



DISTRICT WAIVER REQUEST FORM

District Name: Forrest City School District

Superintendent: Dr. Tiffany Hardrick

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District LEA: 6201 **Submission Date:** 02/13/2019

Phone Number: 870-633-1485

Name of Charter School(s) Attended by District Students

Arkansas Connections Academy

Waiver Topic: Class Size and Teaching Load

Statute/Standard/Rule to be Waived

Standards for Accreditation

- 1-A.6 ADE Rules Governing Standards for Accreditation

ADE Rules

- ADE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load

Rationale for Waiver

The Forrest City School District is one of three schools to participate in the ADE Opportunity Culture (OC) pilot effective 2019-2020 school year. Under the OC model our district will have the opportunity to design three new roles-Multi Classroom Leader, Direct Reach Teacher, and Reach Associate. These roles are designed "to extend the reach of excellent teachers and their teams to more students, for more pay, within schools' recurring budgets".-OC Press Release

The direct-reach teacher plans and delivers in-person instruction for a larger student load. The direct-reach teacher may teach multiple classes in a school where students rotate between face-to-face learning with the teacher and learning supervised by a paraprofessional known as a reach associate.

As an example, The direct-reach teacher plans and delivers in-person instruction for a larger student load. The direct-reach teacher may teach multiple classes in a school where students rotate between face-to-face learning with the teacher and learning supervised by a paraprofessional known as a reach associate.

Teachers will be carefully identified through a rigorous application process co-designed by the FCSD design team and Public Impact.

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. Waiver lists can be accessed from the Arkansas Department of Education: My School Info webpage at <https://myschoolinfo.arkansas.gov/>. Instructions for accessing waiver reports can be found at www.arkansased.gov/public/userfiles/Learning_Services/Charter_Schools/Accessing_Waivers_on_My_School_Info.pdf.

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

OPTIONAL CONSIDERATIONS TO ADDRESS

The State Board of Education requests, but cannot require, written responses to the following considerations as part of the petition for district waivers. All written responses should be emailed to the Arkansas Department of Education with the waiver request and list(s) of open-enrollment charter waivers.

Discuss the ways in which the proposed waivers will impact the district.

- Ways in which the waivers would support or complement the district's **vision, mission, and/or strategic plan**
- District **policies**, if any, that would have to be developed or revised to implement the waiver
- The **fiscal impact** of the waivers, if any
 - Additional costs associated and sources of funding
 - Planned uses for savings
- Effects of the waivers, if any, on current academic, fiscal, or facilities **distress status**
 - Ways the waivers will help alleviate distress issues
 - Potential for implementation of the waivers to cause distress issues
- Effects of the waivers, if any, on compliance with the **Standards for Accreditation**
 - Ways the waivers will help alleviate accreditation issues
 - Potential for implementation of the waivers to cause accreditation issues

Discuss the planning that has taken place to ensure successful implementation of the waivers.

- **Options considered** by the district to request the waivers
 - School of innovation
 - District conversion charter
 - Reasons district waivers are being requested rather than seeking a school of innovation or a charter
- **Student gains** for students if these waivers are granted
 - Academic gains
 - Other benefits
- **Implementation** of the waivers
 - **Charter** school(s) use of the waivers
 - ◆ Application of the waivers
 - ◆ Evaluation of ongoing need for the waivers
 - **District** use of the waivers
 - ◆ **Specific plans** to implement the waivers
 - Certain schools, grade levels, and/or programs to be affected
 - Description of the changes to take place
 - Length of time for which the waivers are requested
- **Evaluation** of the usefulness of the waivers
 - **Method(s)** to be used to determine benefits of and/or problems with using the waivers
 - **Timeframe** for assessing the use of the waivers
 - **Outcome(s)** that will demonstrate successful use of the waivers
 - **Plan of action** if use of waivers is not achieving the desired results

Discuss the transparency of the process and methods used for garnering support for the waivers.

- Efforts, including **methods, times, dates, places**, for notifying and including all stakeholders
 - Students
 - Teachers and other staff
 - Parents
 - Community members
 - School board (board resolution)
- **Feedback** received from stakeholders and how it was and will be used in district planning