



**DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY
& SECONDARY EDUCATION**

Public School Waiver Request

District:	Riverside
LEA Number:	1613
Superintendent:	Jeff Priest
Email:	jeff.priest@riversiderebels.net
Contact for Waiver:	Jeff Priest
Contact Email:	jeff.priest@riversiderebels.net
Contact Phone:	870-598-7116
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**

Waiver Request #1

Topic:	School start date
Standards/Statutes/Rules:	A.C.A. 6-10-106
Duration Requested:	5 years
Name of Open-Enrollment Charter Holding the Waiver	Arkansas Virtual Academy
Schools, Grades or Classes the Wavier Will Apply To	K-12
PURPOSE OF THE WAIVER (Must check at least one)	<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.

The member school districts of the Crowley's Ridge Cooperative are collectively and separately requesting a waiver from A.C.A. 6-10-106, which establishes the first allowable day of class as the Monday of the week that contains August 19. For the 2024-2025 school year that date will be Tuesday, August 13. The specific waiver being requested is to allow the applying school districts to set their individual district's first day of class to be no earlier than Monday, August 12.

If granted, the waiver would provide more instructional days before state testing and would also help balance the required number of days per semester. In doing so, this would allow the first semester tests to take place before the Christmas break. We believe student achievement would be much higher if the exams are taken before Christmas break rather than after the two week break.

If granted, the waiver would also help ensure that the school year would end before Memorial Day. Our students, community, and staff have made this a request in years past.

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

Services for students will not be waived for students under this waiver.

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

The Riverside School District will monitor student grades, student interim testing, and student attendance data throughout the school year. The movement of the start date will be no more than five days and we believe it should have a positive impact on student achievement in the Riverside School District.

Riverside School District



Superintendent's Office 237-4329

Riverside School District, 2007 Hwy 18
Lake City, AR, 72437
February 6th, 2024

Resolution Number: 1240

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF Riverside School District TO REQUEST A WAIVER

WHEREAS, the Riverside School District Board of Directors is committed to providing a high-quality education to all students within the district;

WHEREAS, certain circumstances or regulations may require the district to seek waivers to better address the unique needs or challenges faced by the district;

WHEREAS, the Riverside School District is requesting an ACT 1240 waiver for an early start date.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of Riverside School District hereby authorizes the district administration to formally request a waiver for an early start date to the school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent or designee is authorized to take all necessary steps and actions to submit the waiver request, including providing any additional information or documentation required by the relevant authorities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Directors expresses its support for the waiver request and acknowledges the importance of flexibility in addressing the unique needs and circumstances of the district.

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED this February 6th, 2024 by the Board of Directors of Riverside School District.

Greg Smith, President 
Riverside School District Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Rob Kinkade, Secretary 
Riverside School District Board of Directors


High School, Lake City, AR (870) 237-4328
West Elementary, Lake City, AR (870) 237-8222
East Elementary, Caraway, AR (870) 482-3351

Early Start Date Waiver

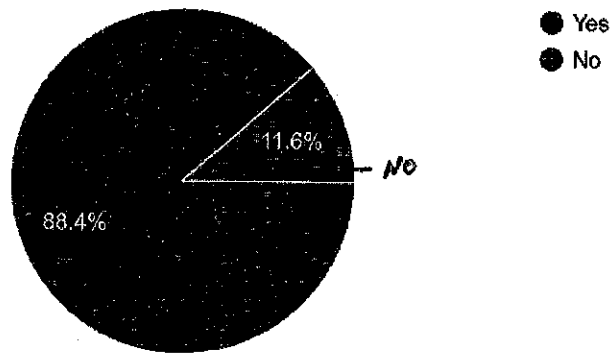
69 responses

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Would you be in favor of the Riverside School District applying for an early start date waiver? This waiver would allow the Riverside School District to start school the week of August 12th-16th. Without the waiver, school would have to start the week of Aug 19th-23rd.

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69 responses



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