

VIA Email to

April 11, 2023

Ms. Dorie Summons  
Director of Public Charter Schools  
Arkansas Department of Education  
Division of Elementary and Secondary Education  
Four Capitol Mall, Box 26  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Re: Hope Academy of Northwest Arkansas

Dear Ms. Summons:

Pursuant to Section 4.02.4 of the ADE Rules Governing Public Charter Schools, I have enclosed two completed Charter Amendment Forms (with the required attachments and related documents) for the purpose of requesting the following amendments to our charter:

- 1.) Rescission of our waiver of Ark. Code Ann. §6-17-2403, concerning the minimum teacher compensation schedule.
- 2.) Change in grade levels served, with the intention of moving from a K-5 to a K-4 school

I am requesting that this amendment request be placed on the May, 2023 agenda of the Charter Authorizing Panel for consideration.

I am also contemporaneously sending a copy of this notice letter to the Superintendents of the Bentonville School District.

Sincerely,

Katie Drake  
Superintendent  
Hope Academy of Northwest Arkansas

Cc: Superintendent Debbie Jones (via email @ [djones@bentonvillek12.org](mailto:djones@bentonvillek12.org))  
Bentonville School District  
500 Tiger Boulevard  
Bentonville, AR 72712



# Charter Amendment Request From

The Charter Amendment Request Form and all required documentation must be received via email ([ade.charterschools@arkansas.gov](mailto:ade.charterschools@arkansas.gov)) at the Arkansas Department of Education at least 35 days prior to the Charter Authorizing Panel meeting.

**Charter Name:** Hope Academy of Northwest Arkansas **LEA:** 0445

**Superintendent or Director:** Katie Drake

**Email:** kdrake@hopeacademynwa.org **Phone:** (479)326-7268

## Type of Amendment(s) Requested

**Add a New Campus** (Must also submit the Facilities Utilization Agreement)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School District: \_\_\_\_\_

**Relocate Existing Campus** (Must also submit the Facilities Utilization Agreement)

Campus Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School District: \_\_\_\_\_

**Increase Enrollment Cap**

Current Cap: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Cap: \_\_\_\_\_

**Change Grade Levels Served**

Current Grade Levels Served: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Grade Levels Served: \_\_\_\_\_

**Waiver(s)**

Statute/Standard/Rule to be Waived: Rescind waiver of Ark. Code. Ann. Section 6-17-2403,  
concerning the minimum teacher compensation schedule.

---

---

**Rationale for Waiver:**

Hope Academy of Northwest Arkansas is requesting to amend its charter by rescinding its waiver of Ark. Code Ann. Section 6-17-2403, concerning the minimum teacher compensation schedule. The rationale for requesting the rescission of the waiver is to assist our charter school in qualifying for the additional funding available under Section 35. of the LEARNS Act (Act 237 of 2023), in order to implement the new statutory minimum teacher compensation schedule and offer competitive salaries to our current and prospective teachers.

Statute/Standard/Rule to be Waived: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

**Rationale for Waiver:**

Statute/Standard/Rule to be Waived: \_\_\_\_\_

Rationale for Waiver:

Statute/Standard/Rule to be Waived: \_\_\_\_\_

Rationale for Waiver:

# Facilities Utilization Agreement

To be completed and submitted with an amendment request to add a new campus or relocate an existing campus

Lessor (Owner): \_\_\_\_\_

Lessee (Tenant): \_\_\_\_\_

Information regarding affiliation, family ties or other relationships between the Lessor and Lessee:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address of Premises: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the present use of the facility: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Square Footage: \_\_\_\_\_ Rental Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Terms of Lease: \_\_\_\_\_

**Contingency:** The terms of this agreement are contingent upon \_\_\_\_\_  
Charter School receiving approval by the Authorizer to operate an open-enrollment public charter school at the premises identified.

No indebtedness of any kind incurred or created by the open-enrollment public charter school shall constitute an indebtedness of the State of Arkansas or its political subdivisions and no indebtedness of the open-enrollment public charter school shall involve or be secured by the faith, credit or taxing power for the state or its political subdivisions. An open-enrollment public charter school shall not incur any debt, including lease, without the prior review and approval of the Commissioner of Education.

We affirm that the facility is, or will be prior to charter occupancy, compliant with ADE/IDEA accessibility regulations and will remain so while the charter occupies the location.

Lessee: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Lessor: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature



# Charter Amendment Request From

The Charter Amendment Request Form and all required documentation must be received via email ([ade.charterschools@arkansas.gov](mailto:ade.charterschools@arkansas.gov)) at the Arkansas Department of Education at least 35 days prior to the Charter Authorizing Panel meeting.

**Charter Name:** Hope Academy of NWA **LEA:** 0445

**Superintendent or Director:** Katie Drake

**Email:** kdrake@hopeacademynwa.org **Phone:** 479-326-7268

## Type of Amendment(s) Requested

**Add a New Campus** (Must also submit the Facilities Utilization Agreement)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School District: \_\_\_\_\_

**Relocate Existing Campus** (Must also submit the Facilities Utilization Agreement)

Campus Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School District: \_\_\_\_\_

**Increase Enrollment Cap**

Current Cap: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Cap: \_\_\_\_\_

**Change Grade Levels Served**

Current Grade Levels Served: K-5

Proposed Grade Levels Served: K-4

**Waiver(s)**

Statute/Standard/Rule to be Waived: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

Rationale for Waiver:

Statute/Standard/Rule to be Waived: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

Rationale for Waiver:

Statute/Standard/Rule to be Waived: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Rationale for Waiver:

Statute/Standard/Rule to be Waived: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Rationale for Waiver:



# Facilities Utilization Agreement

To be completed and submitted with an amendment request to add a new campus or relocate an existing campus

Lessor (Owner): \_\_\_\_\_

Lessee (Tenant): \_\_\_\_\_

Information regarding affiliation, family ties or other relationships between the Lessor and Lessee:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address of Premises: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the present use of the facility: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Square Footage: \_\_\_\_\_ Rental Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Terms of Lease: \_\_\_\_\_

**Contingency:** The terms of this agreement are contingent upon \_\_\_\_\_  
Charter School receiving approval by the Authorizer to operate an open-enrollment public charter school at the premises identified.

No indebtedness of any kind incurred or created by the open-enrollment public charter school shall constitute an indebtedness of the State of Arkansas or its political subdivisions and no indebtedness of the open-enrollment public charter school shall involve or be secured by the faith, credit or taxing power for the state or its political subdivisions. An open-enrollment public charter school shall not incur any debt, including lease, without the prior review and approval of the Commissioner of Education.

We affirm that the facility is, or will be prior to charter occupancy, compliant with ADE/IDEA accessibility regulations and will remain so while the charter occupies the location.

Lessee: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Lessor: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

# Hope Academy of Northwest Arkansas Student Demographic Percentages

Excludes PK Students

45 Total Active Students On 04/04/2023

## District Primary Race Percentages

Race	Race Count	Race Percentage
Black	4	8.89%
Hispanic or Latino	5	11.11%
Native American/Alaskan Native	1	2.22%
Two or More Races	4	8.89%
White	31	68.89%
<b>Primary Race - Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

## District Meal Status Percentages

Meal Status Code	Meal Status Count	Meal Status Percentage
01	9	20.00%
03	23	51.11%
04	13	28.89%
<b>Meal Status - Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

# Hope Academy of Northwest Arkansas Student Demographic Percentages

Excludes PK Students

46 Total Active Students On 04/11/2023

## District Primary Race Percentages

Race	Race Count	Race Percentage
Black	4	8.70%
Hispanic or Latino	5	10.87%
Native American/Alaskan Native	1	2.17%
Two or More Races	4	8.70%
White	32	69.57%
<b>Primary Race - Total</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

## District Meal Status Percentages

Meal Status Code	Meal Status Count	Meal Status Percentage
01	9	19.57%
03	23	50.00%
04	14	30.43%
<b>Meal Status - Total</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**Hope Academy of Northwest Arkansas**  
**Hope Academy of NWA Elementary**  
**ENROLLMENT REPORT**

**Enrollment Date: Apr 11, 2023**

Enrollment Count		01	02	03	04	05	KF	Race Totals
Black	Males		2		1	1		4
	<b>Gender Totals</b>		2		1	1		4
Hispanic	Females		1					1
	Males		1	1			2	4
	<b>Gender Totals</b>		2	1		2		5
Native American	Males		1					1
	<b>Gender Totals</b>		1					1
Two or More	Females					1		1
	Males		1	1	1			3
	<b>Gender Totals</b>		1	1	2			4
White	Females		2	1		1	1	5
	Males		5	3	3	7	4	27
	<b>Gender Totals</b>		7	4	3	7	5	32
<b>Grade Totals</b>			8	9	5	10	6	46

		<b>Hope Academy</b>	
		<b>FY23</b>	<b>FY24</b>
<b>Revenue</b>			
Individuals			
	<i>Direct Mail</i>	162,000.00	162,000.00
	<i>Major Gifts</i>	162,000.00	162,000.00
	<i>Employee Giving</i>	6,750.00	6,750.00
	<i>Monthly Giving</i>	39,150.00	39,150.00
	<i>Hope Society</i>	13,500.00	13,500.00
Corporate			
	<i>Corporate Match</i>	54,000.00	54,000.00
	<i>Sponsorship</i>	162,000.00	162,000.00
Shelter Shop			
	<i>Sales</i>		-
Grants			
		405,000.00	405,000.00
Restricted			
		545,000.00	545,000.00
Community Engagement			
	<i>Third Party Events</i>	40,500.00	40,500.00
	<i>In-Kind</i>		-
Contracts			
	<i>DCFS</i>		
	<i>Bentonville Public Schools</i>		
	<i>Training Program</i>		
	<i>State School Funding</i>	440,000.00	366,666.67
Invested Funds			
		-	
	<b>Total Revenue</b>	2,029,900.00	1,956,566.67
<b>Expenses</b>			
Software and Technology			
	<i>MIP 50</i>	600.00	600.00
	<i>E-Finance</i>	-	
	<i>Abila</i>	1,200.00	1,200.00
	<i>Apricot</i>	5,800.00	3,883.28
	<i>Relias</i>	-	
	<i>OneCause</i>	750.00	750.00
	<i>Curriculum</i>	12,000.00	12,000.00
	<i>Library</i>	250.00	250.00
	<i>Planned Giving</i>	1,500.00	1,500.00
	<i>Volgistics</i>	1,950.00	1,950.00
Supplies/Equipment			
		5,670.00	6,000.00
Contract Labor			
	<i>ADP</i>	6,600.00	-
	<i>IFWorld</i>	7,500.00	7,065.00
	<i>Evaluator</i>		130,000.00
Individuals			
	<i>Direct Mail</i>	13,500.00	13,500.00

<b>Hope Academy</b>		
	<b>FY23</b>	<b>FY24</b>
<i>Major Gifts</i>	15,000.00	15,000.00
<i>Employee Giving</i>	300.00	300.00
<i>Monthly Giving</i>	450.00	450.00
<i>Hope Society</i>	3,000.00	3,000.00
Corporate		-
<i>Corporate Match</i>	1,500.00	1,500.00
<i>Top Golf</i>	4,500.00	4,500.00
<i>Kickball</i>	900.00	900.00
<i>Event</i>	30,000.00	30,000.00
<i>Summer Camp</i>	-	-
Community Engagement		-
<i>Volunteers</i>	1,500.00	1,500.00
<i>Third Party Events</i>	300.00	300.00
<i>Marketing</i>	7,057.50	7,057.50
Grants	6,000.00	6,000.00
Donor Appreciation	1,500.00	1,500.00
CC Processing Fees	7,500.00	7,500.00
Donor Wall	1,500.00	1,500.00
Education		-
<i>Classroom Supplies</i>	5,000.00	5,000.00
<i>Curriculum and Books</i>	5,000.00	5,000.00
<i>Fieldtrips and Specials</i>	500.00	500.00
Outings and Activities	-	-
Gas/Auto		
<i>Pick-Ups</i>	600.00	600.00
<i>Fieldtrips</i>	300.00	300.00
<i>Outings</i>	-	-
<i>Appointments</i>	-	-
<i>Maintnance and Repairs</i>	450.00	450.00
Insurance	36,000.00	36,000.00
Maintenance		-
<i>HVAC</i>	8,500.00	8,500.00
<i>Security &amp; Fire</i>	7,650.00	7,650.00
<i>Grounds and Landscaping</i>	637.50	637.50
<i>Plumbing and Electric</i>	3,400.00	3,400.00
<i>Kitchen</i>	1,275.00	1,275.00
<i>General Repairs</i>	5,100.00	5,100.00
<i>Supplies</i>	3,612.50	3,612.50
<i>Contingency</i>	10,625.00	10,625.00
Nutrition	50,000.00	50,000.00
COP	4,500.00	1,080.00
Payroll & Related		
<i>Administration</i>	49,500.00	
<i>Horizon Academy</i>	7,500.00	
<i>Residential</i>	10,000.00	

<b>Hope Academy</b>		
	<b>FY23</b>	<b>FY24</b>
<i>Hope Acadmey</i>	1,271,430.00	1,214,706.65
<i>Development</i>	126,000.00	
<i>Human Resources</i>	37,500.00	
<i>Finance and Facilities</i>	103,200.00	
<i>Shelter Shop</i>	36,540.00	
Professional Fees	6,560.10	6,560.10
Residential Services	-	
Professional Development		
<i>Hope Academy</i>	15,000.00	15,000.00
<i>Horizon Academy</i>	-	
<i>Residential</i>	-	
<i>Development</i>	1,950.00	
<i>Human Resources</i>	1,500.00	
<i>Finance and Facilities</i>	1,500.00	
<i>Organization</i>	1,500.00	
<i>Board</i>	750.00	
Utilities		
<i>Shelter</i>	51,000.00	51,000.00
<i>Shelter Shop</i>	4,200.00	-
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2,007,107.60</b>	<b>1,686,702.53</b>
<b>NET Income:</b>	<b>22,792.40</b>	<b>269,864.14</b>