



DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY
& SECONDARY EDUCATION

Act 1240 Waiver Extension Request

District:	Trumann School District *Member School of Crowley's Ridge Service Cooperative.
LEA Number:	5605000
Superintendent:	Brandie Williams
Email:	brandie.williams@trumannwildcat.com
Contact for Waiver:	Brandie Williams, Superintendent
Contact Email:	brandie.williams@trumannwildcat.com
Contact Phone:	870 483-6444
Date Received by DESE:	

The following documents must be submitted with the waiver request:

1. School 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 Waiver 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.**

Several member school districts of the Crowley's Ridge Service 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 2023-2024 school year that date will be Monday, August 19.

The specific waiver being requested is to allow **Trumann School District** (the applying school district) to set their first day of class to be no earlier than Monday, August 9.

The law as presently constructed results in a wide swing in the allowable opening date of school. At the earliest, it can be August 14, which was the case this year—fall of 2023. The latest possible first day is August 20 which, under the law will be — fall of 2029. This waiver would next year allow school to open on the same relative date as this year.

The advantages of this waiver are several:

- The fall and spring semesters would be closer to the same length (with a break between the semesters being Christmas Break). Without this waiver, fall semester for Trumann School District (4 day school week) will be 67 days while spring semester will be 76 days, a difference of 9 days. With the waiver the fall semester will be 72 days and the spring semester 71 days, a difference of only 1 day. The more unbalanced that semesters are, the greater is the issue for classes that are one semester in length.
- The alternative solution for unbalanced semesters is to not end fall semester until after Christmas break. This results in final exams shortly after two weeks out of school, and the possibility of exams being repeatedly postponed due to winter weather.
- This waiver will give greater assurance of school ending in late May rather than extending into June. Some research indicates a decrease in learning past the Memorial Day Holiday.

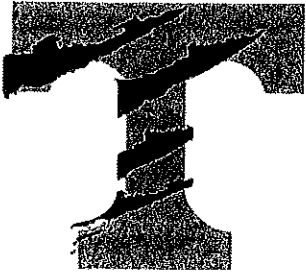
- Beginning school earlier automatically results in more days of instruction prior to spring testing. More days of instruction will result in higher test scores,
- Activities such as football will begin next fall on the same relative date as they did this fall, with or without the waiver, therefore a large number of students will already be on campus to practice and prepare for their activities, regardless of the opening date of school. In addition to students that play football, this would include students that are participants in groups such as volleyball, band, cheer, Student Council and National Honor Society, as well as others.
- The granting of this waiver does not affect any other law, rule or procedure. The school year will remain the same length. It simply allows a district to continue with a school calendar that is structured as closely as possible to the current one, and avoids the dramatic change to the calendar which must result without the waiver.

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

There will not be a loss of services for students under this waiver.

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

The district will monitor student assessment results and student attendance data related to the earlier start of the school year by no more than five days. The movement of the start date should have a positive effect on state assessment scores and student attendance. The advantage is having more student instruction days prior to the state assessment.



Trumann School District

221 N. Pine Avenue, Trumann, AR 72472 Ph: 870-483-6444 Fax: 870-483-2802 www.trumannwildcat.com

Superintendent: Mrs. Brandie Williams Assistant Superintendent: Mr. Cody Wallis

"Educating Students for Success in a Changing World"

Trumann School Board Resolution ACT 1240 Waiver -Early Calendar Start

- Approved at the Regular Meeting of Trumann School Board of Directors on Monday, February 12, 2024 with 4 Members Present.

WHEREAS the Trumann 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, Trumann School District requests via an ACT 1240 Waiver for an Early Calendar Start, one full week before what is currently allowed by law, A.C.A. 6-10-106, (no earlier than August 9) for the next five years;


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Trumann School Board Hereby authorizes The District administration to formally request a waiver for an Early Calendar Start via an ACT 1240 Waiver from A.C.A. 6-10-106;


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.

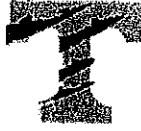
ADOPTED this 12 of February, 2024 by the Trumann School District Board of Directors

School Board President Julienne Penter: 

School Board Secretary E. Anthony Patterson: 

Superintendent Brandie Williams: 

website & app



TRUMANN
SCHOOL DISTRICT

[Important Links](#) » Students/Families

Students/Families

- [Bus Routes](#)
- [Gifted and Talented](#)
- [HAC](#)
- [Printable Calendar for 2023-2024 School Year](#)
- [Printable Calendar for 2024-2025 School Year](#)
- [Ritter Communication ACP Flyer](#)
- [Safety/Crisis Procedures & Preparedness for Families](#)
- [School Choice Information](#)
- [Shop-On Your-Own School Supply List 23-24](#)
- [Shop-Online-Option School Supply List 23-24](#)
- [Science of Reading Information](#)
- [Snow/Ice/Flooding Routes](#)
- * [Stakeholder Feedback](#) *
- [Student Handbook for 2023-2024 School Year](#)
- [Walk Zones](#)
- [Water Safety/Swimming](#)

- [Pre-K New Student Google Form](#)
- [Pre-K Returning Student Google Form](#)
- [TES New Student Google Form](#)
- [TES Returning Student Google Form](#)
- [TMS New Student Google Form](#)
- [TMS Returning Student Google Form](#)
- [THS New Student Google Form](#)
- [THS Returning Student Google Form](#)

Important Links

ARP/COVID

Students/Families

Employees

Vendors-Bids/RFPs

American Rescue Plan

AMI Information

Bus Routes

EES: TESS/LEADS

School Choice Info

School Photos

Snow/Ice/Flooding Routes

Walk Zones

Water Safety/Swimming-ACT
101 of 2023



Calendar



Parent Portal



District Calendar



Directions



Brandie Williams <brandie.williams@trumannwildcat.com>

Quick 1 Question Survey

1 message

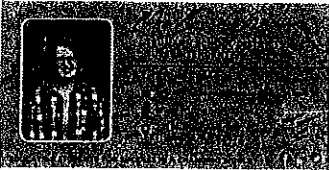
— Email to Staff —

Brandie Williams <brandie.williams@trumannwildcat.com>

Sun, Jan 28, 2024 at 10:17 PM

To: Trumann Elementary School <tes.faculty@trumannwildcat.com>, Trumann Middle School Faculty <tms.faculty@trumannwildcat.com>, High School Faculty <ths.faculty@trumannwildcat.com>, TrumannPreK <prek@trumannwildcat.com>

<https://forms.gle/2An7Cc4Xo52vY2iu7>



G Google for Education
Certified Educator Level 1

G Google for Education
Certified Educator Level 2





Questions

Responses 103

Settings

103 responses

View In Sheets

Accepting responses

Summary

Question

Individual

Currently, AR law requires schools to start school each year on or after the Monday of the week in which August 19 falls, but not before August 14 and not later than August 26.

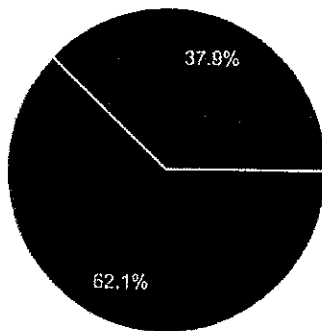


Several schools in our cooperative region are considering formally requesting permission via a state waiver to start school a week earlier.

Are you in favor of Trumann School District requesting permission from the state board of education to start school 1 week earlier than the law currently allows?

Community/Parent Stakeholder input is required before requesting permission via a state waiver.

103 responses



- YES
- NO