



Public School Waiver Request

District:	Wonderview School District
LEA Number:	1505000
Superintendent:	Jamie Stacks
Email:	jamie.stacks@wonderviewschools.org
Contact for Waiver:	Jamie Stacks
Contact Email:	jamie.stacks@wonderviewschools.org
Contact Phone:	501.354.0211
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 Year
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.**

This specific waiver is being requested to allow the Wonderview School District to set the first day of school no earlier than the Wednesday of the week prior to the week that contains the August 19th 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 instructional time for our students prior to inclement weather and the high stakes assessment in the month of April.

Additional advantages of the waiver:

1. The waiver will ensure that our district can meet the minimum days required for the 1st and 2nd quarter to be completed prior to the Christmas Break.
2. This waiver will help ensure that we can complete the school year in May rather than extending in June. This can help our State's tourism industry for Memorial Day and the month of June.
3. This waiver will increase the number of in-person, onsite instructional days prior to the high stakes assessment in April-May.

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

The Wonderview School District will utilize an academic calendar that will exceed the 1,068 hours of required instruction and allow flexibility throughout the school year to ensure that instruction time is front loaded prior to the high stakes assessment in April-May to benefit our students' learning.

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

The Wonderview School District will monitor attendance data and student learning data to measure the effectiveness of the earlier start date.

Wonderview School District
Resolution #2024-03

In Support of a Waiver Request Affecting the Allowable First Day of School
A.C.A 6-10-106

WHEREAS Arkansas law, A.C.A 6-10-106, provides for the school year to begin no earlier than the Monday of the week containing August 19; and

WHEREAS under this law, A.C.A 6-10-106, the start of school varies from year to year, beginning some years as early as August 14, or as late as August 20; and

WHEREAS under this law, A.C.A 6-10-106, the earliest school can begin in 2024 is August 19; and

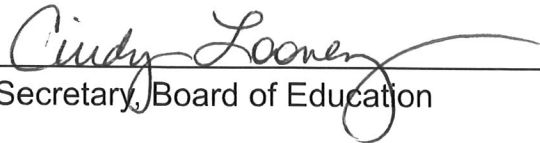
WHEREAS a late start to the school year creates unbalanced semesters, reduces the preparation time for state testing, and limits flexibility in scheduling inclement weather make-up days;

THEREFORE be it resolved that the **Wonderview School District Board of Education** endorses the Superintendent's waiver request affecting the allowable first day of school, and recommends its approval by the Arkansas State Board of Education.

Adopted this 26th day of February, 2024



President, Board of Education



Secretary, Board of Education

24-25 Calendar Survey - WSD Staff

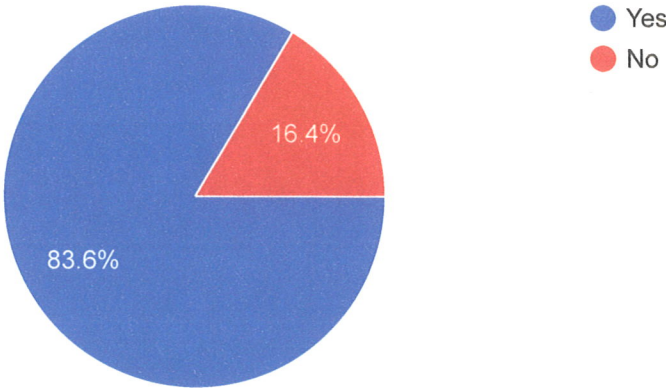
61 responses

[Publish analytics](#)

Do you think WSD should submit a waiver request to consider starting before Monday, Aug. 19? This would allow more testing days before the test and help ensure that we finish the year before Memorial Day.

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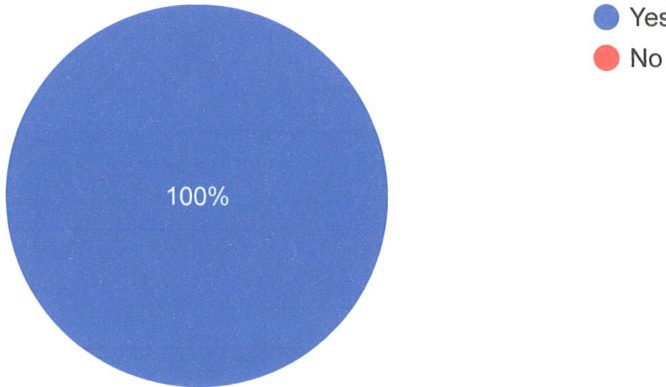
61 responses



Alternative calendar option - First of all, we cannot use AMI days to count to meet minimums of student contact days/hours. Would you like for me to consider an alternative calendar based on minutes like this year's calendar? Students would still attend a few minutes longer each day, but it will be fewer student contact days and we can "bank time" to use for snow days.

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61 responses



24-25 Calendar Survey - Parents/Families

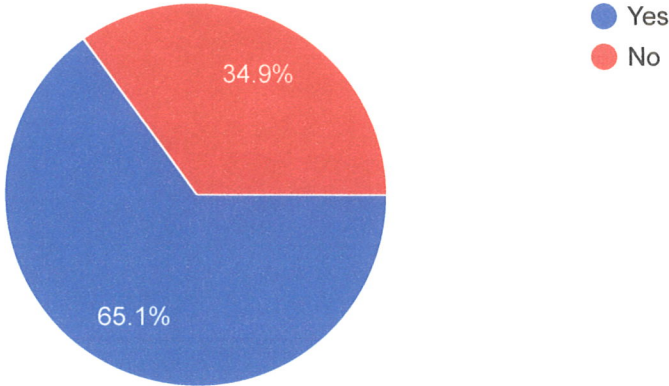
44 responses

[Publish analytics](#)

Do you think WSD should submit a waiver request to start before Monday, Aug. 19? This would allow more instruction days before spring testing and help ensure that we finish the year before Memorial Day.

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43 responses



Alternative calendar option - First of all, we cannot use AMI days to count to meet minimums of student contact days/hours. Would you like for me to consider an alternative calendar based on minutes like this year's calendar? Students would still attend a few minutes longer each day, but it will be fewer student contact days and we can "bank time" to use for snow days.

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44 responses

