plan may be acceptable if it meets this criteria.

Special Education: The IEP team will recommend if this instructional option is appropriate for the SPED scholar.

504: The 504 team will recommend if this instructional option is appropriate for the 504 scholar.

English Language Learner: The LPAC team will recommend if this instructional option is appropriate for the ELL scholar.

Gifted and Talented: Scholars will have the opportunity to participate in Elevate (GT), accelerated or AP course(s).

Dyslexia: Scholars will participate in scheduled, synchronous virtual interventions based on their needs. Intervention days and times will be specified for each scholar.

Food services will be provided to virtual students.

JNPSD will ensure that all scholars are equipped with the following resources to ensure success:

A chromebook

Wi-Fi hotspot for scholars who do not have internet access

All scholars will have access to Google apps that will allow them to see assignments and lessons

Availability of staff to address content through email and Google

JNPSD teachers will monitor student well-being. When student needs are identified, district staff will assist in identify the appropriate liaison to connect with to address student needs, including, but not limited to: Homeless liaison, migrant coordinator, school counselor, school nurse, parent coordinator, ESOL Coordinator.



All students are expected to test (statewide summative assessments) onsite as per DESE guidance. Provide an overview of how the district may communicate to parents and test digital learning students at a district site.

In order to ensure that the Virtual scholars are fully aware that the virtual scholars are expected to come on-site and take the state exams, JNPSD schools will implement the following steps to communicate the importance of the testing and the dates and the times:

A signed success contract for all the Virtual scholars committing to coming on-site to take the state mandated exams

A call-out phone call to gently remind the parents of the dates of the required state testing

A social media blast for a week prior to the date of testing

A reminder will be sent to the parents of the virtual scholars to bring their scholar to the school for the testing on specified days via call-out and social media

If a scholar fails to attend on the scheduled testing day, written notification and a follow up phone call will be made to the guardian(s) notifying them of the virtual option contract violation.

If a scholar fails to complete the required testing on site, the scholar will not be considered for virtual learning in the future.

Provide a detailed explanation of how the district will monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the digital option(s) and the fidelity of implementation as described within this application.



# LEA INSIGHTS

## K-6

K-6 virtual teachers will be housed in school sites and held to the same evaluation standards as onsite teachers.

District Leadership Team will meet monthly and monitor digital learning plan. All documentation is kept on a monthly monitoring form.

Virtual students are included in all usage and data reports at the district level.

In addition to the committee, every semester an anonymous survey will be sent to the scholars, the parents, and the teachers to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the virtual option. Once the strengths and weaknesses are identified through the survey, the committee will generate action plans to address any and all areas of improvement.

## 7-12

Virtual Arkansas provides the partnering school with access to the SIS and CANVAS LMS. Facilitators are trained to pull grades from the SIS weekly to monitor student progress. Additionally, parents can access student grades through the Canvas App. Teachers send weekly reports via the SIS messaging that is sent to both student and parent email.

The 7-12 virtual option will be closely monitored for effectiveness by the District Superintendent, District Central Office Staff, and District Principal in partnership with Virtual Arkansas, and the Executive Director of Virtual Arkansas, along with the Virtual Arkansas Academic Leadership team. Components that affect student achievement are addressed below.

**Teacher Effectiveness:** Virtual Arkansas will follow Arkansas Teacher Effectiveness Support System along with the National Standards for Online Teaching for teacher evaluations with scheduled and non-scheduled virtual classroom visits.

**Curriculum Effectiveness:** The content in the learning management system will be reviewed formally on an annual basis through the Quality Matters K-12 Standards for Quality by Quality Matters trained virtual staff to ensure Arkansas standards and International standards for quality are being met. Additionally, Virtual Arkansas is in the process of having a variety of courses reviewed by Quality Matters to earn the Quality Matters Certification.

**Student Achievement:** Student learning will be monitored through formative and summative assessments. This monitoring will be in the form of a Professional Learning Community composed of Virtual Arkansas Teachers and Administration.

**Data Sources:** Monitoring, assessing, reflection on data (inferences and next steps). Parent, student, and staff (virtual) surveys will be conducted at least once per year to monitor the effectiveness of the services.



Describe how the teacher(s) will engage families into the digital learning process. (District may link the District Engagement Plan if digital learning is included. The plan must address how the district will support parents/students with digital tools and resources)

Virtual school communications regarding student support and activities will be shared by the administration and counseling through Google classrooms, district websites, social media platforms, and monthly digital newsletters. The E-Learning HUB provides quick access to videos that will support family engagement of the digital learning process with informational support on Google Classroom, lesson access, HAC login, and student monitoring. Parent orientation sessions and monthly parent technology nights will provide question/answer sessions along with training opportunities for families throughout the school year. Families needing to obtain a mobile hotspot will need to contact the school administrator for virtual. In addition for 7-12, Virtual Arkansas provides parent/guardian informational webinars throughout the school year for families of students in Virtual Arkansas courses. Virtual Arkansas teachers communicate course and grade updates weekly to parents/guardians with provided email addresses. Parents/guardians are also given access to the Parent Canvas App which allows them to monitor their students activity and grades within the course. Family engagement is highly valued and encouraged throughout the year by providing regular Virtual Arkansas updates, emails from teachers, just in time meetings at the local level, and up to date information on the Virtual Arkansas website, including the Virtual Arkansas Parent Guide ([https://www.virtualarkansas.org/293342\\_2](https://www.virtualarkansas.org/293342_2)).

Provide the URL to evidence of the local school board's approval of the waiver request(s).

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1JWOGixBxfUrZ0Ky4F5-Nal1B97iORL>



Provide a URL to evidence of stakeholder feedback regarding the waiver request(s) and the district communication plan regarding digital learning program(s).

Current Stakeholder Feedback: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Qj>

## Policies

Please provide a link (URL) to the attendance policy for digital learning students.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1viVH-affY\\_sGPldHQoETkFnbph\\_fn59](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1viVH-affY_sGPldHQoETkFnbph_fn59)

Please provide a link (URL) to the discipline policy for digital learning students.

7-12 Approved Digital Provider Handbook: Virtual Arkansas students are expected

Please provide a link (URL) to the grading policy for digital learning students.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eoASe3dnRfjIDRowtSzxreLuIKIBeh3L>

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