



# ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## DISTRICT WAIVER EXTENSION FORM

**District Name:** Kirby School District

**Superintendent:** Pike Palmer

**Email Address:** pike.palmer@kirbytrojans.net

**Phone Number:** (870)398-4212 ext.3                      **Submission Date:** 3/28/2019

### Name of Charter School(s) Attended by District Students

Arkansas Virtual Academy

**Number of Years Requested for Extension:** 5 years

**An extension of ALL waivers previously granted to the district is requested.**                      Yes

Please provide information regarding the usefulness of the waivers. Be sure to include information and available data about the benefits of the waiver for students, staff, the district, the community, and/or the state. When discussing waivers of licensure requirements, provide specific data such as numbers of positions filled, numbers in licensure pathway programs, and numbers of students impacted. Discuss difficulties with implementing the waivers, if any, and how they were overcome so that other districts may benefit from lessons learned.

1-A.6: (Class Size and Teaching Load for 4th-6th Grade - To allow up to 30 students in classes for grades 4-6)  
6-17-812, Class Size and Teaching Load  
ADE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load

We applied for and received waiver in October 2016. The waiver ends June 2019.

We have used the waiver once in the three years that the waiver was granted for.

The waiver was used during the school year 2016-2017 when we had 29 students in Kirby Elementary School 6th grade. The waiver did not have a negative effect upon the student growth and achievement for the 2016-2017 6th grade students. In fact, all of the scores exceeded the state average for ready or exceeding. The sixth grade math scores were near the top of all elementary schools in the state with an 89.7% ready/exceeding score. Dawson Coop sent their math specialist numerous times to Kirby Elementary School to visit with our 6th grade teacher and evaluate her lessons and classes during the 2017-2018 school year. English Language Arts scores for the 6th grade scores were 86% ready/exceeding in English, 55.1% in Reading, and 72.4% in Writing. Science scores were 57.14%.

Even though the waiver has only been utilized once in three years, Kirby School District is highly mobile and it is a strong possibility that the waiver may be needed in future years for 4th-6th grade. Due to Kirby School District falling under 350 students, we are required by ADE Fiscal Services and Support to submit debt requests for any debt incurred. We did not feel it was feasible financially to hire additional classroom teachers to reduce the class size because of a few students over the standards of assurance requirements since we had four (4) licensed/ trained paraprofessionals hired and already in place in maximum classrooms. This has been a great asset for us to use in case of exceeding maximum number of students to teacher ratio in grades fourth through sixth grade.

Educator Licensure: (For the purpose of allowing a trained paraprofessional to teach physical education and with the understanding that the district will comply with the Arkansas Department of Education Rules the Arkansas

Qualified Teacher Requirements)

Waiver Topic: Teacher Licensure

6-15-1004 (Qualified teachers in every public school classroom)

6-17-309 (Certification to teach grade or subject matter-Exceptions-Waivers)

6-17-401 (Teacher licensure requirement)

6-17-902 (Definition of a teacher as licensed)

6-17-919 (Warrants void without valid certification and contract)

Standards: 4-D.1

We applied for and received waiver in October 2016. The waiver ends June 2019.

We have used this waiver for all three years that the waiver was granted for (2016-2019).

Allowing a trained para-professional to teach physical education and with the understanding that the district will comply with the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Arkansas Qualified Teacher Requirements has been great for Kirby School District.

Currently, our high school boys basketball/teacher coach serves as 7-12 boys basketball, drivers education teacher, health teacher, and K-12 physical education teacher. There is currently a trained elementary para-professional working under his guidance and alongside him to fulfill the state mandated physical education requirements of 40 minutes per week for all elementary students. The para-professional has taken courses through Arkansas IDEAS related to disciplinary literacy in physical education, school health services-aligning teacher instruction and student assessment, student engagement, and we are very comfortable and satisfied that the para-professional is completing the job and tasks as a Elementary Physical Education instructor. The paraprofessional will become familiar with new physical education standards K-8 and implement them into daily schedule.

This has allowed us to offer various classes for credit at the high school by freeing up elementary physical education teaching load for the high school coach. Also by being a small school district with limited financial resources, this has allowed us to allocate money that would be spent on additional staff to fulfill standards of accreditation towards student needs.

The teacher licensure waiver has allowed us to offer more sections of high school credit in the area of physical education, health, and driver's education.

This waiver was a smooth transition for us because we had the personnel(paraprofessional) already in place and helping in the Elementary School. The student numbers impacted by paraprofessional teaching physical education class within elementary school is roughly 190.

When the form is complete, email it with the waiver lists for the charter school(s) that serve district students to Kelly McLaughlin at [kelly.mclaughlin@arkansas.gov](mailto:kelly.mclaughlin@arkansas.gov). Waiver lists can be accessed from the Arkansas Department of Education website at <http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/learning-services/charter-schools/open-enrollment-charter-school-waivers>.

Questions should be directed to Kelly McLaughlin by email at [kelly.mclaughlin@arkansas.gov](mailto:kelly.mclaughlin@arkansas.gov) or by phone at (501) 682-2130.



Kirby School District - 5503000

Kirby Elementary School - 5503010

**SECTION: Achievement**

2016-2017								
	% Tested	In Need of Support	Close	Ready	Exceeding	Ready or Exceeding	District Avg Ready or Exceeding	Slate Avg Ready or Exceeding
<b>6th Grade Literacy</b>								
All Students Percentage of Students	100.00	10.71	17.86	21.43	50.00	71.43	71.43	62.77
All Students Number of Students		N<10	N<10	N<10	14	20		
TAGG	100.00	12.50	16.87	20.83	50.00	70.83	70.83	52.45
African American	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	0.00	41.46
Hispanic	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	60.00	58.96
Caucasian	100.00	9.52	14.29	19.05	57.14	76.19	76.19	69.86
Economically Disadvantaged	100.00	12.50	16.87	20.83	50.00	70.83	70.83	53.62
Students with Disabilities	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	0.00	16.68
Limited English Proficient	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	66.67	45.14
Number of recently arrived LEP students not assessed in 6th Grade Literacy						---		
Female	100.00	6.25	8.25	25.00	62.50	87.50	87.50	70.01
Male	100.00	16.67	33.33	16.67	33.33	50.00	50.00	55.95
Migrant	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
<b>6th Grade Mathematics</b>								
All Students Percentage of Students	100.00	3.57	7.14	50.00	39.29	89.29	89.29	62.91
All Students Number of Students		N<10	N<10	14	11	25		
TAGG	100.00	4.17	8.33	50.00	37.50	87.50	87.50	53.29
African American	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	0.00	38.72
Hispanic	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	100.00	60.48
Caucasian	100.00	0.00	9.52	38.10	52.38	90.48	90.48	70.63
Economically Disadvantaged	100.00	4.17	8.33	50.00	37.50	87.50	87.50	54.23
Students with Disabilities	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	0.00	23.28
Limited English Proficient	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	100.00	50.85
Female	100.00	0.00	12.50	50.00	37.50	87.50	87.50	66.17
Male	100.00	8.33	0.00	50.00	41.67	91.67	91.67	59.83
Migrant	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Kirby School District - 5503000

Kirby Elementary School - 5503010

**SECTION: Achievement**

2016-2017								
	% Tested	In Need of Support	Close	Ready	Exceeding	Ready or Exceeding	District Avg Ready or Exceeding	State Avg Ready or Exceeding
<b>5th Grade Science</b>								
All Students Percentage of Students	100.00	33.33	20.00	23.33	23.33	46.67	46.67	42.81
All Students Number of Students		10	N<10	N<10	N<10	14		
TAGG	100.00	33.33	23.81	19.05	23.81	42.86	42.86	32.67
African American	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Hispanic	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	25.00	37.20
Caucasian	100.00	36.00	16.00	24.00	24.00	48.00	48.00	51.34
Economically Disadvantaged	100.00	33.33	23.81	19.05	23.81	42.86	42.86	32.85
Students with Disabilities	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	66.67	16.60
Limited English Proficient	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	50.00	27.08
Female	100.00	42.86	14.29	7.14	35.71	42.86	42.86	42.85
Male	100.00	25.00	25.00	37.50	12.50	50.00	50.00	42.76
Migrant	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
<b>6th Grade Science</b>								
All Students Percentage of Students	100.00	28.57	14.29	32.14	25.00	57.14	57.14	50.06
All Students Number of Students		N<10	N<10	N<10	N<10	16		
TAGG	100.00	29.17	12.50	37.50	20.83	58.33	58.33	38.53
African American	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	0.00	21.99
Hispanic	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	40.00	42.66
Caucasian	100.00	28.57	9.52	33.33	28.57	61.90	61.90	60.08
Economically Disadvantaged	100.00	29.17	12.50	37.50	20.83	58.33	58.33	39.15
Students with Disabilities	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	0.00	10.38
Limited English Proficient	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	33.33	27.85
Female	100.00	18.75	12.50	43.75	25.00	68.75	68.75	51.22
Male	100.00	41.67	16.67	16.67	25.00	41.67	41.67	48.96
Migrant	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---