



**DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY
& SECONDARY EDUCATION**

Public School Waiver Request

District:	Pea Ridge School District
LEA Number:	0407
Superintendent:	Mr. Keith Martin
Email:	kmartin@pearidgek12.com
Contact for Waiver:	Kevin Ramey
Contact Email:	kramey@pearidgek12.com
Contact Phone:	800-451-0032
Date Received by DESE:	

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

Topic:	Early Start Date
Standards/Statutes/Rules:	Arkansas Code section 6-10-106 Uniform dates for beginning and end of school year.
Duration Requested:	2024-2025 school year
Name of Open-Enrollment Charter Holding the Waiver	Haas Hall Academy, LEA 7240700
Schools, Grades or Classes the Wavier Will Apply To	District, schools
PURPOSE OF THE WAIVER (Must check at least one)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance Student Learning Opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Promote Innovation <input checked="" 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.**

Pea Ridge School District requests a waiver to the start date of the 2024-2025 school year. By approving this request, Pea Ridge Schools is able to begin the school year earlier, thus increasing the number of student learning opportunities prior to State mandated testing. By increasing the number of student interaction days prior to testing, we have seen an increase in student focus, learning experiences, and improved student outcomes. Additionally, this request allows our school district to better balance our school calendar thus providing equitable access to learning for semester long courses at the secondary level. With a traditional calendar, the first semester is significantly shorter than the second semester, if finishing the first semester prior to winter break. Approval of this waiver, also allows us to perform beginning of the year assessments with students earlier, and allows interventions and extensions to happen quicker to provide for a more comprehensive education for all students. Pea Ridge Schools utilizes the PLC process at all grade levels.

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

The first day of school will be moved to August 14, 2024. This request moves the calendar start date by three days thus providing students with increased opportunities to learn. Increasing the number of student interaction days and learning opportunities allows us to have a better picture of student learning and outcomes. These will be regular school days for all students and staff.

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

The District will evaluate the effectiveness of the waiver through student, staff, and community surveys. The District will analyze the effectiveness of the waiver via student attendance data, interim assessment data, and ATLAS data.

Pea Ridge School District
979 Weston St.
Pea Ridge, AR 72751
February 12, 2024

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF PEA RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT TO REQUEST A WAIVER

WHEREAS, the Pea Ridge 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;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of Pea Ridge School District hereby authorizes the district administration to formally request a waiver for the first student contact day for the 2024-2025 school year to begin on August 14, 2024.

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 February 12, 2024 by the Board of Directors of Pea Ridge School District



Mindy Cawthon, President
Pea Ridge School District Board of Directors

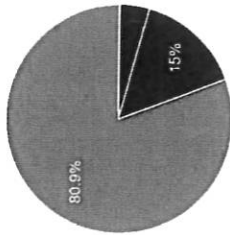
ATTEST:



John Dye, Secretary
Pea Ridge School District Board of Directors

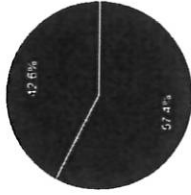
Pea Ridge School District 2024-2025 School year Start Date Survey

I am a:
1,255 responses



- Pea Ridge Student
- Pea Ridge Staff Member
- Parent or Community Member

I prefer the following start date for the 2024-2025 school year:
188 responses



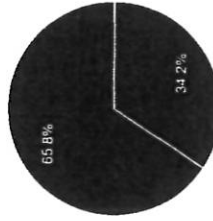
- Wednesday, August 14, 2024
- Monday, August 19, 2024

I prefer the following start date for the 2024-2025 school year:
52 responses



- Wednesday, August 14, 2024
- Monday, August 19, 2024

I prefer the following start date for the 2024-2025 school year:
1,016 responses



- Wednesday, August 14, 2024
- Monday, August 19, 2024