

Harrisburg College and Career Preparatory School

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**Harrisburg College and Career Preparatory School  
Waivers Requested in Original Application  
2016 District Conversion Charter Application**

**1. Teacher Planning Time**

**Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-114**

*HCCPS is requesting a waiver of teachers' daily planning period teachers will have an extended planning period (90 minutes) alternating either Monday and Wednesday or Tuesday and Thursday. Also, for our Fast Track Fridays, teachers will have only a 25-minute planning period. Teachers will be provided over 200 minutes of planning time, it just won't be evenly spaced throughout the week. We need the is waiver to offer the modified block scheduling that allows for longer stretches of time for transporting students to ASUN, project-based learning, stronger differentiation, and time for the life skills lessons on Friday afternoons.*

**Legal Comments:** None

**Remaining Issues:** None

**2. Licensure**

**Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-1004**

**Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-302**

**Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-309**

**Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-401**

**Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-919**

**Section 15.03 of the Standards for Accreditation**

**ADE Rules Governing Educator Licensure**

*HCCPS requests a waiver from the above-listed statutes and rules to the extent that it is necessary to give HCCPS the flexibility hire business and industry professionals or individuals employed by higher education (such as those at the ASU-Newport campus) who possess outstanding credentials and work history but who do not hold a valid Arkansas Teaching License. All individuals who utilized in this manner will be required to pass criminal background and Child Maltreatment Registry checks. HCCPS understands that, if students are granted high school credit for these courses for which they will receive dual credit, it will allow time for students to job shadow, complete internships, and take tours of job facilities and colleges. Such a*

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*waiver will also increase the number of students who graduate with a value-added diploma, which is a fundamental goal of the charter.*

**Legal Comments:** Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-302 only applies to principals and is not necessary unless Applicant intends to waive the requirements for principals. In order to effectuate this waiver, waivers of Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-902 and the ADE Rules Governing Educator Licensure are also necessary.

**Applicant Response:** *HCCPS does not require a waiver of Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-302. Our principals will only be those that are licensed administrators.*

**Remaining Issues:** None

### **3. School Year**

**Ark. Code Ann. § 6-10-106**

*HCCPS is requesting a waiver of the uniform school calendar. This change will allow us the set the schedule in accordance with the calendar of ASUN and their start and end dates of their semesters. This is not an attempt to shorten a student's school year. Each student will still be required to attend the number of days required by state law. It will allow us to start the school year earlier, if necessary.*

**Legal Comments:** None

**Remaining Issues:** None

### **4. Clock Hours**

**Section 14.03 of the Standards for Accreditation**

*HCCPS request a waiver of clock hour requirements for graduation credit in order to meet the goals of its charter. This waiver will be used to create more flexibility in student schedules, which will in turn allow more time for substantial participation in relevant and meaningful career pathway opportunities in accordance with each student's Personalized Learning Plan. HCCPS assures that the granting of this waiver will not create a dilution of the coursework required to meet all necessary standards and frameworks for affected courses.*

**Legal Comments:** None

**Remaining Issues:** None

### **5. Seat Time**

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### Section 10.01.4 of the Standards for Accreditation

*HCCPS 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 in order to increase scheduling flexibility and offer more opportunities during the day for career exploration, ultimately leading to value-added diplomas for our students. By utilizing embedded coursework and our Personalized Learning Plans, students will have more time to serve in internships and apprenticeships, gaining experience, industry certification, and concurrent credit through our partnership with the ASU Newport campus.*

**Legal Comments:** In order to effectuate this waiver, waivers of Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-211 and the ADE Rules Governing Mandatory Attendance for Students in Grades 9-12 are also needed.

**Applicant Response:** *HCCPS requests a waiver of Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-211 and the ADE Rules Governing Mandatory Attendance for Students in Grades 9-12 in order to increase the flexibility in students' schedules.*

**Remaining Issues:** In order to effectuate these waivers, a waiver of Ark. Code Ann. § 6-16-102 is also needed.

## 6. Career and Technical Education

### Section 9.03.3.9 of the Standards for Accreditation

*HCCPS requests a waiver of the requirement to teach Career and Technical Education (CTE) curricula (Keyboarding, Career Orientation, Family and Consumer Sciences, and Survey of Agriculture) as separate classes. HCCPS will ensure compliance with ADE Standards Rules, Arkansas Frameworks, and all applicable rubrics by embedding this curriculum within other courses or presenting courses such as Family and Consumer Sciences or Survey of Agriculture at Grade 8. Such flexibility is necessary to increase time for students to participate in career pathway opportunities at the high school level.*

**Legal Comments:** The section requested is for grades 5-8, and the Applicant refers to grade 8 in its rationale. Applicant will serve grades 9-12. Applicant should provide clarification on what section it is requesting and rationale. Additionally, waivers are not necessary to embed courses. The applicant should seek course approval for its embedded course(s).

**Applicant Response:** *HCCPS would like to retract this waiver. Because HCCPS is and will remain a grades 9-12 school, we will not have the authority to alter the course offerings for grades 5-8.*

**Remaining Issues:** None

## **7. Class Size and Teaching Load**

### **Section 10.02.5 of the Standards for Accreditation**

*HCCPS requests a waiver of the requirement that a teacher shall not be assigned more than one hundred-fifty (150) students and that an individual class shall not exceed thirty (30) students. HCCPS believes that-in certain circumstances-in order to implement its unique charter curriculum, some elective courses and the teachers of those course may need more than the maximum allowance of students. HCCPS ensures that under no circumstances will any teacher be assigned more than one hundred-eighty (180) students. HCCPS will use this waiver on an as-needed basis only.*

**Legal Comments:** Applicant should acknowledge that special education class sizes cannot be waived. Additionally, if the district will not be compensating an educator for teaching more than 150 students a day, then a waiver of Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-812 is necessary.

**Applicant Response:** *HCCPS will not increase the class size of special education courses beyond legal limits. HCCPS does not need a waiver of Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-812. The teachers will be compensated for teaching more than 150 students per day.*

**Remaining Issues:** None

## **7. Professional Development**

**Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-701 et seq.**

### **Section 15.04 of the Standards for Accreditation**

#### **ADE Emergency Rules Governing Professional Development**

*To the extent that it is necessary, HCCPS requests a waiver of the mentioned statutes and ADE Rules for the sole purpose of not requiring its non-licensed teachers to meet the state's teacher professional development requirements. The waiver will apply to Technical areas only and will apply to no core areas. HCCPS will establish its own training to acclimate new, unlicensed teachers to their teaching roles, responsibilities, and expectations. This waiver will help HCC PS meet its established goal of increasing the number of students participating in a career pathway and obtaining industry certification or concurrent credit before graduation.*

**Legal Comments:** This waiver is not necessary for non-licensed educators as they do not have to follow the professional development requirements, but the waiver would apply for teachers and administrators.

**Applicant Response:** *HCCPS would like to request the waiver of Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-701 et seq. and Section 15.04 of the Standards for Accreditation for teachers and administrators. We*

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*would like the flexibility to offer more in-house professional development that directly relates to our status as a conversion charter and associated needs that may not be allowed per the state's teacher professional development requirements. We are not requesting to waive the number of hours total that teachers earn, but rather wish to have the ability to tailor those hours in a way that is most advantageous in helping us effectively deliver instruction in this new educational setting.*

**Remaining Issues: None**

**NOTE FROM ADE LEGAL: Waivers from Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-701 et seq. and the ADE Rules Governing Professional Development have not been granted to any other schools.**

**Desegregation Analysis: Fully Responsive**