



Act 1240 District Waiver Request Extension

District:	Barton School District
LEA Number:	5401000
Superintendent:	David Tollett
Email:	dtollett@bartonsd.org
Contact for Waiver:	David Tollett
Contact Email:	dtollett@bartonsd.org
Contact Phone:	870-572-7294 ext 4790
Date Received by DESE:	2/5/21

The following documents must be submitted with the waiver request:

- 1. Evidence of the local school board's approval of the waiver request(s)**
- 2. Evidence of stakeholder involvement, including teachers and student families**

Waiver Extension Request #1

Topic:	Class Size and Teaching Load
Standards/Statutes/Rules:	A.C.A §§ 6-17-812 Standard 1-A.5 DESE Rule - Class Size and Teaching Load
Duration Requested:	2026 (5 years)
Name of Open-Enrollment Charter Holding the Waiver	KIPP Delta
Schools, Grades or Classes the Wavier Will Apply To	9 th Grade and 12 th Grade

- 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.**

To better equip seniors for their next transition in life, Barton High School's school counselor has chosen to continue a mandatory high school senior seminar class that one to two periods of the day for the purpose of equipping our students to:

- To apply and be accepted to colleges
- To apply and be accepted for financial aid and scholarships
- To make college visits
- To transition into technical or work force
- To obtain soft skills for needed transitions
- To provide ACT prep
- To provide opportunities for seniors to obtain college credit while in High School

Barton High School is in the process of planning a freshman seminar course to prepare students to manage their high school experience in order to ensure on-time graduation.

These classes can exceed the 30 student minimum. This waiver if granted will help this highly successful program.

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

Barton High School personnel will provide a mandatory senior seminar class that will provide all of the above mentioned opportunities for low social economic minority and at risk students in the Arkansas Delta. A freshman seminar course would resemble senior seminar with a bigger focus on high school success.

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

Barton High School will monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of this waiver by the number of students who apply to colleges, by the number of students who apply for financial aid and scholarships, by the number of students successfully transitioning into the workforce or military, the amount of college credits obtained while in high school and the increase of ACT scores. Freshman seminar course will be evaluated through on-time graduation numbers and ACT scores.

Waiver Extension Request #2

Topic:	Library Media Services & Licensure
Standards/Statutes/Rules:	Standard 4-F.2
Duration Requested:	2026 (5years)
Name of Open-Enrollment Charter Holding the Waiver	KIPP Delta
Schools, Grades or Classes the Wavier Will Apply To	K-12 Students

- 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.**

Five years ago, Barton School District was granted a waiver for Library Media services and specialist that allowed to shift the focus of the high school media center and provide more direct reading opportunities for students. Since that time, Barton High School has seen an increase for direct services provided to high school students with reading barriers being eliminated. In 2017, Barton School District passed a millage to build new facilities which will include a state of the art district K-12 media center to meet the needs for the 21st century learners. This was only possible by the restructuring of the previous district media center system. By restructuring this archaic system, the Barton School District was able to appropriate resources while improving services to students.

The library media specialist will serve both schools in the newly built, centrally located, library media center. Combining media services into one central location will allow funds to more effectively meet the needs of all students in our district. Library programming will be based on media specialist developed offerings, teacher requested collaborations and the personal inquiries of students.

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

The Barton School District will continue to provide services to all students in a similar fashion as the last five years. This includes one district librarian as well as a media assistant trained in technology. The new state of the art media center will allow the Barton School District to house more resources, create a maker's space, increase the amount of technology and other options, provide student programs and services, and will oversee all classroom libraries within the district. This district library is centrally located on campus which will provide equal access to all K-12 learners. With this waiver, the district media center will become the center of learning for all students while maximizing resources and efficiencies.

Library media standards will be taught using a flexible model incorporating whole group instruction with the library media specialist as well as lessons taught in collaboration with classroom teachers during project based learning experiences. Whole group, small group, and individualized learning opportunities will be provided as well during media specialist lead book clubs, research projects, and STEAM activities. Library programming will include a full range of educational opportunities to support curriculum standards and allow for individualized exploration of diverse topics for students.

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

This waiver will be monitored by the number of students and teachers who use the media center's services, the effectiveness of resources available to students, by the new opportunities that it creates for the low socio-economic and minority students, by the effectiveness of the transition of the elementary learners to the high school learners, and the overall increase of students' reading scores on all state mandated test.

Waiver Extension Request #3

Topic:	Daily Planning Period
Standards/Statutes/Rules:	A.C.A §§ 6-17-114
Duration Requested:	2026 (5 years)
Name of Open-Enrollment Charter Holding the Waiver	KIPP Delta
Schools, Grades or Classes the Wavier Will Apply To	K-12

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.

The current structure of the Barton School District allows for all teachers to have at least a 45 minute planning time during the school day and an afterschool common planning time. The Barton School District would like to continue the flexibility for our staff to use either of these times as their planning or common planning without an issue. During common planning, teachers communicate with parents, disaggregated data, develop collaborative curriculum, monitor student learning plans and participate in additional PLCs and PD and vertical/horizontal alignment. We find this structure meets the needs of our teachers and would like to continue this waiver without an issue.

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

The flexibility this waiver gives to teachers allows them to more effective and efficient in their use of time. We believe that when teachers are efficient that increases the effectiveness on student learning.

3. Provide a detailed explanation of how the district will monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the wavier.

This waiver will be monitored and evaluated by the increase in teacher development, curriculum alignment, student data disaggregation and overall test scores.

Waiver Extension Request #4

Topic:	School Start Date
Standards/Statutes/Rules:	A.C.A. && 6-10-106
Duration Requested:	2026 (5 years)
Name of Open-Enrollment Charter Holding the Waiver	KIPP Delta
Schools, Grades or Classes the Wavier Will Apply To	K-12

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.

Barton School District has benefited from the early start date waiver up until the 20-21 school year. This waiver allowed an increase in Barton School District students' registration to the local community colleges for both vocational and concurrent credit classes. Barton School District has been able to take advantage of the opportunities our local community colleges have to offer. During the 20-21 school year because of the revocation the school start date waiver, Barton School District experienced an 80% decrease in their enrollment of students' opportunities our local community college provides. Without this waiver, low socio economic, minority and at risk delta students will be severely impacted by lost opportunities that will help them succeed in life. In addition, this waiver allows for the Barton School District calendar to have more breaks throughout the school year which increases teacher and student attendance and decreases student discipline. It also helps align Barton School District to the local community colleges' calendars. Additionally, this waiver allows students an opportunity to enroll in virtual options that are not available in our region. This waiver allows the Barton School District to start the school year early and avoid traffic and safety issues because of the decrease of traffic concerns with other area school districts starting around the same date. Without this waiver, many low socio economic, minority and at risk students will be ineligible for the opportunities that their local district can provide but only through the earlier start date. The waiver also allows teachers to have additional weeks to teach prior to state testing. This increase in time prior to state testing has proven to increase Barton School District's state testing scores as well as provide almost a full year of additional instructional time prior to state testing over the course of K-12 grade education.

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

This waiver will allow students the time and opportunity to be enrolled in additional virtual options, vocational programs, and concurrent credit classes. Additionally, teachers will have more instructional time prior to state testing which has been proven to increase Barton School District's scores in Math and Literacy for the past five years.

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

This waiver will be monitored and evaluated by state testing results and college, vocational and virtual enrollment. Building grade level report cards, graduation rates, teacher and student attendance, and student discipline will also be used for monitoring and evaluating this waiver.

Waiver Extension Request #5

Topic:	Six-Hour Instructional Day
Standards/Statutes/Rules:	A.C.A §§ 6-16-102 Standard 1-A.4.2
Duration Requested:	2026 (5years)
Name of Open-Enrollment Charter Holding the Waiver	KIPP Delta
Schools, Grades or Classes the Wavier Will Apply To	K-12 Students

- 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.**

During the 2016-17, Barton High School created an education path for all students, grades 7-12. Each year the students choose their own path in the following: advanced college prep, college ready, college and career ready and career ready. Students took their core and career classes according to the education path they selected. The instructional time waiver allows all students the necessary time to explore and excel in their education path. This waiver also allows our educational field opportunities and senior seminar classes to be possible.

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

As a result of this waiver, we have seen an increase in student attendance and a decrease in student discipline. This specific waiver has transformed our school culture environment and provided flexible learning opportunities for our students.

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

The district will monitor and evaluate the effectiveness by the increased educational field opportunities and college acceptance for low socio economic and minority students, graduation rates, student attendance and student discipline.

Waiver Extension Request #6

Topic:	Teacher Licensure
Standards/Statutes/Rules:	A.C.A §§ 6-15-1004 - Qualified teachers in every classroom A.C.A §§ 6-17-309 - Teacher licensure waivers A.C.A §§ 6-17-401 -Licensure Requirements A.C.A §§ 6-17-902 - Warrants void without license and contract A.C.A §§ 6-17-908 - Teachers' salary fund Standard 4-D.1 - Teacher Licensure DESE Rules Governing Educator Licensure - Section 7
Duration Requested:	2026 (5 years)
Name of Open-Enrollment Charter Holding the Waiver	KIPP Delta
Schools, Grades or Classes the Wavier Will Apply To	K-12 students

- 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.**

The Barton School District resides in the Arkansas Delta in one of the poorest counties in the state of Arkansas. Because of its lack of access to teacher education programs, lack of amenities in the surrounding area, and overall decrease in the education pipeline statewide, the delta region in Arkansas lacks appropriate amounts of certified educators to fill the required vacancies needed. This occasionally creates gaps in Barton School District's ability to recruit and retain certified staff to fill certified positions. Barton School District also has had to develop teacher candidates to occasionally fill these positions. This problem does not appear to be getting any better, and therefore, requires Barton School District to have more flexibility in staffing to provide high quality education to our students. This is despite of being one of the top 30 highest paying school districts in Arkansas.

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

This waiver allows Barton School District to make the best choices for staffing in order to provide higher quality education for all students from highly qualified teachers. We strongly believe that the teacher is the best asset in a child's education, therefore, staffing positions are the upmost priority.

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

This waiver will be monitored and evaluated by retaining highly qualified teachers in all subject areas. The effectiveness of the waiver will be evaluated by the quality of education provided to students by the noncertified staff members and the continuing education obtained by that staff member toward full certification. Professional growth plans and principal evaluations will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of this waiver. Barton School District is supporting teacher pursuing licensures by mentoring, classroom observations, and professional development.

BARTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

REPRESENTING THE BARTON, LAKE VIEW, LEXA, AND ONEIDA COMMUNITIES

P.O. BOX 97 | BARTON, AR | 72312 | 870-572-7294 | FAX: 870-572-4713

WWW.BARTONSD.ORG

DAVID TOLLETT, SUPERINTENDENT



2-05-2021

To: State Board of Education

For all waivers requested, the Barton School District established a timeline with the following results:

1. The Barton district waiver committee made up of parents and staff met and unanimously approved the request for all waivers.
2. The Barton Personnel Policy Committee members met and unanimously approved the request for all waivers.
3. A voting survey on all waivers was sent to all faculty members and was unanimously approved.
4. A voting survey was sent to all parents, students, and community and all waivers were approved by 96% of the vote.
5. The Barton School Board unanimously approved the request for all waivers on Monday, January 11th.

With overwhelming faculty, community, parent, student, and school board support, the Barton School District officially request the State Board of Education's approval for the attached waivers at their earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David E. Tollett". The signature is fluid and cursive.

David E. Tollett

Superintendent

Barton School District

Board Resolution of Barton School District

Waiver Request

January 11, 2021

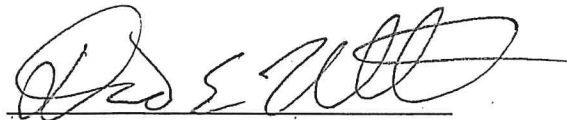
The attached waiver form was approved by the Barton School District's board of directors and deemed necessary for the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year. We respectfully request the attached waivers to better the educational opportunities of the students in the Barton School District.



School Board, President



School Board, Secretary



Superintendent of Schools

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
BARTON SCHOOL DISTRICT #4

January 11, 2021

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Barton School District was held in the Kirkland Multipurpose Building, Monday, January 11, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Arnold, Mr. Canonici, Mrs. Dunlap, Mr. Ward and Mrs. Johnson were present.
Mrs. Crawford and Mr. Gibbs were absent.

1. The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by Mrs. Dunlap at 5:01 p.m.
2. Mr. Goodin introduced Kasey Smith as our senior spotlight student for the month of January.
3. CONSENT AGENDA:
 1. On a motion by Mr. Ward and seconded by Mrs. Johnson, the board voted to approve the following consent agenda items, motion carried at 5:05 p.m.
 - a. Previous Minutes
 - b. Financial Report
4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:
 1. On a motion by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Ward, the board voted to approve the resignation from Paul Burkhead as head football coach and athletic director effective June 30, 2021, motion carried at 5:06 p.m.

Anthony Arnold – no	Donna Dunlap – yes	Chuck Ward - yes
Mike Canonici – yes	Lita Johnson – yes	
 2. On a motion by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Ward, the board voted to continue with the 11-man football program for the 2021-2022 school year, motion carried at 5:34 p.m.

Anthony Arnold – no	Donna Dunlap – yes	Chuck Ward - yes
Mike Canonici – yes	Lita Johnson – yes	
 3. On a motion by Mr. Ward and seconded by Mrs. Johnson, the board voted to approve 3 bids in the amount of \$41,358.82 from Arkansas Correctional Industries for high school furniture. They also approved a \$100,000.00 budget to purchase furniture for the new high school building which includes the \$41,358.28 bid from ACI, motion carried at 5:40 p.m.
 4. On a motion by Mr. Ward and seconded by Mrs. Johnson, the board voted to approve the policy updates 8.23.1 and 3.32.1 for both certified and classified. The policies add 10

additional covid leave days for the staff that will retro back to 1-1-2021 through June 30, 2021, motion carried at 5:42.

5. On a motion by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Canonici, the board voted to approve the request for the renewal of district waivers for 5 years to be sent and voted on by the state board of education, motion carried at 5:44 p.m.
6. The board went into executive session at 5:45.
7. The board return into regular session at 6:41 p.m. with no action taken.
8. On a motion by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Ward, the board voted to accept the resignation from Mr. Tollett effective June 30, 2021, motion carried at 6:42 p.m.

5. INFORMATIONAL:

1. Mr. Winkel stated the elementary enrollment is 366.
2. Mr. Goodin stated the high school enrollment is 344.
3. Mr. Tollett discussed with the board about their ASBA hours and graduation and prom for 2021.
4. The next scheduled board meeting will be Monday, February 8, 2021.
5. Mrs. Dunlap adjourned the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

President

Secretary

PPC Meeting/ Expired Waivers

Sherry House <shouse@bartonsd.org>
From: David Tollett <dtollett@bartonsd.org>

Fri, Jan 8, 2021 at 9:35 A

On January 8, 2021, the PPC voted unanimously to approve applications for waivers that have expired.

The waivers include the following:

Class Size/Teacher Load

Library Media Services

Daily Planning Period

School Start Date

Instructional Time

Teacher Licensure

SIGN IN

SCHEDULED MEETING: District Waivers Committee

TIME: 9:00 am District Conference Room

DATE: January 7, 2021

NAME

POSITION

Jimmie Moore

Federal Coordinator

Dee E. Allen

Supervisor

Donna Vendra

ATC

Theresa

Social Studies

Stacy Hardy

Parent

Sydney Anselmi

Teacher

[Signature]

TEACHER