



**DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY  
& SECONDARY EDUCATION**

**Act 1240 Waiver Request**

<b>District:</b>	<b>South Side Bee Branch</b>
<b>LEA Number:</b>	7105000
<b>Superintendent:</b>	Greg Bradford
<b>Email:</b>	gbradford@southsidebb.org
<b>Contact for Waiver:</b>	Greg Bradford
<b>Contact Email:</b>	gbradford@southsidebb.org
<b>Contact Phone:</b>	501-626-4486
<b>Date Received by DESE:</b>	

**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**

## Waiver Request #1

<b>Topic:</b>	School Start Date
<b>Standards/Statutes/Rules:</b>	A.C.A 6-10-106
<b>Duration Requested:</b>	5 Year
<b>Name of Open-Enrollment Charter Holding the Waiver</b>	Arkansas Virtual Academy
<b>Schools, Grades or Classes the Wavier Will Apply To</b>	k-12
<b>PURPOSE OF THE WAIVER (Must check at least one)</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance Student Learning Opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Promote Innovation <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Equitable Access to Effective Teachers

- 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.**

This specific waiver is being requested to allow South Side Bee Branch School District to set the first day of school no earlier than the Tuesday of the week prior to the week that contains the August 19<sup>th</sup> start date established by A.C.A 6-10-106.

This waiver will allow our district to add additional instruction early in our school year to front load as much high quality instructional time for our students prior to inclement weather and the high stakes assessment in the spring.

This waiver will allow the district to provide more curriculum and instruction teacher work days throughout the school year. This time lets the district look at data, assessments, curriculum, and RTI in supporting student learning and tier 1 instructional practices.

This waiver will help to ensure that the district can meet the minimum days required for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter to be complete prior to Christmas break.

This waiver will help ensure that we can complete the school year in May rather than extending into June. This will help with student attendance towards the end of the school year. It will also help families in planning their summer travel and tourism plans.

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

The South Side School District will utilize the alternative academic calendar that will exceed the 1,068 hours of required instruction. This calendar allows us to front load instruction time before testing in the spring.

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

South Side will monitor student and employee attendance data. The district will also monitor student data to measure the effectiveness of the early start date.

South Side Bee Branch School District  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
February 19, 2024

Members present: Mr. Bart Bradford, Mr. Travis Love, Mrs. Kristen Smith, Mr. Ryan Stacks and Mr. Derick Fortenberry.

Mr. Derick Fortenberry opened the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

Mr. Travis Love led the Board in prayer.

Mr. Derick Fortenberry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Greg Bradford presented Mr. Travis Love a plaque as recognition for his service on the Board and dedication to the school district.

Mr. Travis Love made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan Stacks to approve the minutes from the January meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

Mrs. Kristen Smith made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bart Bradford to accept the financial reports as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Board Of Education  
South Side School District

February 19, 2024

Informational Items:

Agenda Item No.: 8A	Subject: Road to Agri Barn
---------------------	----------------------------

Background Information:

I met with Dennis Edwards today about building a road down the south property line of the 40 acres we purchased. We will have to pay for the price of diesel. We will buy the culverts, gravel and any shale hauled in from another site. I asked for a quote to clear a spot for a football practice field also. The football practice area would be the future spot for a field. We will start this after a meeting with Clayton. He will give me a quote for a road being built by the Heavy Equipment School.

Administrative Recommendation:

No action required. Informational only

Agenda Item No.: 8B	Subject: Schedule a Work Session
---------------------	----------------------------------

Background Information:

I spoke to Clayton from Lewis Architect and we were not able to get a time this week. We will need to confirm a couple of optional dates over the next couple of weeks we can all be here for a work session. Dan Lovelady is working on some financial options we can discuss at the work session. These figures will be based on ten, fifteen, and twenty million dollar project possibilities.

Administrative Recommendation:

No action required. Informational only

Action Items:

Agenda Item No.: 8C	Subject: Early Start Waiver
---------------------	-----------------------------

Background Information:

By state law, the start date for the 2024-2025 school year is the week of August 19th. There is an early start waiver available to start school earlier than this date. To be approved for the waiver, the district has to get stakeholder feedback, get board resolution approval and complete an application for DESE. The survey results are attached to the packet. The district would like to start school on August 13, 2024. This will allow more instruction and teacher work days prior to testing in the spring. It will also get the students out of school prior to Memorial day even with water or weather issues.

Administrative Recommendation:

I will recommend the board approve the early start date of August 13, 2024 for the 2024-2025 school year.

Mr. Bart Bradford made a motion, seconded by Mr. Travis Love to approve the resolution for approval of an early start date of August 13, 2024. Motion carried 5-0.

Agenda Item No.: 8D	Subject: Approve the 2024-2025 School Calendar
---------------------	--

Background Information:

I have attached two calendars for the 2024-2025 school year. I will recommend the board approve calendar option 1 contingent upon the approval of the 1240 waiver for early start, which starts on August 13, 2024. If the waiver is denied, the district will use calendar option 2, start date August 19, 2024.

Administrative Recommendation:

I will recommend the board approve the 2024-2025 school calendar option as proposed.

Mr. Ryan Stacks made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bart Bradford to approve the 2024-2025 school calendar as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Agenda Item No.: 8E	Subject: Approve Superintendent Evaluation Tool
---------------------	---

Background Information:

There have been conversations about changing the evaluation tool for the superintendent. I have reached out to other superintendents and asked what tool their boards use. With the new goals for district achievement being put into the superintendent's contract, it would be a good time to adjust anything you guys want.

Administrative Recommendation:

I will recommend the board approve an evaluation tool to make it concrete moving forward. Adjustments can be made at any time.

Board determined no vote was needed on this item.



## 2024-2025 Calendar Option



Questions Responses 54 Settings

There are two calendar options for the 2024-2025 school year. Both calendars are based on minutes again. Each calendar has the same number of student-teacher interaction days, 165. This is the same number of days for the 2023-2024 school calendar. Contracts will still be the same, 190 days. Both calendars have 6 professional development day, 2 PT days, and 1 open house. Both calendars have a few days worth of time built in for snow.

Option 1 starts on August 13th and ends on May 16th. This option has 9 teacher work days throughout the school year.

Option 2 starts on August 19th and ends on May 19th. This calendar has 6 teacher work days throughout the school year.

I will leave this survey open until February 14th.

Are you a classified or certified employee?

Classified

Certified

Choose the option below for which calendar you choose for the 2024-2025 school year.

Option 1

Option 2





# 2024-2025 Calendar Option



Questions Responses 54 Settings

Accepting responses

Summary

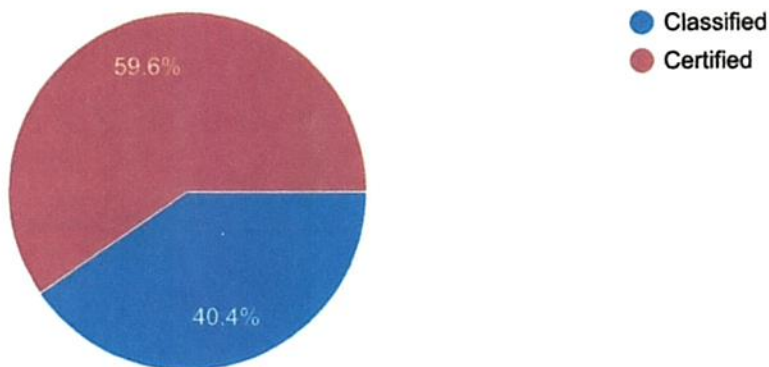
Question

Individual

### Are you a classified or certified employee?



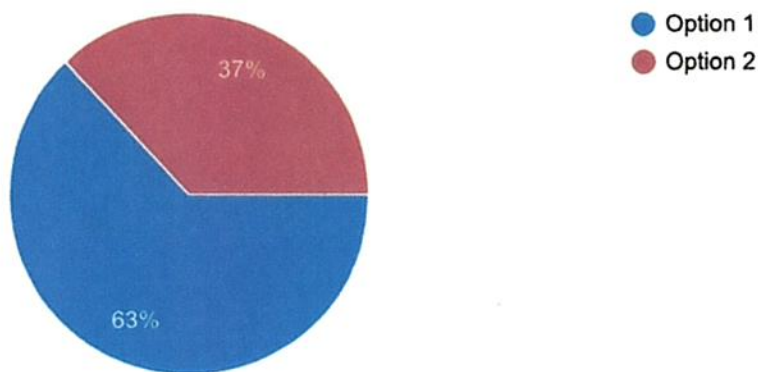
52 responses



### Choose the option below for which calendar you choose for the 2024-2025 school year.



54 responses





Timestamp	Are you a classified or ce	Choose the option below for which calendar you choose for the 2024-2025 school year.
2/12/2024 8:54:08	Certified	Option 2
2/12/2024 8:55:07	Certified	Option 2
2/12/2024 9:23:25	Certified	Option 1
2/12/2024 9:58:27	Classified	Option 2
2/12/2024 10:23:05	Certified	Option 2
2/12/2024 10:29:48	Certified	Option 2
2/12/2024 11:19:07	Certified	Option 1
2/12/2024 11:42:59	Classified	Option 2
2/12/2024 11:55:41	Certified	Option 1
2/12/2024 13:41:44	Certified	Option 1
2/12/2024 13:53:24	Classified	Option 2
2/12/2024 14:09:02	Classified	Option 1
2/12/2024 14:39:56	Certified	Option 1
2/12/2024 15:26:35	Classified	Option 1
2/12/2024 15:39:09	Certified	Option 2
2/12/2024 15:53:00		Option 1
2/12/2024 17:10:05	Certified	Option 1
2/13/2024 8:38:50	Classified	Option 2
2/13/2024 11:58:54	Certified	Option 1
2/13/2024 12:18:58	Classified	Option 2
2/13/2024 15:25:33	Classified	Option 1
2/13/2024 16:14:46	Certified	Option 2
2/14/2024 14:55:40	Classified	Option 2

Timestamp	Are you a classified or certified teacher?	Choose the option below for which calendar you choose for the 2024-2025 school year.
2/9/2024 15:10:10	Certified	Option 2
2/9/2024 15:12:16	Classified	Option 1
2/9/2024 15:13:33		Option 1
2/9/2024 15:14:43	Classified	Option 1
2/9/2024 15:24:29	Classified	Option 1
2/9/2024 15:29:15	Classified	Option 1
2/9/2024 15:31:21	Classified	Option 1
2/9/2024 15:33:21	Classified	Option 1
2/9/2024 15:46:30	Certified	Option 1
2/9/2024 15:50:50	Certified	Option 1
2/9/2024 15:55:23	Certified	Option 1
2/9/2024 15:58:37	Certified	Option 1
2/9/2024 16:02:49	Certified	Option 1
2/9/2024 16:45:16	Classified	Option 2
2/9/2024 20:18:36	Certified	Option 1
2/9/2024 23:28:58	Certified	Option 1
2/10/2024 7:17:46	Classified	Option 2
2/10/2024 7:45:34	Certified	Option 2
2/10/2024 20:44:07	Certified	Option 2
2/10/2024 21:27:09	Classified	Option 1
2/11/2024 7:30:26	Classified	Option 1
2/11/2024 7:31:31	Classified	Option 1
2/11/2024 9:45:41	Classified	Option 1
2/11/2024 11:53:11	Certified	Option 1
2/11/2024 13:05:58	Certified	Option 2
2/11/2024 18:31:33	Certified	Option 1
2/12/2024 7:29:09	Certified	Option 2
2/12/2024 7:39:13	Certified	Option 1
2/12/2024 7:43:54	Certified	Option 1
2/12/2024 8:10:34	Certified	Option 1
2/12/2024 8:51:20	Certified	Option 2