

Hearing Notice



Division of Elementary and Secondary Education

Transforming Arkansas to lead the nation in student-focused education

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Secretary

Stacy Smith
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**State Board of
Education**

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Marion

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Rogers

Randy Henderson
Blytheville

Lisa Hunter
White Hall

Jeff Wood
Little Rock

July 31, 2023

Raven Henry
[REDACTED]

Keith McGee, Superintendent
Helena West Helena School District
kmcgee@hwhschools.org

Bruce Guthrie, Superintendent
Barton School District
bguthrie@bartonsd.org

Re: Appeal Under the Public School Choice Act – [REDACTED]

Everyone:

This letter is to notify you that the Arkansas State Board of Education is scheduled to hear the above-referenced appeal(s) on **Thursday, August 10, 2023**. The action item is set for **9:00 a.m. in the Auditorium of the Arch Ford Education Building, Four Capitol Mall, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201**. Any additional materials any party chooses to submit should be provided to my office **no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, August 4, 2023**.

The Arkansas State Board of Education has requested the parent, the non-resident district, and the resident district attend this meeting and be available for questions.

The above-referenced appeal(s) will be conducted pursuant to the legal authority and jurisdiction vested in the State Board by the Public School Choice Act and the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing the Public School Choice Act. You may find copies of these references on the DESE website at <https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/Offices/legal/school-choice>.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact the Arkansas Department of Education's Legal Services Division at (501) 683-0087 should you require additional information.

Sincerely,

/s/Shastady Wagner

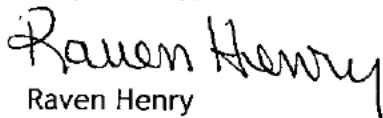
Shastady Wagner
Attorney Supervisor
Division of Elementary and Secondary Education
shastady.wagner@ade.arkansas.gov

Appeal Packet

To: Ms. Shastady Wagner

My name is Raven Henry. I am the mother of [REDACTED]. I enrolled [REDACTED] in the Barton Lexa School District. He only attended the school there for one day, because the school said there was a zoning issue. They told me to fill out a School Choice Application for the 2023-2024 school year. I filled out the application and turned it in. The Barton-Lexa School District denied my son from attending their school. Please see attached documents from the Barton-Lexa School District. I would like to appeal this decision. If you need additional information, please contact me at 501-269-5403 or 870-995-8480 or emai-hjerry11@yahoo.com.

Respectfully,


Raven Henry

BARTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

5995 Highway 49 | LEXA, ARKANSAS | 72355 | 870-572-7294 | FAX: 870-572-4713
www.bartonsd.org Dr. Bruce Guthrie, Superintendent



June 30, 2023

Dear Raven Henry,

I am sorry, but the application you submitted for [REDACTED] has been rejected for the following reason(s):

☐ Your child's resident district has declared itself exempt from the provisions of the School Choice Law due to it being under an enforceable desegregation order.

☒ Your child does not meet the openings identified for the coming school-year identified in the Board of Directors Resolution adopted on 6/19/2023.

Respectfully,

Dr. Bruce Guthrie,

Superintendent

District Response