

January 8, 2024

Ms. Dorie Summons  
Office of School Choice and Parent Empowerment  
Public Charter Schools  
Four Capitol Mall, Box 26  
Little Rock, AZ 72201

Dear Ms. Summons,

Pursuant to my attached December 29, 2023, letter to you, Arkansas Schools for Advanced Studies, Inc. (ASASI) respectfully submits the attached amendment request to your office for consideration by the Charter Authorizing Panel (CAP) at its February 2024 meeting.

Included within this amendment package is information and documentation in support of the following requests to amend the open-enrollment charter school application approved by the CAP on August 16, 2023, without further review by the Arkansas State Board of Education, as detailed in your September 22, 2023, letter (attached).

1. Relocation amendment request:

- At the time of submission of the initial open-enrollment charter school application in July 2023, ASASI projected that the School would be located in the city of Bentonville within the Bentonville School District boundaries. However, since that time a location within a bordering city was instead identified. The School has secured an agreement to lease the Lane Hotel building in Rogers, AR from KLS Leasing, LLC pending approval of the lease agreement from the Commissioner of ADE Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.
- The identified building is located at 121 W. Poplar St., Rogers, AR 72756 within the boundaries of the Rogers School District.
- A copy of this documentation is also being sent to the superintendents of the Rogers School District and Bentonville School District in accordance with notification requirements in DESE Rules Governing Charter Schools.

2. School name change amendment request:

- Based on the anticipated location of the School in Bentonville, the initial open-enrollment charter school application included the school name "Bentonville School for Advanced Studies." Because the School will be located in Rogers, pending approval of this amendment request package, the School name will be "School for Advanced Studies – Northwest Arkansas."

- This name change signifies the school location in the northwest corner of the state, but also indicates the School's desire to enroll all grade-eligible students, regardless of their city of residence.
3. School Board of Directors meeting waivers requests:
- Waiver regarding monthly Board of Directors meetings
  - Waiver regarding Board of Directors meetings being called by elector petitioners
  - Waiver regarding remote attendance at Board of Directors meetings
  - See included detailed rationales for each waiver

The following attachments are included for consideration by the CAP in their review of these requests:

1. Budget projections including costs associated with the amendment request
2. Signed Facilities Usage Agreement
3. Maps of the present and proposed locations
4. Desegregation Analysis
5. December 29, 2023 Letter to Summons
6. September 22, 2023 Letter from Summons

If any additional documentation or clarification is required to process this request or during the CAP's deliberations, we would be happy to provide it. Our team and I look forward to the opportunity to present this request to the CAP in February and answer any questions they may have.

Thank you for your support with the submission of this request.

Sincerely,



DeAnna Rowe  
Executive Director, ASASI

Ec: Jeff Perry, Superintendent, Rogers School District  
Dr. Debbie Jones, Superintendent, Bentonville School District



## Charter Amendment Request Instructions

The Charter Amendment Request Form, with any additional documentation pertaining to the amendment request, must be received, via email at [ade.charterschools@ade.arkansas.gov](mailto:ade.charterschools@ade.arkansas.gov), at the Arkansas Department of Education at least 35 days prior to the meeting of the Charter Authoring Panel.

### Documentation to be Included with ALL Amendment Requests

- Budget projections that include the costs associated with the amendment request and demonstrate that the approval of the request will not place an undue financial burden on the charter
- Current year to date enrollment by race and grade
- Current year to date free and reduced lunch

### Additional documentation for requests to add a campus or relocate an existing campus

- Map of present location
- Map of proposed location
- Signed Facilities Utilization Agreement
- Desegregation Analysis

### Additional documentation

- Budget projections that include the costs associated with the amendment request and demonstrate that the approval of the request will not place an undue financial burden on the charter
- Current year to date enrollment by race and grade
- Current year to date free and reduced lunch

### Documentation to be Included with ALL Amendment Requests

- Budget projections that include the costs associated with the amendment request and demonstrate that the approval of the request will not place an undue financial burden on the charter
- Current year to date enrollment by race and grade
- Current year to date free and reduced lunch



## Charter Amendment Request Form

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

**Charter Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **LEA:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Superintendent or Director:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

### 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: \_\_\_\_\_

**Change School Name**

Current Name: Bentonville School for Advanced Studies

Proposed Name: School for Advanced Studies - Northwest Arkansas

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

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Rationale for Waiver:

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

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Rationale for Waiver:

**BENTONVILLE SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED STUDIES  
Estimated Revenues - Year 1**

<b>Source of Funds</b>	<b># Students</b>	<b>Amount Per Student</b>	<b>Total Yr 1</b>
Foundation Funding	275	\$7,771.00	\$2,137,025.00
Professional Development			\$10,312.50
Enhanced Student Achievement Funding	20% FRL Population		\$29,590.00
Charter Facilities Funding			\$110,000.00
AR LEARNS	Assumes \$14,000 plus 23.5% fringe, per teacher, in additional funding from AR LEARNS		\$285,285.00
CSP Grant			\$525,000.00
Other Funding:	Grants: Title I, IDEA estimated, NSLP		\$209,000.00

**Total Budgeted Revenues \$3,306,212.50**



**BENTONVILLE SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED STUDIES**  
**Estimated Salaries to be Paid from State/Local Funds - Year 1**

<b>Position</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Salary</b>	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>Fringe</b>	<b>Total Expense</b>
Head of School	1	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$23,400	\$113,400
Business Manager	0.5	\$80,000	\$40,000	\$10,400	\$50,400
Dean of Students	0.5	\$61,000	\$30,500	\$7,930	\$38,430
School Counselor	0.5	\$61,000	\$30,500	\$7,930	\$38,430
Registrar	0.5	\$41,000	\$20,500	\$5,330	\$25,830
Teacher	16.5	\$55,000	\$907,500	\$235,950	\$1,143,450
Assistant Teacher	1	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$9,100	\$44,100
Library Media Specialist	0.5	\$55,000	\$27,500	\$7,150	\$34,650
Special Education Teacher	0.5	\$55,000	\$27,500	\$7,150	\$34,650
Custodian	1	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$7,800	\$37,800
Front Office	0.5	\$35,000	\$17,500	\$4,550	\$22,050
Nurse	0.5	\$45,000	\$22,500	\$5,850	\$28,350
			\$0	\$0	\$0
			\$0	\$0	\$0
			\$0	\$0	\$0
			\$0	\$0	\$0
			\$0	\$0	\$0
			\$0	\$0	\$0
			\$0	\$0	\$0

**Total Budgeted Salaries and Benefits      \$1,611,540**

# BENTONVILLE SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED STUDIES

## Estimated Expenditures - Year 1

Administration:	Explanation	Amount
Purchased Services		\$19,210.50
Supplies and Materials		\$8,183.25
Equipment	Includes staff computers and technology	\$42,000.00
Classroom Instruction:	Explanation	Amount
Purchased Services		\$6,504.75
Supplies and Materials		\$6,057.00
Equipment	Includes student chromebooks	\$159,290.00
Special Education:	Explanation	Amount
Purchased Services		\$6,979.50
Supplies and Materials		\$186.75
Equipment		\$0.00
Gifted & Talented Program	Explanation	Amount
Purchased Services		\$0.00
Supplies and Materials		\$0.00
Equipment		\$0.00
ALE Program:	Explanation	Amount
Purchased Services	Would include if SPED population required.	\$0.00
Supplies and Materials		\$0.00
Equipment		\$0.00
ELL Program:	Explanation	Amount
Purchased Services		\$0.00
Supplies and Materials		\$0.00
Equipment		\$0.00

<b>Guidance Services:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Purchased Services		\$0.00
Supplies and Materials		\$0.00
Equipment		\$0.00
<b>Health Services:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Purchased Services		\$0.00
Supplies and Materials	Misc medical supplies	\$2,500.00
Equipment	AED or other equipment needed	\$2,500.00
<b>Library Media Services:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Purchased Services	Destiny Management Software, etc	\$8,000.00
Supplies and Materials	Budgeted for 10 books per student	\$69,300.00
Equipment	Est. for misc FF&E	\$79,000.00
<b>Fiscal Services:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Purchased Services	Included in service agreement	\$0.00
Supplies and Materials	Included in service agreement	\$0.00
Equipment	Included in service agreement	\$0.00
<b>Pupil Transportation:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Purchased Services		\$0.00
Supplies and Materials		\$0.00
Equipment		\$0.00
<b>Maintenance &amp; Operations:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Purchased Services		\$1,400.37
Supplies and Materials		\$169,097.00
Equipment		\$8,300.00
Phone		\$2,800.00
Gas		\$7,935.43
Electric		\$53,214.06

Water		\$12,136.54
Sewer	Included in water above	\$0.00
<b>Food Services:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Purchased Services	Costs of meals. Assumes 20% FRL	\$81,400.00
Supplies and Materials	Included in vendor contract	\$0.00
Equipment	Included in vendor contract	\$0.00
<b>Data Processing:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Purchased Services	Included in service agreement	\$0.00
Supplies and Materials	Included in service agreement	\$0.00
Equipment	Included in service agreement	\$0.00
<b>Substitute Personnel:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Supplies and Materials		\$0.00
<b>CMO Fee (if applicable):</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Annual Fee		\$279,826.97
Advertising/Marketing		\$78,050.00
Legal Services		\$25,000.00
<b>Facilities:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Lease/Purchase Contract Per Yr	12% of state and categorical	\$309,702.90
Facility Upgrades	Signage, Flag, etc	\$15,000.00
Property Insurance Per Yr	Insurance Estimated, complete comprehensive	\$23,117.95
Content Insurance Per Yr	cost for an insurance program.	\$15,411.96
<b>Debt Expenditures:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Other Expenditures:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
AUX Purchased Services	Reimbursable Activities Expenses	\$89,957.25
Guid, Couns, & Eval.	Purchased Services	\$26,219.25

Professional Development	Purchased Services	\$22,000.00

**TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES    \$1,630,281.43**

**BENTONVILLE SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED STUDIES**  
**Year 1 Ending Balance**

**REVENUE** \$3,306,212.50

**EXPENDITURES**

Salaries & Benefits \$1,611,540.00

Other Expenses \$1,630,281.43

\$3,241,821.43

**ENDING BALANCE** \$64,391.07

**BENTONVILLE SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED STUDIES  
Estimated Revenues - Year 2**

<b>Source of Funds</b>	<b># Students</b>	<b>Amount Per Student</b>	<b>Total Yr 1</b>
Foundation Funding	330	\$7,771.00	\$2,564,430.00
Professional Developmen			\$12,375.00
Enhanced Student Achiev	20% FRL Population		\$35,508.00
Chater Facilities Funding			\$132,000.00
AR LEARNS	Assumes \$14,000 plus 23.5% fringe, per teacher, in additional funding from AR LEARNS		\$345,800.00
Grants/Other Funding:	Grants: Title 1, IDEA estimated, NSLP		\$250,800.00
<b>Total Budgeted Revenues</b>			<b>\$3,340,913.00</b>

**BENTONVILLE SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED STUDIES**  
**Estimated Salaries to be Paid from State/Local Funds - Year 2**

<b>Position</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Salary</b>	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>Fringe</b>	<b>Total Expense</b>
Head of School	1	\$91,800	\$91,800	\$23,868	\$115,668
Business Manager	0.5	\$81,600	\$40,800	\$10,608	\$51,408
Dean of Students	1	\$62,220	\$62,220	\$16,177	\$78,397
School Counselor	1	\$62,220	\$62,220	\$16,177	\$78,397
Registrar	0.5	\$41,820	\$20,910	\$5,437	\$26,347
Teacher	20	\$56,100	\$1,122,000	\$291,720	\$1,413,720
Assistant Teacher	1.5	\$35,700	\$53,550	\$13,923	\$67,473
Library Media Specialist	0.5	\$56,100	\$28,050	\$7,293	\$35,343
Special Education Teacher	1	\$56,100	\$56,100	\$14,586	\$70,686
Custodian	1	\$30,600	\$30,600	\$7,956	\$38,556
Front Office	0.5	\$35,700	\$17,850	\$4,641	\$22,491
Nurse	1	\$45,900	\$45,900	\$11,934	\$57,834
			\$0	\$0	\$0
			\$0	\$0	\$0
			\$0	\$0	\$0
			\$0	\$0	\$0
			\$0	\$0	\$0
			\$0	\$0	\$0
			\$0	\$0	\$0

<b>Total Budgeted Salaries and Benefits</b>					<b>\$2,056,320</b>
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# BENTONVILLE SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED STUDIES

## Estimated Expenditures - Year 2

Administration:	Explanation	Amount
Purchased Services		\$21,003.48
Supplies and Materials		\$8,947.02
Equipment		\$2,248.44
Classroom Instruction:	Explanation	Amount
Purchased Services		\$7,111.86
Supplies and Materials		\$6,622.32
Equipment		\$15,207.72
Special Education:	Explanation	Amount
Purchased Services		\$7,630.92
Supplies and Materials		\$204.18
Equipment		\$0.00
Gifted & Talented Program	Explanation	Amount
Purchased Services		\$0.00
Supplies and Materials		\$0.00
Equipment		\$0.00
ALE Program:	Explanation	Amount
Purchased Services	Would include if SPED population required.	\$0.00
Supplies and Materials		\$0.00
Equipment		\$0.00
ELL Program:	Explanation	Amount
Purchased Services		\$0.00
Supplies and Materials		\$0.00
Equipment		\$0.00

<b>Guidance Services:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Purchased Services		\$0.00
Supplies and Materials		\$0.00
Equipment		\$0.00
<b>Health Services:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Purchased Services		\$0.00
Supplies and Materials	Misc medical supplies	\$1,500.00
Equipment		\$1,000.00
<b>Library Media Services:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Purchased Services	Destiny Software estimate	\$3,500.00
Supplies and Materials	Includes books to cover new students and replacements	\$5,000.00
Equipment	Misc	\$1,500.00
<b>Fiscal Services:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Purchased Services	Included in service agreement	\$0.00
Supplies and Materials	Included in service agreement	\$0.00
Equipment	Included in service agreement	\$0.00
<b>Pupil Transportation:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Purchased Services		\$0.00
Supplies and Materials		\$0.00
Equipment		\$0.00
<b>Maintenance &amp; Operations:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Purchased Services		\$1,400.37
Supplies and Materials		\$140,037.00
Equipment		\$4,667.90
Phone		\$2,800.00
Gas		\$7,935.43
Electric		\$53,214.06

Water		\$12,136.54
Sewer	Included in water above	\$0.00
<b>Food Services:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Purchased Services	Costs of meals. Assumes 20% FRL	\$97,680.00
Supplies and Materials		\$0.00
Equipment		\$0.00
<b>Data Processing:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Purchased Services		\$0.00
Supplies and Materials		\$0.00
Equipment		\$0.00
<b>Substitute Personnel:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Supplies and Materials		\$0.00
<b>CMO Fee (if applicable):</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Annual Fee	12% of state and categorical	\$335,792.36
Advertising/Marketing		\$35,000.00
Legal Services		\$25,000.00
<b>Facilities:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Lease/Purchase Contract Per Yr		\$372,888.00
Facility Upgrades		\$0.00
Property Insurance Per Yr	Insurance estimated, complete comprehensive	\$23,118.00
Content Insurance Per Yr	cost for an insurance program	\$16,720.00
<b>Debt Expenditures:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Other Expenditures:</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
AUX Purchased Services	Reimbursable Activities Expenses	\$98,353.26
Guid, Couns, & Eval.	Purchased Services	\$28,666.38

Professional Development	Purchased Services	\$15,000.00

**TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENDITURES \$1,211,497.24**

**BENTONVILLE SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED STUDIES**  
**Year 2 Ending Balance**

**REVENUE** \$3,340,913.00

**EXPENDITURES**

Salaries & Benefits \$2,056,320.00

Other Expenses \$1,211,497.24

\$3,267,817.24

**ENDING BALANCE** \$73,095.76

**OPEN-ENROLLMENT PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL  
FACILITIES UTILIZATION AGREEMENT**

Lessor(Owner): KLS Leasing, LLC

Lessee(Tenant): Arkansas School for Advanced Studies, Inc.

Any information regarding affiliation, family ties, or other relationships between the Lessor (Owner) and Lessee (Tenant) must be disclosed with the facilities lease agreement.

Describe the present use of the facility:

Open enrollment charter school

Address of Premises: 121 W. Poplar St. Rogers, AR 72756

Square Footage: around 44,700 sq. feet

Terms of Lease: July 1, 2024- June 30, 2027

Rental Amount: 12% of State and Categorical Fund

Contingency: The terms of this agreement are contingent upon

Arkansas School for Advanced Studies, Inc.

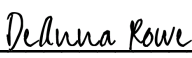
*Sponsoring Entity*

receiving a charter to operate an open-enrollment public charter school approved by the authorizer by August of 2024


Statutory Language Concerning No Indebtedness:

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 of the state or its political subdivisions. An open-enrollment public charter school shall not incur any debt, including any lease, without the prior review and approval of the Commissioner of Education.

Lessee: Arkansas School for Advanced Studies, Inc.

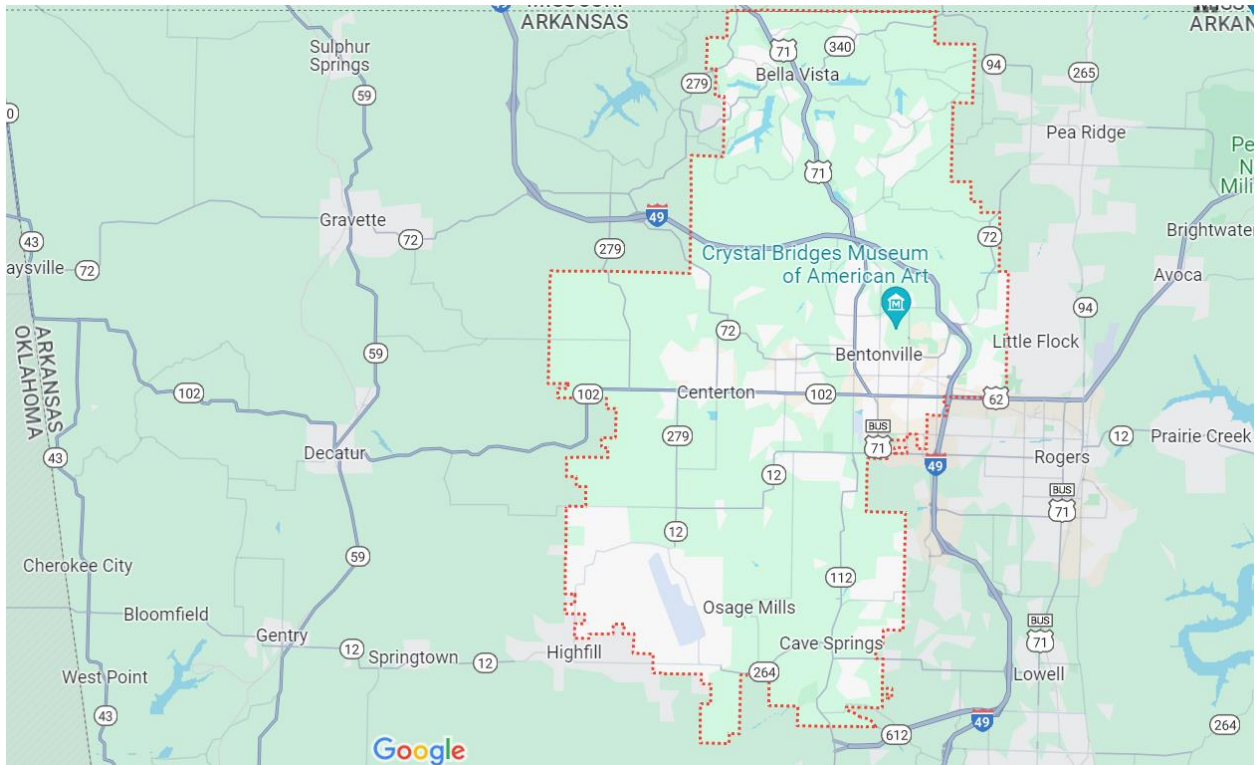
By:  34079B4CF8E04B6... Date 1/5/2024 | 10:13:06 AM CST

Lessor: KLS Leasing, LLC

By:  18B5922BCD1F4B5... Date 1/5/2024 | 3:37:52 AM PST

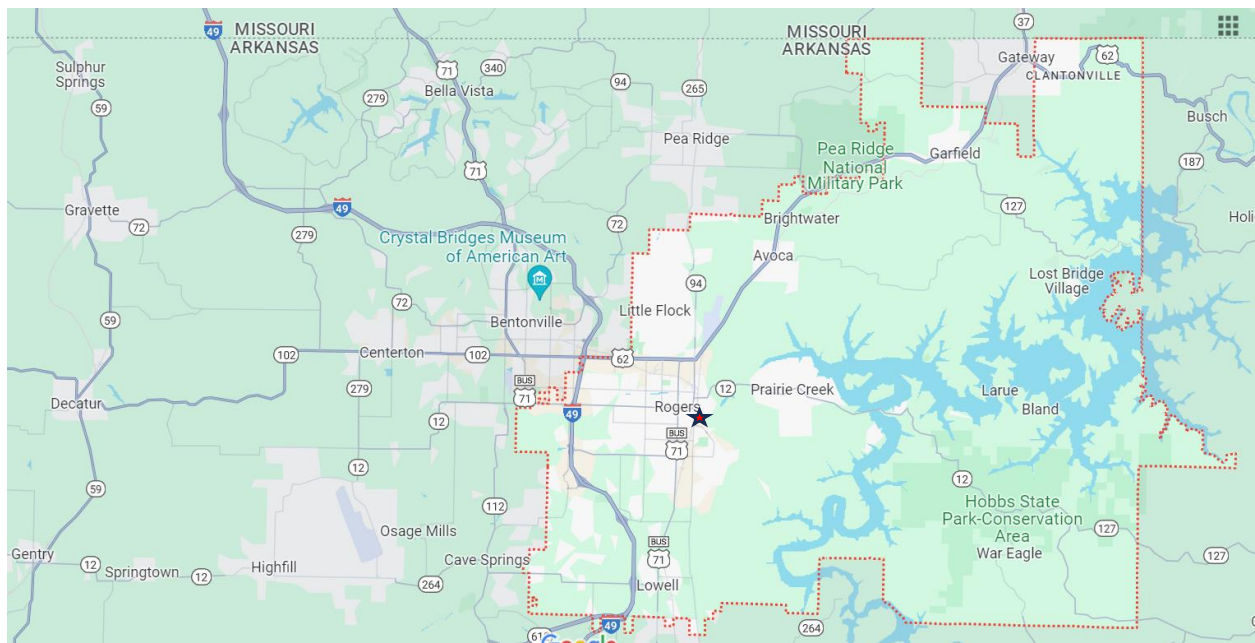
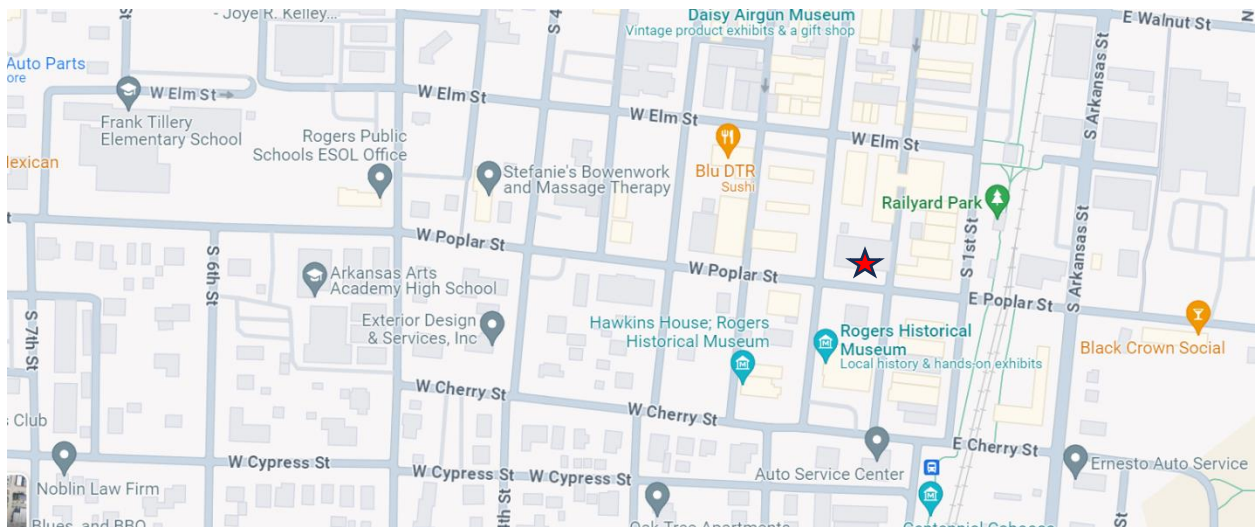
Map of Current Location

The initial application for the School for Advanced Studies – Northwest Arkansas (“School”) was approved by the State Board of Education in September 2023. The application for the then “Bentonville School for Advanced Studies” presumed a location within the boundaries of the Bentonville School District, a map of which is provided below.



Map of Proposed Location

In accordance with the attached Facilities Usage Agreement, the School has secured the historic Lane Hotel building at 121 W. Poplar Street, Rogers, AR 72756, to house the new school. This location falls inside the Rogers School District boundaries. Please see below for maps of the building's immediate area as well as the Rogers School District boundaries. In both maps the School's location is represented by a red star.





School for Advanced Studies – Northwest Arkansas  
Desegregation Analysis

This desegregation analysis is being provided in support of the relocation amendment request from the School for Advanced Studies – Northwest Arkansas (the “School”).<sup>1</sup> The School is requesting a change from the projected location included in the initial open-enrollment charter school application from within the boundaries of the Bentonville School District to an identified location within the boundaries of the Rogers School District. The School has been able to secure an agreement to lease the historic Lane Hotel building located at 121 W. Poplar St., Rogers, AR 72756.<sup>2</sup> The School anticipates that it will receive most of its students from the Rogers (RSD), Bentonville (BSD), Decatur (DSD), Eureka Springs (ESSD), Gentry (GSD), Gravette (GRSD), Pea Ridge (PRSD), Siloam Springs (SSSD), and Springdale (SSD) School Districts. As an open-enrollment public charter school, however, the School may enroll students from anywhere within the State of Arkansas. Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §6-23-106, the School is required to carefully review the potential impact that its operation would have upon the efforts of the RSD, BSD, DSD, ESSD, GSD, GRSD, PRSD, SSSD, and SSD to comply with court orders and statutory obligations to create and maintain a unitary system of desegregated public schools. At full enrollment, the School will have a student population of 750 students in Grades 5-12.

School for Advanced Studies – Northwest Arkansas has carefully reviewed the potential impact that the operation of an open-enrollment public charter school within the boundaries of the RSD would have upon the efforts of affected school districts to comply with court orders and statutory obligations to create and maintain a unitary system of desegregated public schools. In conducting its review, the School has found that none of the school districts listed above are under any court orders concerning their desegregation obligations, and are therefore unitary in all respects of their school operations. Therefore, the granting of the School’s amendment request to operate its school within the boundaries of the RSD cannot be said to have a negative impact on the RSD, DSD, ESSD, GSD, GRSD, PRSD, BSD, SSSD, and the SSD’s ability to comply with the districts’ statutory obligations to create and maintain a unitary system of desegregated public schools.

According to the latest Average Daily Membership enrollment figures for school year 2023-2024 as maintained by the DESE Data Center, the BSD had a student population of 18,674 students; the DSD had a student population of 579 students; the ESSD had a student population of 633 students; the GSD had a student population of 1,617 students; the GRSD had a student population of 1,998 students; the PRSD had a student population of 2,454 students; the RSD

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<sup>1</sup>In the instant amendment request, the School has requested approval for a name change from “Bentonville School for Advanced Studies” to “School for Advanced Studies – Northwest Arkansas.” The amendment package also includes requests for certain waivers related to the School’s Board of Directors.

<sup>2</sup>The School understands that it must obtain approval from the Commissioner for the lease.

had a student population of 15,529 students; the SSSD had a student population of 4,463 students, and the SSD had a student population of 21,801 students. BSD's student population was comprised of 70.6% White students; 12% Hispanic students, and 7.4% Asian students. DSD's student population was comprised of 44.2% White students; 38.7% Hispanic students, and 5.7% Asian students. ESSD's student population was comprised of 87.4% White students and 8.1% Hispanic students. GSD's student population was comprised of 58.7% White students; 17.9% Hispanic students, and 8.1% Asian students. GRSD's student population was comprised of 82.8% White students and 7.3% Hispanic students. PRSD's student population was comprised of 85.9% White students and 8.1% Hispanic students. RSD's student population was comprised of 48.9% Hispanic students and 41.3% White students. SSSD's student population was comprised of 48.0% White students; 34.4% Hispanic students, and 8.6% of students who were Two or More Races. SSD's student population was comprised of 48.0% Hispanic students; 31.4% White students, and 13.6% Hawaiian/Pacific Islander students.

In conclusion, School for Advanced Studies – Northwest Arkansas submits that upon the basis of its review, no statutory or other impediments concerning the creation and operation of desegregated public schools prohibit the State's charter school authorizer from granting its location amendment request to operate an open-enrollment public charter school within the boundaries of the Rogers School District.



December 29, 2023

Ms. Dorie Summons  
Office of School Choice and Parent Empowerment  
Public Charter Schools  
Four Capitol Mall, Box 26  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Ms. Summons:

Arkansas Schools for Advanced Studies, Inc. (ASASI) is happy to share that we have found a location for the operation of our first school in Northwest Arkansas. As stated in our application, the goal was to identify a centrally located property that will provide access to the school for as many families as possible throughout Bentonville and the surrounding areas. While we thought that would initially mean opening in Bentonville, we believe the Lane Hotel in Rogers is an excellent location for our first campus.

As such, ASASI would like to submit amendments to include:

- 1) changing the school district where the charter will be located from Bentonville School District to Rogers Schools District, and
- 2) changing the name of the charter from Bentonville School for Advanced Studies to School for Advanced Studies – Northwest Arkansas.

If there remains time to submit the appropriate documentation for consideration by the Charter Authorizing Panel at their January 16, 2024, meeting, we would be happy to do so. Otherwise, we will plan for the February meeting.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "DeAnna Rowe".

DeAnna Rowe  
Executive Director



# Division of Elementary and Secondary Education

*Transforming Arkansas to lead the nation in student-focused education*

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**Jacob Oliva**  
Secretary

September 22, 2023

**Stacy Smith**  
Deputy  
Commissioner

DeAnna Rowe  
Bentonville School for Advanced Studies  
deanna.rowe@basisschools.org

**State Board of  
Education**

## **RE: Notice of State Board of Education Decision**

**Dr. Sarah Moore**  
*Stuttgart*  
Chair

Dear Mrs. Rowe,

**Kathy Rollins**  
*Springdale*  
Vice-Chair

Congratulations to Bentonville School for Advanced Studies on the approval to open beginning in 2023-2024. The Arkansas State Board of Education met on September 15, 2023, and decided to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel decision; therefore, the decision of the Charter Authorizing Panel is final.

**Steve Sutton**  
*Marion*

Per your application, your school will follow a college prep education model and will serve Grades 5-12 with a progressive enrollment cap of seven hundred fifty (750) students.

**Adrienne Woods**  
*Rogers*

The waivers approved for your charter are not listed in this correspondence but will be included in the contract you will receive later.

**Randy Henderson**  
*Blytheville*

We look forward to collaborating with you and wish you a successful implementation process.

**Lisa Hunter**  
*White Hall*

**Jeff Wood**  
*Little Rock*

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Charter Office.

**Ken Bragg**  
*Sheridan*

Sincerely,

**Leigh Keener**  
*Little Rock*

*Dorie Summons*

Dorie Summons  
Director of Public Charter Schools