
Board of Education

ACTION

TITLE: Raymond F. Orr Learning Academy and Approval of the Resolution Concerning the ALE Conversion Charter Application Submission

DATE: February 24, 2025

RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATOR: Dr. Tiffany Bone
Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Tony Jones
Director of Secondary Education

BACKGROUND/CONSIDERATIONS:

Currently Fort Smith Public Schools has Alternative Education Programs that serve students in grades K-12 on multiple campuses. The district is [proposing](#) housing all Alternative Education Programs on one campus beginning in the Fall of 2025, while adding two additional levels of support for students: Positive Behavior Support (PBS) for grades K-5 and The Academic Center of Excellence (ACE) for Grades 9-12. These proposed changes in programming will allow better access for our students to school based mental health services and behavioral support as well as more flexibility for secondary students.

The district will work with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education during the 2025-26 school year to gain approval to operate a District Conversion Charter School (ACE), for grades 9-12, that provides a non-traditional style of learning with flexible times and pacing to allow students with varying needs to continue to earn credits and graduate on time. The district must submit an application to continue toward an approved District Conversion Charter Option.

RECOMMENDATION:

The administration recommends that the board approve the resolution to submit the ALE Conversion Charter School intent to apply to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

If the Board agrees, the motion would read: *move to* approve the resolution to submit the ALE Conversion Charter School intent to apply to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.