



DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY
& SECONDARY EDUCATION

Act 1240 Waiver Request

District:	Danville School District
LEA Number:	7503000
Superintendent:	Mrs. Kim Foster
Email:	fosterk@dps-littlejohns.net
Contact for Waiver:	Brittany Blankenship, District Coordinator
Contact Email:	blankenshipb@dps-littlejohns.net
Contact Phone:	479-495-4801
Date Received by DESE:	

The following documents must be submitted with the waiver request:

- 1. Board resolution approving the waiver request-SEE ATTACHED**
- 2. Evidence of stakeholder involvement, including teachers and student families-SEE ATTACHED**

Waiver Request #1

Topic:	School Start Date
Standards/Statutes/Rules:	A.C.A. 6-10-106
Duration Requested:	5 years
Name of Open-Enrollment Charter Holding the Waiver	Arkansas Virtual Academy
Schools, Grades or Classes the Waiver Will Apply To	K-12
PURPOSE OF THE WAIVER (Must check at least one)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance Student Learning Opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Promote Innovation <input 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.

The Danville School District requests a waiver from A.C.A. 6-10-106, which establishes the first allowable day of class as the Monday of the week that contains August 19th. This specific waiver seeks to allow the Danville School District to set their first day of class for the 2024-2025 school year as Wednesday, August 14, 2024.

This waiver would also allow the district to start school "no earlier than August 13th" for the subsequent four school years.

The advantages of this waiver are:

- This waiver will give greater assurance of school ending in late May rather than extending into June.
- Beginning school earlier automatically results in more days of instruction prior to spring testing. More days of instruction will result in higher test scores,
- Due to our student demographics, this start date would allow many of our students to get back into school earlier where they would be assured two meals during school hours.
- Moving the start date would have a positive impact on student attendance

The granting of this waiver does not affect any other law, rule or procedure. The school year will remain the same length. It simply allows a district to continue with a school calendar that has similar start dates to the current school calendar.

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

- There will not be a loss of services for students under this waiver.

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

- The district will monitor student assessment results and student attendance data related to the earlier start of the school year by no more than five days.

Danville School District
East 11th and Main
Danville, AR 72833
February 12, 2024

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF Danville School District
AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT TO REQUEST A WAIVER

WHEREAS, the Danville School 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;

WHEREAS, The Danville School District seeks to apply for an Act 1240 waiver from A.C.A. 6-10-106, which establishes the first allowable day of class as the Monday of the week that contains August 19th. This specific waiver seeks to allow the Danville School District to set their first day of class for the 2024-2025 school year as Wednesday, August 14, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of Danville School District hereby authorizes the district administration to formally request an Act 1240 waiver from A.C.A. 6-10-106, and request that the first day of classes for the 2024-2025 school year be Wednesday, 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 12th day of February by the Board of Directors of Danville School District.



Kim Sullivan, President
Danville School District Board of Directors

ATTEST:



Bob Stanley, Secretary
Danville School District Board of Directors

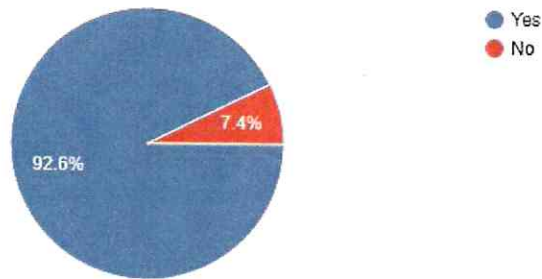
August 14th Start Date Stakeholder Survey Data

**Staff Survey: 63 in favor
5 opposed**

Would you support the school's efforts in seeking a waiver to start school as soon as August 14, 2024, in place of August 19, 2024?

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68 responses



**Stakeholder Survey Via ParentSquare: 59 in favor
19 opposed**

Would you support the school's efforts in seeking a waiver to start school as soon as August 14, 2024, in place of August 19, 2024?

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78 responses

