

**RESOLUTION OF THE OSCEOLA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**WHEREAS:** The Osceola School District is a public school district located in Northeast Arkansas; and

**WHEREAS:** The Osceola School District recognizes that teachers are the greatest single factor in student learning; and

**WHEREAS:** The Osceola School District is facing extreme challenges employing licensed teachers for all classrooms; and

**WHEREAS:** Waivers of certain state laws and administrative rules would allow the Osceola School District more flexibility in placing teachers in classrooms; and

**WHEREAS:** Act 1240 of 2015, codified at Ark. Code Ann. §6-15-103, allows a public school district to petition the State Board of Education for all or some of the waivers granted to an open-enrollment public charter school; and

**WHEREAS:** Arkansas Virtual Academy is an open-enrollment public charter school; and

**WHEREAS:** The Arkansas State Board of Education granted Arkansas Virtual Academy a series of waivers, including waivers from Sections 15.03 of the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) Rules Governing Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts; ADE Rules Governing Educator Licensure and, Title 6 of the Arkansas Code Annotated, including: [1] Ark. Code Ann. §6-15-1004; [2] Ark. Code Ann. §6-17-309; [3] Ark. Code Ann. §6-17-401; [4] Ark. Code Ann. §6-17-902, and [5] Ark. Code Ann. §6-17-919.

**NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED BY THE OSCEOLA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THAT:**

**Section 1.** Pursuant to Act 1240 of 2015, codified at Ark. Code Ann. §6-15-103, the Osceola School District Board of Directors requested, by way of a Resolution approved on June 7, 2018, the following waivers from the Arkansas State Board of Education which were granted for a three (3)-year period on June 14, 2018:

A. Section 15.03 of the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Standards of Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts;

- B. ADE Rules Governing Educator Licensure;
- C. Ark. Code Ann. §6-15-1004;
- D. Ark. Code Ann. §6-17-309;
- E. Ark. Code Ann. §6-17-401;
- F. Ark. Code Ann. §6-17-902;
- G. Ark. Code Ann. §6-17-919;
- H. Ark. Code Ann. §6-17-812; and
- I. Any other such waivers as may legally be required and granted by the Arkansas State Board of Education to give effect to the efforts to place licensed teachers in classrooms.

**Section 2.** The Osceola School District wishes to petition the Arkansas State Board of Education to grant it a three (3)-year renewal of the waivers listed in Section 1. of this Resolution.

**Section 3.** The Osceola School District Board of Directors voted to approve this Resolution on June 14, 2021, during an open, regularly scheduled meeting and further authorized its Superintendent to take such actions necessary to submit a copy of this Resolution along with any necessary supporting documentation to the Arkansas State Board of Education.

**APPROVED:**

By:     Jacqueline Baker      
    Jacqueline Baker    , Board President

**ATTEST:**

By:     Torian Bell      
    Torian Bell    , Board Secretary

June 18, 2021

To whom it may concern,

I am pleased to have the opportunity to write this letter in support of Opportunity Culture being incorporated in the Osceola Public School District. As an organization whose mission is to restructure pre-K - 12 schools to extend the reach of excellent teachers, principals and their teams to more students, for more pay within the school budgets, I admire the desire that you all have to build all teachers to become leaders. My philosophy is that once you build strong teacher leaders, you inadvertently build student leaders. Osceola School District partnering with Opportunity Culture, will provide additional support to our teachers, and give them an opportunity to enhance their own professional development. As a member of the Opportunity Culture team on my campus, I am excited and look forward to continuing collaborating with Opportunity Culture in growing our educators, and students.

Sincerely,

Ebony T. Brown

Literacy Interventionist

Carroll Smith Elementary