



DISTRICT WAIVER ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

District Name: Clarksville

Superintendent: Dr. David Hopkins

Email Address: david.hopkins@cstdar.org

Phone Number: 479-705-3200 Date Waivers Granted: 8/14/2017

School Year Waivers Implemented: 2017-18

Name of Charter School(s) Attended by District Students

Waiver Topic: Early Start

Briefly explain the original rationale used when the waivers were requested and describe how the use of the waivers have impacted the district, specifically the teachers, by waiver topic. Consider including any unintended benefits or consequences that have developed from the district's utilization of its waivers and any teacher feedback that the district has received. Please attach any data collected that demonstrates changes in the district.

The Clarksville School District understands the importance of time with students on campus. Our goal is to have as many teaching and learning days as possible before the 9 weeks, semester, and state assessments. Using an early start date allows for more balanced semesters, with first semester being 87 days and second semester being 91 days. This balance will allow for a first semester test schedule that will be beneficial to our students, as they can end the semester before Christmas break instead of having to complete the semester after the long break.

The Clarksville School District is continually looking for ways to improve test scores. We do believe the more time students have with teachers, the better they will perform on assessments. Since 2017-2018, teachers have continued to utilize the ACT 1240 waiver for early start date. Teachers are able to plan for more material being covered before the state assessment. Teachers are able to spend more time on areas that are required for student mastery before the state assessment. Summer schools and credit recovery courses are able to begin earlier than before this waiver. Teachers are able to plan more for before the state assessment rather than after the state assessment.

Briefly explain the original rationale used when the waivers were requested and describe how the use of the waivers have impacted the district, specifically the students, by waiver topic. Consider including any unintended benefits or consequences that have developed from the district's utilization of its waivers and any student feedback that the district has received. Please attach any data collected that demonstrates changes in the district.

Through this waiver, students are receiving opportunities to be more prepared for 9 weeks, semester, and state assessments. Students can complete a semester without having to come back from a long break and then take assessments over the semester. Students will have more time to obtain a greater depth of knowledge in subjects. With the days starting earlier, students that require credit recovery and summer school can start recovery earlier than before this waiver.

Provide a description of how the waivers have impacted school growth including the graduation rate. Please attach any data collected that demonstrates changes in the district.

We are pleased with the growth in our ESSA report for all schools in our district. The information below indicates the growth for each school. The growth for each school continues to improve. We feel confident having students more days before the state assessment has had a positive impact on student growth.

School Name	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Primary (K-1 feeder school)	78.9	79.63	79.23
Pyron (lower 2-3 and upper 4-5 elementary)	78.9	79.63	79.23
Kraus (6-7 middle school)	79.02	82.26	82.56
Junior High (8-9)	81.35	80.54	82.25
High School (10-12)	81.77	80.43	81.91

We have seen a trend in our high school graduation rate is above the state's average graduation rate. We feel confident having more days before the state assessments and ACT has had a positive influence on our graduation rate growth.

Our high school graduation rate trend data for the past three years is as follows:

Graduation Year	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
4 Year Graduation Rate	91.26	94.8	95.45
5 Year Graduation Rate	93.57	88.95	94.8

Provide a description of how the waivers have impacted student achievement. Please attach any data collected that demonstrates changes in the district.

As a district, we have not seen overall gains in our student achievement. However, we have seen individual schools make gains in different areas. Our district has concentrated and will continue to concentrate on reading K-12. Our Elementary school is on additional targeted support for our special education population. We have made many changes to address this issue. We also have 38% of our students in grades 3-10 in the in Need of Support category on the ACT Aspire. Our goal is to address these issues and we have made several changes in order to address these issues. We feel confident that having more time with students before the state assessment has and will continue to help us make improvements in these areas.

Submit completed forms to Kelly McLaughlin by email at kelly.mclaughlin@arkansas.gov.

Questions should be directed to Kelly McLaughlin by email at kelly.mclaughlin@arkansas.gov or by phone at (501) 682-2130.