

# **NOTICE LETTER**



# Division of Elementary and Secondary Education

*Transforming Arkansas to lead the nation in student-focused education*

June 28, 2021

**Johnny Key**  
Secretary

Michaela Robbins

Dr. Brian Golden, Superintendent  
Malvern School District  
1620 South Main Street  
Malvern, AR, 72104

**Dr. Ivy Pfeffer**  
Deputy  
Commissioner

Mr. Tim Holicer, Superintendent  
Glen Rose School District  
14334 Highway 67  
Malvern, AR 72104

**Stacy Smith**  
Deputy  
Commissioner

## **Re: Appeal Under the Public School Choice Act-Daisy Robbins**

**State Board of  
Education**

Everyone:

**Charisse Dean**  
*Little Rock*  
Chair

This letter is to notify you that the Arkansas State Board of Education is scheduled to hear the above-referenced appeal(s) on **Thursday, July 8, 2021**. The action item is set for the **10:00 a.m. agenda in the Auditorium of the Arch Ford Education Building, Four Capitol Mall, Little Rock, Arkansas.**

**Ouida Newton**  
Poyen  
Vice Chair

Any additional materials any party chooses to submit should be provided to my office **no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, July 2, 2021.**

**Susan Chambers**  
*Bella Vista*

**The Arkansas State Board of Education has requested the parent, the non-resident district, and the resident district attend this meeting and be available for questions.**

**Dr. Fitz Hill**  
*Little Rock*

The above-referenced appeal(s) will be conducted pursuant to the legal authority and jurisdiction vested in the State Board by the Public School Choice Act and the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Public School Choice Act. You may find copies of these references on the Arkansas Department of Education Website.

**Kathy McFetridge**  
*Springdale*

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact the Arkansas Department of Education's Legal Services Division at (501) 682-4585 should you require additional information.

**Dr. Sarah Moore**  
*Stuttgart*

**Steve Sutton**  
*Marion*

Sincerely,

/s/Taylor Dugan

**Adrienne Woods**  
*Rogers*

Taylor Dugan  
Staff Attorney

**Dr. Beth Anne Rankin**  
*Magnolia*

Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
taylor.dugan@ade.arkansas.gov

**APPEAL**

To whom it may concern,

I, Michaela Robbins, am writing to appeal the denial of Daisy Robbins to attend Glen Rose Elementary.

In August of 2020, Daisy, attended pre-k at Glen Rose Elementary. She has already made many friends and is excited to return to Glen Rose for the 2021-2022 school year. It will be devastating to her if she must change school districts. Daisy's dad works full time, and I, her mother, am a full-time college student. During the school week, Daisy's grandmother, who lives less than two miles from the Glen Rose school, takes her and picks her up from school. My main concern being, if she were to attend Malvern school, I would no longer have reliable transportation to get her to and from school.

Another big concern I have is, most of Daisy's family (grandmother, great grandmother, grandfathers, aunts, and uncles) live in the Glen Rose district, most of which are on her emergency contact list. If an emergency were to happen, they are minutes away from the Glen Rose school to pick her up. If she attended Malvern, it would take much longer to get to her in an emergency situation.

We chose for Daisy to attend Glen Rose because her dad, aunts, uncles, cousins, and grandparents have attended and graduated from Glen Rose. We want to pass that tradition on to Daisy so she can graduate too from Glen Rose one day! Glen Rose offers activities such as FFA that Malvern does not. We come from a farming family and FFA is something we really desire Daisy to have the option to participate in.

Please take into consideration how hard it will be on Daisy, her dad and I, and the rest of the family we rely on to help us get her to and from school every day. This will affect her tremendously if she is denied. My goal as her mother is to keep her as happy and safe as possible. That is why I believe Glen Rose is the correct school for Daisy.

Thank you,

Michaela Robbins

*M. Robbins 6/22/21*

6-22-21

To whom it May concern,

I am writing this letter to express my concern over my granddaughter, Daisy Robbins, being denied attendance to Glen Rose Elementary through school choice.

She attended PreK this year and is looking forward to Kdg with her classmates.

I provide before and after school care for Daisy, as well as two other grandkids, multiple times per week. This includes dropping off and picking up from school. I live approx. 2 miles from the Glen Rose campus and it would be extremely difficult to provide this care if Daisy wasn't allowed to attend Glen Rose.

Please take this into consideration as you review this decision.

Thank you,

Laura Robbins

# OTHER DOCUMENTS



**MALVERN SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Home of Leopards

"Where PASSION, PRIDE, & EXCELLENCE are expected."

Brian Golden  
Superintendent of Schools  
Jace Roberts  
Chief of Staff

1620 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
MALVERN, ARKANSAS 72104  
501-332-7500, FAX: 501-332-7501

Lillian Harper  
Assistant Superintendent  
Gerald Hatley  
Assistant Superintendent

June 14, 2021

Michaela Robbins  
356 Pleasant Hill Rd.  
Malvern, AR 72104

Re: School Choice Cap: Daisy Robbins

Dear Parent,

I am writing to inform you that your child(ren) listed above have been denied school choice for the 2021-22 school year due to the Malvern School District reaching its transfer cap under Arkansas Code Annotated 6-18-1906. Each year there is a cap on the number of transfers allowed under Arkansas Law based upon the enrollment numbers of each school. Applications are approved on a first come basis in the order they are received from the non-resident school district. Per Arkansas law, your child(ren) will receive priority for a transfer in the first school year in which the district has enough space under the cap.

Should you have any questions, please contact our office at the contact information listed above.

Respectfully,

Brian Golden  
Superintendent

May 10, 2021

Michaela Robbins  


Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your application for school choice to the Glen Rose School District for Daisy Robbins. We appreciate your interest in our schools. We are pleased to inform you that we have accepted your application for the 2021-2022 school year. If the student was enrolled in the Glen Rose School District, no further action is needed. If the student was not enrolled in the Glen Rose School District, please enroll the student by August 1, 2021.

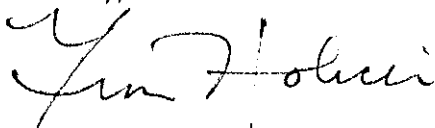
Since your child/children have been accepted through school choice, they will be eligible to continue enrollment in the district until completing high school provided that the student meets the policy requirements all other district students must meet (with the exception of residency in the district). This information is contained in the student handbook.

You are responsible for transportation to and from the Glen Rose School District.

Please note: The Glen Rose School District has no control over when a student's resident district might reach its statutory limit on allowable transfers out of its district. While we consider it unlikely, there is always the possibility that we could be forced to withdraw this acceptance if the resident district reaches its limit. If that happens, you will be notified immediately once we receive the notification from the resident district. We apologize for this unavoidable uncertainty.

Should you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to contact myself or Amber Wiggins at 501-332-3694 ext 6.

Sincerely,



Tim Holicer  
Superintendent