

Summary of Charter Authorizing Panel Actions at the May 19, 2023 Meeting.

Under Act 237 of 2023, or the LEARNS Act, to be eligible for funds to implement the minimum base salary of \$50,000 for all teachers a district or an open-enrollment public charter school cannot have a waiver of the teacher salary requirements as codified in Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-2403.

All the open enrollment public charters schools and district conversion public charter schools listed below requested to rescind their waiver of Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-2403. Any additional waiver requests are also noted below. The Charter Authorizing Panel approved the requests unanimously.

Open Enrollment Public Charter Schools:

Scholarmade Achievement Place of Arkansas

Future School of Fort Smith

Westwind School for the Performing Arts

Graduate Arkansas

Hope Academy of Northwest Arkansas

Friendship Aspire Academy Arkansas

Exalt Academy

Haas Hall Academy

LISA Academy

eStem Public Charter Schools

Arkansas Arts Academy

- This open enrollment public charter school also requested to rescind its waiver of Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-42-101 et seq., 6-20-2208(c)(6), Standard 2-G.1, and DESE Rules Governing Gifted and Talented Program Approval Standards.

Academics Plus Charter Schools

- This open enrollment public charter school also requested a new waiver of Ark. Code Ann. § 6-13-636(d)(1)(E).

Arkansas Virtual Academy

- This open enrollment public charter school also requested to amend its instructional delivery method from fully virtual to one hybrid/blended instruction pilot program.

District Conversion Public Charter Schools

Centerpoint Academy of Agriculture and Skilled Trades – Centerpoint School District

Vilonia Pathways Academy – Vilonia School District

River Valley Virtual Academy – Van Buren School District