

**BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**AMENDED PETITION FOR CHANGE IN BOUNDARY LINES**

COMES NOW, Petitioners, the Boards of Directors of the Ozark Mountain School District (“OMSD”) of Marion, Newton, and Searcy Counties and the Lead Hill School District (“LHSD”) of Boone and Marion Counties, pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-13-1414, and for their Amended Petition for Change in Boundary Lines to the Arkansas State Board of Education (“Board”) states, to wit:

1. Petitioners filed their initial Petition for Change in Boundary Lines on April 13, 2020. Petitioners file this Amended Petition to add relevant information for the Board’s consideration. Petitioners agree on the change in boundary lines being requested and seek approval based on the facts as alleged herein.

2. The land at issue is currently in the OMSD and is identified in the map attached as Exhibit 1. The land is best described as two peninsulas, an east peninsula and west peninsula, which adjoined to Missouri and are surrounded by Bull Shoals Lake. This Petition requests that boundary lines be redrawn so that the land, both the east and west peninsulas, become part of the LHSD for the 2020-2021 school year.

3. Approximately twelve (12) students who are residents of OMSD live on the peninsulas, approximately six (6) on the east peninsula and six (6) on the west peninsula. The peninsulas are completely non-contiguous to the main landmass that is OMSD. OMSD covers 394 square miles and three counties. The peninsulas are thirty (30) miles north of the main landmass of OMSD and cannot be accessed by road alone but require use of a ferry. The west peninsula is contiguous with LHSD and is only divided from the east peninsula by the body of water.

4. Transportation of students on the peninsulas from their homes to OMSD is not feasible due to travel time and the students are instead transported to two separate school districts in Missouri. Students on the west peninsula attend Mark Twain School District in Missouri and students on the east peninsula attend Lutie School District in Missouri. This arrangement was made in the best effort to educate the students. This arrangement will continue if this Petition is granted.

5. OMSD receives no average daily membership revenue for these students, as the entire per-student funding that OMSD receives is paid to the Missouri school districts providing the students' educational programming.

6. OMSD provides transportation for the students to and from the Missouri school districts servicing the students. OMSD is required to run two bus routes to transport the students due to the distance. OMSD operates at an annual loss relative to the students. If boundary lines are not changed OMSD may consider only allowing the students to attend one Missouri school district so that OMSD will only have to run school bus. LHSD is agreeable to continue the current arrangement of two LHSD buses running routes to two separate Missouri schools.

7. LHSD is agreeable to accepting the students for purposes of being the Local Education Agency and continuing the current arrangement that the students be transported to the school districts in Missouri that currently service the students. LHSD will continue to provide transportation for the students. The students and their families will see no adverse impact by this change of boundary lines. The only different the students will see is that the bus transporting the students will have a different school name.

8. It is more advantageous for LHSD to acquire the land at issue and provide services for the students than for OMSD to continue to serve the area and the students.

