



## Act 1240 District Waiver Request

<b>District:</b>	<b>Bauxite Schools</b>
<b>LEA Number:</b>	6301000
<b>Superintendent:</b>	Matt Donaghy
<b>Email:</b>	donaghym@bauxiteminers.org
<b>Contact for Waiver:</b>	Leann Pinkerton
<b>Contact Email:</b>	pinkertonl@bauxiteminers.org
<b>Contact Phone:</b>	501-557-5453
<b>Date Received by DESE:</b>	

**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

**Waivers Requested:**

- € Standard 1-A.5;
- € DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load
- € Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-812

**Internal supports provided to the intern (check all that apply)**

- ✓ Education service cooperative novice mentoring
- ✓ Classroom management/behavior
- ✓ Common planning time
- Additional Planning Time
- ✓ Frequent check-ins with university internship supervisor
- Other: Buddy Teacher, Frequent Check-Ins with Building Administrator

## Waiver Request

<b>Topic:</b>	Class Size and Teaching Load
<b>Standards/Statutes/Rules:</b>	Standard 1-A.5; DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load; Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-812
<b>Duration Requested:</b>	September 2021 - December 2021
<b>Name of Open-Enrollment Charter Holding the Waiver</b>	Arkansas Virtual Academy
<b>Schools, Grades or Classes the Waiver Will Apply To</b>	18 Students in Ms. Keeland's K class

- 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 district experienced a high number of late enrollments for Kindergarten. Our class sizes in Kindergarten were between 21-22 per teacher, which is a standards violation. Our district posted a position to find a Kindergarten teacher, but we did not have any certified applicants. We did have Ms. Brooke Keeland reach out to inquire about the position, and we encouraged her to apply. She is in her student internship semester at UCA. Ms. Keeland interviewed, and we were impressed with her maturity for a college senior. We are willing to hire Ms. Keeland. The district will appoint Mrs. Heather Frost as Ms. Keeland's mentor and teacher of record for her students while Ms. Keeland does her internship at Bauxite Schools this semester. We are working with Dr. Michael Mills at UCA to ensure Ms. Keeland gets the support she needs. A letter from Mrs. Frost is included. She is willing to take on this responsibility because it reduces class sizes for all Kindergarten classes. In this pandemic, we need to be able to socially distance our students, and high class sizes does not allow us to do that. Ms. Keeland plans to have a standard educator license in January 2022.

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

The district is not waiving any student service. The lead teacher will be the teacher of record for two courses. One of the courses will be taught by Ms. Brooke Keeland, a student that is enrolled in a teaching program at UCA. The lead teacher, Mrs. Heather Frost, will be assisting the teacher in training. The waiver is necessary since the lead teacher will be the teacher of record for multiple courses, even if the lead teacher is not teaching that class every day.

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

The kindergarten teachers plan and meet together daily, as well as work in PLC's with the principal. Mrs. Frost will serve as her district mentor. The building principal, Mrs. Becky Reynolds, will also meet with Ms. Keeland to support her as needed. Ms. Keeland will also work with Ms. Tina Hobbs at the Dawson Cooperative in the Novice Teacher Mentoring Program. Throughout this process, the district will immediately be aware of any concerns in this classroom.

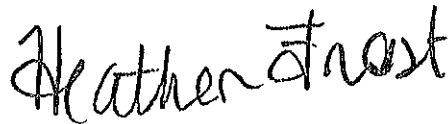
September 8, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

The district's Director of Curriculum, Mrs. Leann Pinkerton, and I discussed the district seeking an ACT 1240 Waiver in order to allow me to be the teacher of record for my Kindergarten class and another Kindergarten class. The district is seeking to hire Ms. Brooke Keeland as a Kindergarten teacher. I have agreed to be her mentor as well as the teacher of record for her students this semester. Ms. Keeland is in her internship semester at UCA, and she should graduate in December 2021. If she passes all PRAXIS assessments, she should be able to have a standard license in January 2022. I want to be better able to socially distance students with smaller class sizes; therefore, I support this plan, and I am willing to mentor Ms. Keeland as well as serve as the teacher of record while she finishes her internship through UCA.

Thank you,

Heather Frost  
Kindergarten Teacher  
Bauxite Schools

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heather Frost". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "H".



# BAUXITE SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Matt Donaghy**  
Superintendent  
Office: 501-557-5453  
Fax: 501-557-2235

800 School St. Bauxite, AR 72011

September 23, 2021

Dear ADE Staff & ADE State Board  
Members

I am respectfully submitting a request and support letter for a waiver request per ACT 1240 on behalf of Bauxite School District. The waiver request topic is A.C.A 6 17.812 pertaining to Class Size & Teaching Load. The rationale for this waiver requested is outlined on the district's Waiver Request Form and has been endorsed by our district's Board of Directors as noted by the attached Board Resolution. I believe this waiver will provide educational benefits for our students. Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Matt Donaghy

**Resolution**

In Support of ACT 1240 Waiver Request Affecting the Class Size & Teaching Load:  
DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load Standard 1-A.5 and Ark. Code Ann. §  
6-17-812

WHEREAS A.C.A 3.01.1 For Kindergarten (K), there shall be no more than twenty (20) students  
per teacher in any classroom. However, the kindergarten class maximum may be no more than  
twenty-two (22) with a one half-time instructional aide being employed for those classes.

WHEREAS a teacher shall not exceed the maximum class size permitted under the Standards  
for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts.

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Bauxite School District Board of Education endorses the  
Superintendent's waiver request increasing the class teaching size in one Pine Haven  
Elementary kindergarten classroom.

Adopted this 22nd day of September 2021.



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President, Board of Education



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Secretary, Board of Education