Act 1240 Digital Learning Waiver Request

Status: **Submitted to ADE DESE**

🏛 Wonderview School District (1505000)

School Year 2022-2023

> ❗ New Digital Learning Waiver requests can not be created after May 1st. Existing drafts and revisions will continue to be reviewed.

> Applications will be reviewed in the order received. Incomplete applications will be returned to the district.
>
> A notification letter will be sent to the superintendent at the email address listed above upon approval by the Arkansas State Board of Education.
>
> NOTE: The approved application must then be posted on the district website - State Required Information.

District:

LEA #:	1505000
Superintendent:	Jamie Stacks
Email:	jamie.stacks@wonderviewschools.org
Phone:	(501) 354-0211 Ext. 222
Duration Requested (not to exceed three years):	3 Years 🖍 (School year 2022-2023 to 2024-2025)

The proposed waiver(s) will apply to the following schools:

LEA(s)	Grades/Courses	Interaction	Delivery	Platforms
1505026 - Wonderview High School	7 - 12	Synchronous	Virtual (Online) / Remote (Distance)	LMS

Waivers

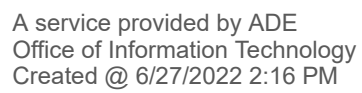| Waiver Topic	Standard for Accreditation	Division Rules	Arkansas Statutes	Indicate if the district is applying for the waiver and explain how the district waiver will be utilized.
Attendance			6-18-213(a)(2)	

Waiver Topic	Standard for Accreditation	Division Rules	Arkansas Statutes	Indicate if the district is applying for the waiver and explain how the district waiver will be utilized.
				We are requesting a waiver. Delivery of digital learning provides students and families some degree of control over time, pace, path, and place for learning. The district waiver will be utilized to support the flexibility provided in an online learning environment. In order to monitor student attendance in our school's virtual academy, the following strategies will be utilized. Daily login to the learning management system between the hours of 12:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. and attendance in synchronous sessions. Special attendance consideration will be considered for students working at an accelerated pace. Virtual Teachers will provide daily reports to the District Connection Coach for school data entry in eSchool. Virtual Teachers will monitor student time and pace with the Edgenuity learning management system and Genius attendance and progress software. District policies and practices regarding student absences apply to virtual students. Chronic absenteeism may result in a recommendation to return to onsite instruction or a referral to the juvenile court for additional services. Adjustments may be made to meet an individual student based on their IEP, 504, or LPAC plan. For extenuating circumstances that require longer periods of time to complete assignments, the Virtual Campus Coordinator will work with the District Connection Coach to create a personalized student success plan.

Waiver Topic	Standard for Accreditation	Division Rules	Arkansas Statutes	Indicate if the district is applying for the waiver and explain how the district waiver will be utilized.

Waiver Topic	Standard for Accreditation	Division Rules	Arkansas Statutes	Indicate if the district is applying for the waiver and explain how the district waiver will be utilized.
Class Size Number of students:	1-A.5	DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load	6-17-812(a)(2)	

Waiver Topic	Standard for Accreditation	Division Rules	Arkansas Statutes	Indicate if the district is applying for the waiver and explain how the district waiver will be utilized.
				We are not requesting additional waivers for class size. The class size will be less than or equal to class sizes allowed in physical face-to-face classrooms. The Virtual Teacher provides virtual instruction to only students who are remote. Please note that 100% virtual (online) or remote (distance) classes are considered large group instruction courses as per DESE Rules for Distance and Digital Learning: http://adecm.arkansas.gov/Attachments/Distrance_and_Digital_Learning_Rules_101224.pdf : http://adecm.arkansas.gov/Attachments/Distrance_and_Digital_Learning_Rules_101224.pdf , and teaching load would not apply as per DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load (http://adecm.arkansas.gov/Attachments/Class_Size_and_Teaching_Load_Rules_101205.pdf).:http://adecm.arkansas.gov/Attachments/Class_Size_and_Teaching_Load_Rules_101205.pdf

Waiver Topic	Standard for Accreditation	Division Rules	Arkansas Statutes	Indicate if the district is applying for the waiver and explain how the district waiver will be utilized.
Teaching Load Number of students: Teacher of Record provides virtual instruction to only students who are remote. Please note that 100% virtual (online) or remote (distance) classes are considered large group instruction courses as per DESE Rules for Distance and Digital Learning and teaching load would not apply as per DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load.	1-A.5	DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load	6-17-812	

Waiver Topic	Standard for Accreditation	Division Rules	Arkansas Statutes	Indicate if the district is applying for the waiver and explain how the district waiver will be utilized.
				We are not requesting additional waivers for the teaching load. Virtual Teachers provide virtual instruction to only students who are remote.

Please note that 100% virtual (online) or remote (distance) classes are considered large group instruction courses as per DESE Rules for Distance and Digital Learning: https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/Files/20210122 095035_FINAL_Distance_and_Digital_Learning _Rules.pdf, and teaching load would not apply as per DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load http://adecm.arkansas.gov/Attachments/Class _Size_and_Teaching_Load_Rules_101205.pdf |

Waiver Topic	Standard for Accreditation	Division Rules	Arkansas Statutes	Indicate if the district is applying for the waiver and explain how the district waiver will be utilized.
Six Hour Instructional Day (Waiver applies to virtual/remote students only)	1-A.4.2		6-16-102; 6-10-126	We are requesting the waiver. Research shows students in grades K-12 benefit from a shortened instructional day when learning virtually. The daily schedules for students will include 6 hours of learning; however, it may not take them the entire allotted time to successfully engage with the learning.
Clock Hours	1-A.2			We are requesting the clock hour waiver. 100% virtual students are working to master standards which takes a broad range of time. With Virtual Arkansas' asynchronous and synchronous approach, student learning may not equal a total of 120 clock hours.

Waiver Topic	Standard for Accreditation	Division Rules	Arkansas Statutes	Indicate if the district is applying for the waiver and explain how the district waiver will be utilized.
Recess (Waiver applies to virtual/remote students only)	1-A.4.3	DESE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards and Body Mass Index, Section 7.11	6-6-102(a)(5)	N/A for grades 7-12. Virtual Arkansas does provide PE and Health as an offering for 7-12 grade students.

Digital Model

Please complete the following application with responses describing the school and district digital programming.

Interaction / Delivery

What are the ways teachers and students will interact with digital content (Synchronous or Asynchronous)? Please describe instructional expectations and participation for students.

We will participate in Virtual Arkansas 7-12 courses to power our virtual option. WSD will only be offering a 7-12 Digital Program.

7-12 Digital Program

Virtual Arkansas is a "high touch" virtual learning experience that harnesses the benefit of synchronous or "live" instruction married with aligned asynchronous courses. This allows for students and instructors to develop relationships, address needed "just-in-time" instruction, and flexibility with learning. At the High School level, students are provided the opportunity to attend two Zoom sessions per week, per content area, and request additional one:one Zoom sessions as needed. While Zoom sessions are not required, they are highly encouraged as empirical data has shown students who attend Zoom are shown to be more successful than students who do not attend Zoom.

Students and teachers are also able to communicate 24/7 via the CANVAS LMS messaging or the SIS email system that is monitored by Virtual Arkansas. Teachers are expected to reply to students within 24 hours of a student communication during the school week. Students are expected to read and interact with messages in their courses on a daily basis during the school week.

Students are expected to attend Zoom sessions as scheduled by Virtual Arkansas instructors. If a student cannot make a session, he/she should contact the instructor for guidance.

What delivery approach will the school or district utilize to meet the needs of both teachers and students (i.e., virtual (online) / remote (distance) or blended (hybrid)? Please explain.

7-12 Digital Program
We will utilize online virtual remote learning through Virtual Arkansas. Virtual Arkansas utilizes a synchronous and asynchronous approach or true blended model to online learning. Students will engage in their digital coursework through the CANVAS Learning Management System (LMS). Students will have opportunities to engage in synchronous learning through live scheduled Zoom meetings with their teachers. All learning will take place online.

Students may use the onsite school library and attend parent/family engagement and other school sponsored events. Any tutoring opportunities that are slated before or after school will be open to both virtual and onsite students.

Will teachers be dedicated to primarily remote instruction or serving in a dual role, teaching both remote and in-person learners?
Â *If teachers will serve in a dual role, describe whether it will be simultaneously, meaning remote and in-person at the same time with course/schedule specific considerations.

7-12 Digital Program
We will utilize online virtual remote learning through Virtual Arkansas. Virtual Arkansas utilizes a synchronous and asynchronous approach or true blended model to online learning. Students will engage in their digital coursework through the CANVAS Learning Management System (LMS). Students will have opportunities to engage in synchronous learning through live scheduled Zoom meetings with their teachers. All learning will take place online.

Students may use the onsite school library and attend parent/family engagement and other school sponsored events. Any tutoring opportunities that are slated before or after school will be open to both virtual and onsite students.

Describe the expectation for teacher instruction, interaction, and frequency with virtual students.

7-12 Digital Program
For students utilizing Virtual Arkansas courses, teachers actively monitor their courses, provide synchronous sessions and maintain regular communication via the LMS and SIS messaging systems. Each week teachers send a grade report to the student and parent/guardian, and initiate further contact with students demonstrating difficulties with course content. Students are highly encouraged but not required to attend all Zoom sessions. Teachers are continuously provided PD and support for providing engaging and relevant synchronous instruction.

If utilizing district waivers for **class size**, what supports will the district put in place to support the teacher and students? How will the district monitor and determine if the supports are adequate for teachers who exceed class size in digital learning settings?

7-12 Digital Program
We are not requesting additional waivers for class size. The Virtual Teacher provides virtual instruction to only students who are remote. Please note that 100% virtual (online) or remote (distance) classes are considered large group instruction courses as per DESE Rules for Distance and Digital Learning: http://adecm.arkansas.gov/Attachments/Distrance_and_Digital_Learning_Rules_101224.pdf, and teaching load would not apply as per DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load (http://adecm.arkansas.gov/Attachments/Class_Size_and_Teaching_Load_Rules_101205.pdf)..
Virtual Arkansas partners with schools to ensure student success. In cases where districts are using Virtual Arkansas, teacher training and support is solely the responsibility of Virtual Arkansas. Partnership with the schools regarding providing a facilitator and communication back and forth pertaining to students is an ongoing part of the support expected in this model (synchronous/asynchronous) of instruction.

If utilizing district waivers for **teaching load**, what supports will the district put in place to support the teacher and students? How will the district monitor and determine if the supports are adequate for teachers who exceed teaching loads in digital learning settings?

7-12 Digital Program
We are not requesting additional waivers for teaching load. The Virtual Teacher provides virtual instruction to only students who are remote. Please note that 100% virtual (online) or remote (distance) classes are considered large group instruction courses as per DESE Rules for Distance and Digital Learning:
http://adecm.arkansas.gov/Attachments/Distrance_and_Digital_Learning_Rules_101224.pdf, and teaching load would not apply as per DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load (http://adecm.arkansas.gov/Attachments/Class_Size_and_Teaching_Load_Rules_101205.pdf)..
Virtual Arkansas partners with schools to ensure student success. In cases where districts are using Virtual Arkansas, teacher training and support is solely the responsibility of Virtual Arkansas. Partnership with the schools regarding providing a facilitator and communication back and forth pertaining to students is an ongoing part of the support expected in this model (synchronous/asynchronous) of instruction.

Technology / Platforms

Identify the learning management system/content management system that schools and districts will use? (Canvas, Buzz, Google Classroom, etc.)

The VA learning management system will be layered with a supplemental software called Genius. Genius is a registration, progress monitoring, and reporting tool which provides a daily snapshot of each student's progress, attendance, and engagement level. Students are assigned a color code each day that identifies them as 1) Green (present, on pace, on target, engaged), 2) Yellow (has fallen below the threshold in attendance, pace, target, or engagement), 3) Red (has fallen below the lower threshold in attendance, pact, target, or engagement. Virtual Staff (Teacher, Paraprofessionals, Coordinator) and the District Connection Coach will have access to these reports and use them to provide praise, encouragement, support, and resources.

7-12 Digital Program
The Canvas Learning Management System (LMS) will be utilized through Virtual Arkansas.

Describe the digital content that will be

available to students, including any digital curriculum and supports that are available to teachers. If the district is using a content management system (CMS), please specify grades levels and subjects that the CMS will address.

7-12 Digital Program

Virtual Arkansas provides access to 139 courses in grades 7-12 which are designed and written by subject matter experts (SME's) and who are Arkansas Certified teachers. Virtual Arkansas courses and content are designed and developed using the Arkansas State Standards, Quality Matters standards, and the National Standards of Quality of Online Courses as their foundation. This process includes an internal review of the courses by Quality Matters certified online course reviewers. Courses are designed to be fully ready for student interaction and teachers have all the content needed to effectively provide support and instruction to students.

The digital content will be available to students within a platform that provides creation, publication, and student progress tracking capabilities. Students will have access to age-appropriate, engaging lessons, and tools that support learning, including text to speech, audio and translation, text and picture dictionaries, and more. Digital content combines direct-instruction videos featuring expert, virtual teachers with rigorous assignments, performance tasks, and assessments to engage students and ensure subject-area mastery. The digital content features self-paced learning, which allows students to spend more time on what they need and less on the content they've already mastered. If a student needs additional support to master a learning goal, the digital instruction is designed to provide point-in-time resources and support.

The digital content gives Virtual Teachers the resources they need to close learning gaps, plan lessons, execute goals, measure success, and intervene to help students grow. Virtual teachers receive initial and ongoing training on the digital content which includes, navigating the digital content, customizing courses and assessments, troubleshooting, adding activities, planning instruction, and designing interventions. Virtual facilitators receive initial and ongoing training to support the students assigned to them.

Virtual teachers and virtual facilitators will have ongoing support from the Virtual Arkansas Facilitator Coordinator, Virtual Arkansas Specialists and Administration, Arch Ford Education Service Cooperative, Southeast Education Service Cooperative, and Dawson Education Service Cooperative Content Specialists, and Virtual Campus Coordinator.

What video communication software is required for any remote student? Please describe the video communication software the teacher will use to facilitate live conferences between two or more participants.

7-12 Digital Program
Students will be utilizing Zoom video conferencing software to participate in synchronous learning sessions with their teacher. The Zoom software is downloaded to the district provided device. The Virtual Arkansas teacher will utilize Zoom to facilitate synchronous sessions with students during scheduled Zoom sessions during the week. ZOOM provides a suite of teaching and learning features which include recording, polling, break-out rooms, whiteboard with collaborative and annotation tools, chat, translations, screen sharing, hand raising, reaction emoticons, and remote control option. The remote control option is where the Virtual Teacher is given permission to take control of the user's computer screen to provide navigation and technical support. The Zoom link and Zoom schedule is placed in a common location within each course and communicated with students and virtual facilitators.

Describe the technology access (device and connectivity) that will be provided to each digital learning student to ensure each student receives a free public education.

All students will be provided with a district-owned Chromebook. Students who require help with connectivity will receive aid from the district in the form of services through a hotspot, if required.

Student Supports

Describe the manner and frequency the district or school will use to monitor the wellness and safety (food security, physical, mental health, etc.) of students in a total remote setting. (This may be in-person, video communication, etc.). Identify supports available to assist students within the district.

The virtual option health and wellness plan can be found at:
Wellness Policy

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1y2tRr6ILVPJTA5tbL2IAhco9rtSXm9R_/view

7-12 Digital Program
Virtual Arkansas teachers are trained to employ actions and behaviors to ensure the physical and mental health of students. Virtual Arkansas uses a variety of methods of communication to do this and partners with schools to ensure students are cared for. When a situation arises where intervention is determined to be needed beyond what can be done virtually, Virtual Arkansas will contact the partnering school including the facilitator and counselor to step in to provide intervention. Virtual Arkansas teachers are trained to report any suspected maltreatment/abuse to the Department of Health Services. Additionally, Virtual Arkansas provides ongoing professional development to their teachers to support SEL strategies.

Describe the manner and frequency the district or school will use to monitor the academic and student engagement in a virtual setting. Describe the additional supports available for students struggling with engagement.

7-12 Digital Program

The virtual option has access to the Virtual Arkansas Genius SIS and the CANVAS LMS to monitor students in real time. Virtual Arkansas teachers will initiate intervention when a teacher determines a student isn't actively engaging or successfully mastering the content. In cases where needed, Virtual Arkansas will involve the partnering school through the facilitator, first. Virtual Arkansas will contact the administrator or request the administrator to be contacted if the initial intervention is not successful.

To ensure families are prepared for virtual instruction, virtual students and a parent or guardian will be required to participate in an orientation meeting prior to the first day of instruction. Orientation will include an overview of student expectations for the virtual option, instructions for learning management systems, and strategies for successful online learning. Students will pick up their Chromebooks and sign technology agreement forms.

School counselors will be in charge of monitoring students' academic progress and attendance based on the information received from the Arkansas River Cooperative's staff/notification system. They, too, will be tasked with engaging students in conversations concerning their social and emotional wellness.

If a student is struggling to meet expectations in virtual learning, we will meet with his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) to discuss a plan of action. Additionally, we will work with the student on developing a student contract. If the student continues to struggle to meet expectations in virtual learning, he/she will be encouraged to return to onsite learning. If onsite learning is not an option, staff may contact the Department of Child and Family Services or the Juvenile Court for additional services and support, or families may elect to homeschool.

Students who participate in the district's child nutrition program may pick up meals for students each day that school is in session.

Beginning in 8th grade, students will develop and maintain a student success plan in collaboration with parents and the school counselor.

Wonderview School District has identified a Virtual Learning Director, a.k.a, Connection Coach, who will monitor student engagement keeping in close contact with students and parents/guardians. She will make herself available and offer assistance as needed. She will keep students and parents informed of pertinent school information and ensure students are engaged. She will communicate via email, telephone and, if needed, at home visits several times each week.

Describe the Academic Response to Intervention plan for remote (virtual) students, including additional supports and personnel.

7-12 Digital Program

Virtual Arkansas teachers have been trained in the RTI process to identify and intervene with immediacy when a student is determined to not be successful. They are trained to deliver Tier I and II interventions and, if those are not successful, reach out to the partnering school regarding additional Tier II or Tier III interventions. The school has designated RTI instructors who are licensed in math and English who will provide help. Virtual Arkansas also has a PLC structure designed to address intervention with targeted intervention meetings that occur in the 4th and 7th weeks of the 9 weeks.

Describe the district or school's formative assessment plan to support student learning.

7-12 Digital Program

Virtual Arkansas courses have periodic formative assessments, checks for understanding, and pre-tests to determine students' mastery of learning throughout the modules of a course that are aligned to the summative module assessments. There are varied methods of assessment utilized both through the asynchronous course with open ended discussions/assessments, choice response activities, multiple choice, and hybrid assessments(open ended and multiple choice). Teachers also use weekly live Zoom to do informal formative checks to ensure clarity for students on asynchronous learning tasks. These strategies of formative assessment, both formal and informal, are utilized in order to guide the RTI process and methods of intervention.

Virtual students will be responsible for coming on-campus to take interim and summative assessments. Additional testing may be required, including dyslexia screeners and special education evaluation tools.

Describe how dyslexia screening and services will be provided to digital learning students.

The district will ensure all requirements of the dyslexia law are met for on-site and remote learners.

Parent Communication - Virtual Teachers will communicate with parents through conferences and written methods regarding initial and Level 1 screening results and progress monitoring. The Wonderview School District dyslexia specialist will communicate with Virtual Parents regarding Level II screening results, progress monitoring, and student engagement in dyslexia services via Zoom, telephone, email, or in-person conferencing.

Interventions - Dyslexia services will be provided to students by district interventionists on campus if they qualify based on screener results, progress monitoring, and parent consent. If parents are unable to bring a student to campus, then the services will be provided virtually. If this is not possible, then the Dyslexia specialist will provide services at home. Every effort will be made to ensure students' receive the services they qualify for. Every effort will Group size for instruction will be determined by the guidelines of the onsite dyslexia program.

7-12 Digital Program
The district will use all available assessment data and feedback from Virtual Arkansas instructors to provide support for students in the area of dyslexia. If a student is noticed as struggling by their instructor, the District Facilitator will be notified to begin the screening process for dyslexia. The district will follow the district dyslexia plan to screen students.

Our Dyslexia interventionists will serve in a dual role, teaching both remote and in-person learners. Virtual students will be required to come on campus to receive dyslexia services.Students/families and dyslexia interventionists will work together to make a schedule of sessions that satisfies time and frequency requirements. Virtual students are expected to attend at regularly scheduled times.If an absence is unavoidable, the school counselor should be notified and will work with the student/family to reschedule. Students who are regularly absent and/or fail to participate will be encouraged to return to onsite learning. If onsite learning is not an option, staff may contact the Department of Child and Family Services or the Juvenile Court for additional services and support, or families may elect to homeschool.

Virtual Arkansas provides accessibility tools to support students with dyslexia including ReadSpeaker that will read any text in the course to students. Virtual Arkansas will provide the needed accommodations/modifications per the individual 504 plan uploaded into the SIS by partnering school.

Wonderview's Dyslexia Plan
Wonderview School District Planning for Successful Intervention Services

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1jBTNolWR-nsy4n-0_ZxYzv0KPaVHZiankGDN8LlmFb0/edit

Describe how Gifted and Talented supports and services will be provided to digital learning students.

All requirements from the Gifted and Talented Program Approval Standards will be met for virtual students.

7-12 Program

All current 7-12 grade Virtual Arkansas teachers will deliver the GT Program Option of Secondary Course Content (I.C, pg 21, GT Program Approval Standards). These teachers have completed Secondary Course Content training and will provide copies of training certificates and quarterly documentation of differentiation to participating districts, as required in the description of this program option in GT Program Approval Standards. Virtual Arkansas will ensure that any new hires will also complete this required training in order to provide this GT program option. Training and differentiation documentation will be obtained by contacting Kirsten Wilson, Virtual Arkansas Director of Curriculum and Instruction. An approved teacher of the gifted (licensed GT coordinator/GT teacher), employed by the participating school district maintains oversight of the students' activities at a minimum by collecting differentiation documentation on at least a quarterly basis and meeting with identified students monthly, as required by I.C.3 from GT Program Approval Standards.

All Virtual Arkansas AP courses will also be available to 10-12 grade students. Rebecca Mills, Virtual Arkansas AP Coordinator, will provide documentation of required AP teacher training and copies of approved AP syllabi for each course the district provides.

All Virtual Arkansas concurrent credit courses are available to 10-12 grade students.

The participating district will ensure all requirements from GT Program Approval Standards will be maintained for virtual services.

Referrals - The District Gifted and Talented Coordinator will solicit information from the Virtual Teachers needed for the Gifted and Talented identification process.

All requirements from the Gifted and Talented Program Approval Standards will be met for virtual students.

 Wonderview GT Program Application

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1r0qPwWyilRNWusXVhZK73WA34FW48PvbuzkCNEHtONA/edit

Describe how English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL / ESL) supports and services will be provided to digital learning students.

The district will ensure that all requirements of the District English Learner plan are met for on-site and remote learners. All new students to a district must complete a Home Language Usage Survey and any student with a language other than English must be screened. Communication with families will be in a language and manner families will understand. Students requiring ELL services will be served virtual or onsite, as requested by the family.

7-12 Digital Program
The district will ensure that all requirements of the District English Learner plan are met for on-site and remote learners, including ELPA21 screening and summative assessment provided by the district. Communication with families will be in a language and manner families will understand.

All ELL accommodations are determined by the districts' Language Proficiency and Assessment Committee (LPAC) and will be shared with the virtual platform providers who will ensure accommodations are provided so that English Learners have access to the core curriculum via providing integrated supports. The district will regularly communicate with the virtual platform provider regarding the ELL students' progress and make any necessary adjustments to needed accommodations and supports.

Students identified as English Language Learners will receive instruction onsite from an ESL teacher. The ESL director and school counselor will work with families to determine a schedule.
● Grade 7-8 students will receive instruction weekly for up to 90 minutes (emerging, lower progressing); once a week for up to 45 minutes (upper progressing, proficient not exited).
● Grade 9-12 students will receive instruction weekly for 45 minutes or more

Wonderview's ELL Plan

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gAmeXs5mOEES345VKPpb2R9StvZ-0pUA/view

Describe how all Special Education services and supports will be provided to digital learning students, including the process for special education evaluations and conferences.

7-12 Program

Virtual Arkansas teachers will provide information for evaluations and conferences when requested. The district will upload the modification/accommodation sheet to the Student Information System (SIS) within the first 10 days of school or enrollment if enrollment occurs after school begins. Virtual Arkansas courses are designed in such a way that all applicable accommodations/modifications can be met in the course in conjunction with services provided by the partnering school.

Special Education programs delivered in a virtual learning environment will follow all IDEA/Arkansas Rules and Regulations for Special Education. Information discussed during meetings will be documented and placed in the student's file. All modifications/accommodations will be provided according to students IEP. Students who have been identified as needing special education services will be served face-to-face on campus by district special education certified staff.

Virtual Teachers use curriculum and instructional strategies that include the following evidence-based practices, including Universal Design for Learning, which is designed to meet the needs of students with disabilities:
1. Provide explicit instruction, 2. Model learning strategies, 3. Make instruction accessible, 4. Provide tools to support learning, provide appropriate feedback, and capitalize on technology. The digital curriculum and learning management system provide accommodations for Special Education students and families. These accommodations include addressing multiple learning preferences, accommodations for assessments, video captions/transcripts, color and contrast considerations, read-aloud and translation tools, multiple means of representation of key concepts (verbal, concrete manipulative, numerical, graphical, and symbolic.) For Special Education students with language challenges, Virtual Teachers can enable Canvas' embedded ReadSpeaker tool, a robust language-support, feature. This tool allows students to hear on-screen text read aloud. Students and families will be supported in using the tools during asynchronous learning through the initial course orientation and the Virtual Teacher will facilitate the usage of the tools, as needed, during synchronous learning.

Students who require therapies (speech, physical, occupational) will receive them on campus.

Describe common and frequently used digital accommodations that the district or school has provided to general education teachers to assist students in digital learning classes.

7-12 Digital Program
All Virtual Teachers receive training on and have access to digital software/resources to ensure courses are adaptable to include interactive video tutorials, narrated text, concept maps, digital slide presentations, and usage of images. Interventions may be provided using online tools and assistive technology. Online tools and assistive technology will be available to Virtual general education teachers. Tools will include an interactive whiteboard, annotation tools, mirror image setting, text-to-speech translators, and speech-to-text transcribers.

Virtual Arkansas courses meet the guidelines of IDEA and Section 508. All courses are evaluated for accessibility using Web Content Accessibility Guidelines. Additionally, Virtual Arkansas utilizes embedded tools including ReadSpeaker to provide for students who need content read aloud. Virtual Arkansas also follows the Universal Design for Learning Principles to eliminate both visible and invisible barriers to learning.

Teacher Supports

Describe district and school supports to provide on-going digital content and instructional supports for teachers.

The district offers a number of professional development opportunities during the summer, and virtual teachers are welcome to enroll in the on-site courses through ESCWorks. In addition to local support, each program will include additional support from our partner providers.

7-12 Digital Program

The district will be utilizing Virtual Arkansas as our digital content and digital instruction solution. Virtual Arkansas provides robust online teacher training and development for all new teachers entering the field of online teaching. All Virtual Arkansas teachers are provided both directed/scheduled and embedded professional development activities, book studies, and weekly collaborative teams. Virtual Arkansas provides a team of instructional and digital content experts for just-in-time support for all teachers. Virtual Arkansas also has a team of technology support specialists to assist with any technology.

As part of the Professional Learning Community process, Virtual Teachers will use student data to drive a continuous plan-do-check cycle of improvement. If there is a support need beyond what the Virtual teacher can provide, the Virtual Campus Coordinator will facilitate the support. On-going and job-embedded support will occur throughout the school year based on student achievement data and classroom observations.

Identify the daily or weekly amount of time teachers will need to develop and plan for instruction based on options selected and digital supports provided. How will the district support teachers with digital content and planning?

Wonderview School District employs a curriculum administrator who is always available to support onsite and virtual faculty. We have a guaranteed curriculum developed through the PLC process with Solution Tree.

7-12 Digital Program

The district will be utilizing Virtual Arkansas for our digital content and digital instruction solution. The Virtual Arkansas teachers will be scheduled with a minimum of two hundred (200) minutes each week for each teacher to schedule time for conferences, instructional planning, and preparation. Virtual Arkansas teachers will utilize curriculum developed by Arkansas subject matter experts (SME's) aligned to Arkansas standards. Schools will provide a facilitator or facilitators, depending upon the number of students, to aid Virtual Arkansas teachers as they provide instruction to the students. Virtual Arkansas will provide training to the partnering school's facilitator(s) and ongoing support to facilitator(s) through Virtual Arkansas' Facilitator Coordinator. Prior to the start of school, Virtual Arkansas will support Virtual Teachers with digital content and planning through training on the primary digital content. This training includes guides for recommended pacing, adding supplemental content, and navigating the platform. This digital content and planning component will be supported by Virtual Arkansas.

District Supports

Describe how the district will ensure equitable access to opportunities for success for digital learner's needs (poverty, homelessness, migrant, foster care, and military connected students) A link (URL) to the district equity plan may be acceptable if it meets this criteria.

The district will provide equitable access to opportunities for all students, including those living in poverty, who are homeless, migrant students, foster students, and military-connected students.

The district conforms to the National School Board Association's definition of equity:
We affirm in our actions that each student can, will, and shall learn. We recognize that based on factors including but not limited to disability, race, ethnicity, and socio-economic status, students are deprived of equitable educational opportunities. Educational equity is the intentional allocation of resources, instruction, and opportunities according to need, requiring that discriminatory practices, prejudices, and beliefs be identified and eradicated.

We use both information and hard and soft data to ensure that we are providing appropriate supports to all students.

Wonderview School District - Equity Policy

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JKURaTl7PYrIX-qdTzpAnBuEuryOIOnU/view

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All students are expected to test (statewide summative assessments) onsite as per DESE guidance. Provide an overview of how the district may communicate to parents and test digital learning students at a district site.

The district testing coordinator will be responsible for coordinating with building testing coordinators for onsite summative testing of virtual students. Methods of communication with parents will include email, letters home, and/or phone calls to ensure families are aware of testing times and other pertinent information.

7-12 Digital Program
Virtual Arkansas requires trained proctors for major assessments. Students must test onsite.
Districts partnering with Virtual Arkansas will sign a memorandum of understanding to acknowledge this requirement. Communication with parents will include teacher emails, information posted within the announcement section of the learning management system, information via the learning management system with push notifications, and using the learning management system parent application.

Provide a detailed explanation of how the

district will monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the digital option(s) and the fidelity of implementation as described within this application.

7-12 Digital Program
Virtual Arkansas provides the partnering school with access to the SIS and CANVAS LMS. Facilitators are trained to pull grades from the SIS weekly to monitor student progress. Additionally, parents can access student grades through the Canvas App. Teachers send weekly reports via the SIS messaging that is sent to both student and parent email.

The 7-12 virtual option will be closely monitored for effectiveness by the District Superintendent, District Central Office Staff, and District Principal in partnership with Virtual Arkansas, and the Executive Director of Virtual Arkansas, along with Virtual Arkansas Academic Leadership team. Components that affect student achievement are addressed below.

Teacher Effectiveness: Virtual Arkansas will follow Arkansas Teacher Effectiveness Support System along with the National Standards for Online Teaching for teacher evaluations with scheduled and non scheduled virtual classroom visits.

Curriculum Effectiveness: The content in the learning management system will be reviewed formally on an annual basis through the Quality Matters K-12 Standards for Quality by Quality Matters trained virtual staff to ensure Arkansas standards and International standards for quality are being met. Additionally, Virtual Arkansas is in the process of having a variety of courses reviewed by Quality Matters to earn the Quality Matters Certification.

Student Achievement: Student learning will be monitored through formative and summative assessments. This monitoring will be in the form of a Professional Learning Community composed of Virtual Arkansas Teachers and Administration.

Data Sources: Monitoring, assessing, reflection on data (inferences and next steps). Parent, student, and staff (virtual) surveys will be conducted at least once per year to monitor the effectiveness of the services. Monitoring student growth, grades, and other data regularly will allow the district insight as to whether or not virtual instruction is helping each student to meet academic standards.

Describe how the teacher(s) will engage families into the digital learning process. (District may link the District Engagement Plan if digital learning is included. The plan must address how the district will support parents/students with digital tools and resources)	Wonderview School District has identified the point of contact, a.k.a Connection Coach, for all virtual students and will monitor student engagement and will maintain contact with students and parents/guardians. She will make herself available and offer assistance as needed. She will check on students and families regularly and will be available during school hours to help virtual students with digital learning and other inquiries. She will also make sure they are aware of pertinent information and help ensure students are engaged. 7-12 Digital Program Virtual Arkansas provides parent/guardian informational webinars throughout the school year for families of students in Virtual Arkansas courses. Virtual Arkansas teachers communicate course and grade updates weekly to parents/guardians with provided email addresses. Parents/guardians are also given access to the Parent Canvas App which allows them to monitor their students activity and grades within the course. Family engagement is highly valued and encouraged throughout the year by providing regular Virtual Arkansas updates, emails from teachers, just in time meetings at the local level, and up to date information on the Virtual Arkansas website, including the Virtual Arkansas Parent Guide (https://www.virtualarkansas.org/293342_2).
Provide the URL to evidence of the local school board's approval of the waiver request(s).	Board approval found in May, 2022 Board Minutes: https://docs.google.com/
Provide a URL to evidence of stakeholder feedback regarding the waiver request(s) and the district communication plan regarding digital learning program(s).	https://docs.google.com/document/d/18gtSubRDdlHSKXk9I3Ke1klHfWnlY5z

Policies

Please provide a link (URL) to the attendance policy for digital learning students.	https://docs.google.com/document/d/1l3pCd9YZcXp2bt4q8lC-tWrVl7ZqkYFO

LEA INSIGHTS

| Please provide a link (URL) to the discipline policy for digital learning students. | https://docs.google.com/document/d/1l3pCd9YZcXp2bt4q8lC-tWrVl7ZqkYFO |
| Please provide a link (URL) to the grading policy for digital learning students. | https://docs.google.com/document/d/1l3pCd9YZcXp2bt4q8lC-tWrVl7ZqkYFO |

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