



Act 1240 District Waiver Request

District:	Little Rock School District
LEA Number:	6001000
Superintendent:	Mike Poore
Email:	Mike.Poore@lrsd.org
Contact for Waiver:	Hope Worsham
Contact Email:	Hope.Worsham@lrsd.org
Contact Phone:	501-477-1022
Date Received by DESE:	

The following documents must be submitted with the waiver request:

- 1. Board resolution approving the waiver request**
- 2. Evidence of stakeholder involvement, including teachers and student families**
 - a. How were they able to ask questions?**

School teams were able to give input during a meeting with all high schools on 2/27/20 and 3/31/21. Other stakeholders were given the opportunity to provide input via a public survey and via public comment period during the April 22, 2021 school board meeting. Stakeholders could ask questions via the survey and a space was provided for an email address in the event an answer to the question was requested.

Topic:	Teacher Licensure Waiver Request
Standards/Statutes/Rules:	A.C.A. 6-15-1004 - Qualified teachers in every classroom A.C.A. 6-17-309 - Licensure requirements A.C.A.6-17-401 - Licensure requirements A.C.A. 6-17-902 - Definition of teacher A.C.A. 6-17-919 - Warrants for teacher payment DESE Rules Governing Educator Licensure- Section 7
Duration Requested:	5 years
Name of Open-Enrollment Charter Holding the Waiver	AR Virtual Academy
Schools, Grades or Classes the Waiver Will Apply To	Freshman Seminar Courses Embedded with Oral Com

1. Provide a detailed rationale explaining how the waiver will enhance student learning opportunities, promote innovation or increase equitable access to effective teachers. Include information about the problem or obstacle, if any, the waiver will help the district overcome.

Freshman Seminar with Professional Communication is a ninth-grade year-long course focused on personal and career exploration, professional communication and successful transition into high school academies. In the Freshman Seminar class, students are actively developing a career portfolio and participating in “real-world” lessons including topics such as:

- Learning to Manage Conflict
- Making the Most of Your Time
- Dos and Don'ts of Job Interviews
- Making Your Resume Stand Out
- Knowing Your Learning Style, Personal Strengths, and Aptitudes
- Exploring Careers That Fit YOU
- Interacting with and Observing Professionals on the Job
- Communication
 - Interpersonal Effectiveness & Ethics
 - Personal Presentation

This course will help lay the foundation for students transitioning from middle school to high school by gaining academic and communication skills to help them be successful

in high school and beyond. Because this class is critical for student success, the waiver would allow us to select the most effective licensed teachers, regardless of licensure area, who are committed to supporting students as they grow and develop. In the 21st Century, the standards contained with the Professional Communications course outline skills and knowledge that are necessary to effectively communicate across content areas and sectors. Therefore, any licensed educator should be able to demonstrate these skills at a high level and prepare students to demonstrate them across any content area.

2. Provide a detailed explanation of how the services being waived will be provided for students.

We are not requesting a waiver of any services to be offered to students. Students will receive both a career focus and oral communications credit upon successful completion of the course.

3. Provide a detailed explanation of how the district will monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the waiver.

Teachers will be evaluated annually according to the TESS model and the aggregate data will be reviewed annually. Freshman Seminar teachers across the district will work in collaboration to create common assessment and scoring rubrics to be used to measure student achievement of the Personal Communications standards.



April 22, 2021

School Board Resolution for the Act 1240 Waiver Request

We, the member of the Little Rock School Board approve moving forward with the Act 1240 Waiver Request for any licensed teacher to be allowed to teach **Freshman Seminar with Professional Communications.** for the Little Rock School District by way of the following motion made at the regular meeting of the Little Rock School District Board of Education on April 22, 2021.

The motion was made : Leigh Ann Wilson

The motion was seconded by: Norma Johnson

The motion carried with a 5-3 vote.

Time the vote was taken 9:44 pm.

Motion:

I move that the Board of Education approve moving forward with the Act 1240 Waiver Request for any licensed teacher to be allowed to teach **Freshman Seminar with Professional Communications.**

[Signature]
School Board President

[Signature]
School Board Vice President

[Signature]
School Board Secretary

[Signature]
School Board Member

[Signature]
School Board Member

[Signature]
School Board Member

[Signature]
School Board Member

[Signature]
School Board Member

School Board Member

Attendance		
Name	Parent, Student, Teacher or Community Member	School(s) Affiliated With
Zoretta Sanders-Howard	Literacy Instructional Coach	Literacy Department
Nanette Patiño	Teacher	Central HS
Megan Eves	Parent	Central HS
Roxie Browning	Parent & Principal	FHSA & Bale Elem
Leigh Walters	parent and teacher	Central High School for both

Attendance From Zoom Records

Aria Thorns (Guest)

Charles Moore (Guest)

Conley's iPhone (Guest)

Helen Leniear-Strickland (Guest)

Hope Worsham - Ex. Director of C&I

iPhone (Guest)

Joe Butler (Guest)

LEIGH WALTERS (Guest)

Lisa Huff (Guest)

Nanette Patino (Guest)

Roxie Browning (Guest)

Sandip Bose (Guest)

Shameka Montgomery (Guest)

Tameka Lamb Green (Guest)

Terra Dukes (Guest)

Zoretta Sanders-Howard (Guest)

Megan Eves (Guest)

Nandini & Naina Bose (Guest)

Freshman Seminar Waiver Feedback Review

April 16, 2021

11:00 – 11:05

Welcome and Introduction

11:05 – 11:10

Clarify main points:

- Will a licensed teacher teach Freshman Seminar?
- Training and support plan

Share link to survey results

11:10-11:30

Review data in breakout rooms

- Tally percent in favor of waiver
- Identify questions to be answered

11:30-11:45

Share breakout findings and final recommendation for School Board

Freshman Seminar with Professional Communications

STAKEHOLDER INPUT

* Required

Complete this survey to share your input.

LRSD plans to offer Freshman Seminar with Professional Communications as a year-long course for all ninth graders. The course will focus on personal and career exploration and successful transition into high school. The course will embed Professional Communications so that students receive the credit that will fulfill the graduation requirement for Oral Communications while also receiving a Career Focus credit for Freshman Seminar.

In the Freshman Seminar class, students will participate in "real-world" lessons and activities, including topics such as

- Learning to Manage Conflict
- Making the Most of Your Time
- Dos and Don'ts of Job Interviews
- Making Your Resume Stand Out
- Knowing Your Learning Style, Personal Strengths, and Aptitudes
- Exploring Careers that Fit YOU
- Interacting with and Observing Professionals on the Job
- Practicing Effective Communication
- Understanding Interpersonal Effectiveness & Ethics
- Using Social Media Responsibly
- Delivering Powerful Presentations

LRSD is seeking a waiver from the AR Department of Education that will allow any certified teacher in any licensure area to teach this course. This will give schools the flexibility to select and effectively utilize current staff, regardless of their licensure area, who are committed to supporting students as they grow and develop.

Please complete the short survey to give input and ask questions about the waiver being sought.

1. I am a *

Mark only one oval.

- Student
- Parent
- Educator
- Community Member

2. Share your Feedback. *

3. What further questions do you have about this waiver?

4. If you have questions and desire a response, please share your email address.

5. I would like to serve on a committee to review these results. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

Review
Committee
Names

By filling out the information below you will be considered for the review committee to discuss the public comments prior to the April School Board meeting.

6. First Name *

7. Last Name *

8. Phone number *

9. Email Address *

10. Confirm your email address *

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms

Freshman Seminar with Professional Communications

STAKEHOLDER INPUT

* Required

Complete this survey to share your input.

LRSD plans to offer Freshman Seminar with Professional Communications as a year-long course for all ninth graders. The course will focus on personal and career exploration and successful transition into high school. The course will embed Professional Communications so that students receive the credit that will fulfill the graduation requirement for Oral Communications while also receiving a Career Focus credit for Freshman Seminar.

In the Freshman Seminar class, students will participate in "real-world" lessons and activities, including topics such as

- Learning to Manage Conflict
- Making the Most of Your Time
- Dos and Don'ts of Job Interviews
- Making Your Resume Stand Out
- Knowing Your Learning Style, Personal Strengths, and Aptitudes
- Exploring Careers that Fit YOU
- Interacting with and Observing Professionals on the Job
- Practicing Effective Communication
- Understanding Interpersonal Effectiveness & Ethics
- Using Social Media Responsibly
- Delivering Powerful Presentations

LRSD is seeking a waiver from the AR Department of Education that will allow any certified teacher in any licensure area to teach this course. This will give schools the flexibility to select and effectively utilize current staff, regardless of their licensure area, who are committed to supporting students as they grow and develop.

Please complete the short survey to give input and ask questions about the waiver being sought.

1. I am a *

Mark only one oval.

- Student
- Parent
- Educator
- Community Member

2. Share your Feedback. *

3. What further questions do you have about this waiver?

4. If you have questions and desire a response, please share your email address.

5. I would like to serve on a committee to review these results. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

Review
Committee
Names

By filling out the information below you will be considered for the review committee to discuss the public comments prior to the April School Board meeting.

6. First Name *

7. Last Name *

8. Phone number *

9. Email Address *

10. Confirm your email address *

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms