



ADE USE ONLY: Submission Date: <hr/>

Charter Amendment Request Form

The Charter Amendment Request Form and all required documentation must be received via email (ade.charterschools@arkansas.gov) at the Arkansas Department of Education at least 35 days prior to the Charter Authorizing Panel meeting.

Charter Name: Cross County High School, A New Tech School

LEA Number: 1901703

Superintendent or Director: Nathan Morris

Email: nathan.morris@crosscountyschools.com

Phone: 870-588-3337

**All open-enrollment amendment requests must include evidence that the request was contemporaneously sent by the applicant to the superintendent of the school district where the charter is located.*

Type of Amendment(s) Requested

- Add a New Campus** (Must also submit the map of current location, map of proposed location, Facilities Utilization Agreement and desegregation analysis)

Address: _____

School District: _____

- Relocate Existing Campus** (Must also submit the map of current location, map of proposed location, Facilities Utilization Agreement and desegregation analysis)

Campus Name: _____

Current Address: _____

Proposed Address: _____

School District: _____

Increase Enrollment Cap

Current Cap: _____

Proposed Cap: _____

Change Grade Levels Served

Current Grade Levels Served: _____

Proposed Grade Levels Served: _____

Name Change

New Name of Charter: _____

Add a Digital Learning Program

Schools	Grades/Courses	Interaction	Delivery	Platforms
Cross County High School, A New Tech School	7-12	<input type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Synchronous <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous & Synchronous	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Virtual (online) <input type="checkbox"/> Blended (hybrid)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LMS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CMS
		<input type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Synchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous & Synchronous	<input type="checkbox"/> Virtual (online) <input type="checkbox"/> Blended (hybrid)	<input type="checkbox"/> LMS <input type="checkbox"/> CMS
		<input type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Synchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous & Synchronous	<input type="checkbox"/> Virtual (online) <input type="checkbox"/> Blended (hybrid)	<input type="checkbox"/> LMS <input type="checkbox"/> CMS

Waiver Topic	Standard for Accreditation	Division Rules	Arkansas Statutes	Indicate if the school is applying for the waiver and explain how the waiver will be utilized.
Attendance			6-18-213(a)(2)	7-12 Virtual Arkansas All instruction will be synchronous, and students will be required to meet daily. However, CCSD may determine that the needs of a student with extenuating circumstances would be better met with asynchronous instruction. In these cases, attendance will be taken through the evidence of completed assignments. Monitoring of synchronous and asynchronous interaction will occur on a daily basis, but a waiver is needed for the manner in which attendance is calculated.
Class Size	1-A.5	DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load	6-17-812 (a)(2)	We are not requesting additional waivers for the teaching load. The Virtual Teacher provides virtual instruction to only students who are remote. Please note that 100% virtual (online) or remote (distance) classes are considered large group instruction courses as per DESE Rules for Distance and Digital Learning , and teaching load would not apply as per DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load
Teaching Load Teacher of Record provides virtual instruction to only students who are remote. Please note that 100% virtual (online) or remote (distance) classes are considered large group instruction courses as per DESE Rules for Distance and Digital Learning and teaching load would not apply as per DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load .	1-A.5	DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load	6-17-812	We are not requesting additional waivers for the teaching load. Virtual Teachers provide virtual instruction to only students who are remote. Please note that 100% virtual (online) or remote (distance) classes are considered large group instruction courses as per DESE Rules for Distance and Digital Learning , and teaching load would not apply as per DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load .

<p>Six Hour Instructional Day Waiver applies to virtual/remote students only</p>	<p>1-A.4.2</p>		<p>6-16-102; 6-10-126</p>	<p>We are requesting the six hour instructional day waiver. Research shows students in grades 7-12 benefit from a shortened instructional day when learning virtually. The daily schedules for students will include 6 hours of learning; however, it may not take students the entire allotted time to successfully engage with the learning.</p>
<p>Clock Hours</p>	<p>1-A.2</p>			<p>We are requesting the clock hour waiver. 100% virtual students are working to master standards which takes a broad range of time. With Virtual Arkansas' asynchronous and synchronous approach, student learning may not equal a total of 120 clock hours.</p>
<p>Recess Waiver applies to virtual/remote students only</p>	<p>1-A.4.3</p>	<p>DESE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards and Body Mass Index, Section 7.11</p>	<p>6-16-102(a)(5)</p>	<p>N/A for grades 7-12. Virtual Arkansas does provide PE and Health as an offering for 7-12 grade students.</p>

Digital Model

Please complete the following application with complete responses describing the school digital programming.

Interaction / Delivery

<p>What are the ways teachers and students will interact with digital content? (Synchronous or Asynchronous) Please describe instructional expectations and participation for students.</p>	<p>Virtual Arkansas is a “high touch” virtual learning experience that harnesses the benefit of synchronous or “live” instruction married with aligned asynchronous courses. This allows for students and instructors to develop relationships, address needed “just-in-time” instruction, and flexibility with learning. Students are provided the opportunity to attend two Zoom sessions per week, per content area, and request additional one:one Zoom sessions as needed. While Zoom sessions are not required, they are highly encouraged as empirical data has shown students who attend Zoom are shown to be more successful than students who do not attend Zoom. Students utilizing virtual learning with Cross County High School are highly encouraged to attend the Zoom sessions. Students/teachers are also able to communicate 24/7 via the CANVAS LMS messaging or the SIS email system that is monitored by Virtual Arkansas. Teachers are expected to reply to students within 24 hours of a student communication during the school week. Students are expected to read and interact with messages in their courses on a daily basis during the school week.</p>
<p>What delivery approach will the school utilize to meet the needs of both teachers and students? (i.e., virtual (online) / remote (distance) or blended (hybrid)? Please explain.</p>	<p>Cross County High School, A New Tech School will utilize online virtual remote learning through Virtual Arkansas. Virtual Arkansas utilizes a synchronous and asynchronous approach or true blended model to online learning. Students will engage in their digital coursework through the CANVAS Learning Management System (LMS). Students will have opportunities to engage in synchronous learning through live scheduled Zoom meetings with their teacher. All learning will take place online.</p>
<p>Will teachers be dedicated to primarily remote instruction or serving in a dual role, teaching both remote and in-person learners. *If teachers will serve in a dual role, describe whether it will be simultaneously, meaning remote and in-person at the same time with course/schedule specific considerations.</p>	<p>Cross County High School will be using Virtual Arkansas for its delivery of instruction for our 100% virtual students. Virtual Arkansas provides a fully certified Arkansas teacher of record while we provide the facilitator. The school will assign a classified staff member to serve as the liaison between the provider and school. Virtual Arkansas provides training and support for facilitators via the Facilitator Coordinator. This model is a true blended model with synchronous targeted instruction partnered with asynchronous course content and activities.</p>
<p>Describe the expectation for teacher instruction, interaction, and frequency with digital learning students.</p>	<p>For students utilizing Virtual Arkansas courses, teachers actively monitor their courses, provide synchronous sessions and maintain regular communication via the LMS and SIS messaging systems. Each week teachers send a grade report to the student and parent/guardian, and initiate further contact with students demonstrating difficulties with course content. Students are highly encouraged but not required to attend all Zoom sessions. Teachers are continuously provided PD and support for providing engaging and relevant synchronous instruction.</p>

<p>If utilizing waivers for class size, what supports will the school put in place to support the teacher and students? How will the charter monitor and determine if the supports are adequate for teachers who exceed class size in digital learning settings.</p>	<p>We are not requesting additional waivers for class size. The Virtual Teacher provides virtual instruction to only students who are remote. Please note that 100% virtual (online) or remote (distance) classes are considered large group instruction courses as per DESE Rules for Distance and Digital Learning, and teaching load would not apply as per DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load. Virtual Arkansas partners with schools to ensure student success. In cases where districts are using Virtual Arkansas, teacher training and support is solely the responsibility of Virtual Arkansas. Partnership with the schools regarding providing a facilitator and communication back and forth pertaining to students is an ongoing part of the support expected in this model (synchronous/asynchronous) of instruction.</p>
<p>If utilizing waivers for teaching load, what supports will the school put in place to support the teacher and students? How will the school monitor and determine if the supports are adequate for teachers who exceed teaching loads in digital learning settings.</p>	<p>We are not requesting additional waivers for teacher load. The Virtual Teacher provides virtual instruction to only students who are remote. Please note that 100% virtual (online) or remote (distance) classes are considered large group instruction courses as per DESE Rules for Distance and Digital Learning, and teaching load would not apply as per DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load. Virtual Arkansas partners with schools to ensure student success. In cases where districts are using Virtual Arkansas, teacher training and support is solely the responsibility of Virtual Arkansas. Partnership with the schools regarding providing a facilitator and communication back and forth pertaining to students is an ongoing part of the support expected in this model (synchronous/asynchronous) of instruction.</p>
<p>Technology / Platforms</p>	
<p>Identify the learning management system/content management system that will the school will use? (Canvas, Buzz, Google Classroom, etc.)</p>	<p>The Canvas Learning Management System (LMS) will be utilized through Virtual Arkansas. This LMS is supplemented with the Student Information System (SIS) Genius. Genius is a registration, progress monitoring, and reporting tool which provides a daily snapshot of each student's progress, attendance, and engagement level.</p>

Describe the digital content that will be available to students, including any digital curriculum and supports that are available to teachers. If the school is using a content management system (CMS), please specify grades levels and subjects that the CMS will address.

Virtual Arkansas provides access to 139 courses in grades 7-12 which are designed and written by subject matter experts (SME's) and who are Arkansas Certified teachers. Virtual Arkansas courses and content are designed and developed using the Arkansas State Standards, Quality Matters standards, and the National Standards of Quality of Online Courses as their foundation. This process includes an internal review of the courses by Quality Matters certified online course reviewers. Courses are designed to be fully ready for student interaction and teachers have all the content needed to effectively provide support and instruction to students.

The digital content will be available to students within a platform that provides creation, publication, and student progress tracking capabilities. Students will have access to age-appropriate, engaging lessons, and tools that support learning, including text to speech, audio and translation, text and picture dictionaries, and more. Digital content combines direct-instruction videos featuring expert, virtual teachers with rigorous assignments, performance tasks, and assessments to engage students and ensure subject-area mastery. The digital content features self-paced learning, which allows students to spend more time on what they need and less on the content they've already mastered. If a student needs additional support to master a learning goal, the digital instruction is designed to provide point-in-time resources and support.

The digital content gives Virtual Teachers the resources they need to close learning gaps, plan lessons, execute goals, measure success, and intervene to help students grow. Virtual teachers receive initial and ongoing training on the digital content which includes, navigating the digital content, customizing courses and assessments, troubleshooting, adding activities, planning instruction, and designing interventions. Virtual facilitators receive initial and ongoing training to support the students assigned to them. Virtual teachers and virtual facilitators will have ongoing support from the Virtual Arkansas Facilitator Coordinator, Virtual Arkansas Specialists and Administration, Arch Ford Education Service Cooperative, Southeast Education Service Cooperative, and Dawson Education Service Cooperative Content Specialists, and Virtual Campus Coordinator.

<p>What video communication software is required for any digital learning student? Please describe the video communication software the teacher will use to facilitate live conferences between two or more participants.</p>	<p>Students will be utilizing Zoom video conferencing software to participate in synchronous learning sessions with their teacher. The Zoom software is downloaded to the district provided device. The Virtual Arkansas teacher will utilize Zoom to facilitate synchronous sessions with students during scheduled Zoom sessions during the week. ZOOM provides a suite of teaching and learning features which include recording, polling, break-out rooms, whiteboard with collaborative and annotation tools, chat, translations, screen sharing, hand raising, reaction emoticons, and remote control option. The remote control option is where the Virtual Teacher is given permission to take control of the user's computer screen to provide navigation and technical support. The Zoom link and Zoom schedule is placed in a common location within each course and communicated with students and virtual facilitators.</p>
<p>Describe the technology access (device and connectivity) that will be provided to each digital learning student to ensure each student receives a free public education.</p>	<p>Each 100% virtual student will be assigned a district device. Students who do not have reliable internet service will be provided with a district-issued hotspot.</p>
<p>Student Supports</p>	
<p>Describe the manner and frequency the school will use to monitor the wellness and safety (food security, physical, mental health, etc.) of students in a digital learning setting. (This may be in-person, video communication, etc.). Identify supports available within the school to assist students.</p>	<p>Virtual Arkansas teachers are trained to employ actions and behaviors to ensure the physical and mental health of students. Virtual Arkansas uses a variety of methods of communication to do this and partners with schools to ensure students are cared for. When a situation arises where intervention is determined to be needed beyond what can be done virtually, Virtual Arkansas will contact the partnering school including the facilitator and counselor to step in to provide intervention. Virtual Arkansas teachers are trained to report any suspected maltreatment/abuse to the Department of Health Services. Additionally, Virtual Arkansas provides ongoing professional development to their teachers to support SEL strategies.</p> <p>Cross County School District will provide students participating in virtual learning through Virtual Arkansas a breakfast and lunch. All virtual students will have access to Cross County's School-Based Health Center as needed to provide physical and mental health care. The school district will also ensure students are provided speech, OT, and PT services as determined necessary. If contacted by Virtual Arkansas personnel regarding an issue where intervention is needed beyond what can be done virtually, Cross County High School personnel will contact the family in whatever way is needed (phone, in-person meeting, home visit, etc.) to determine student support and services needed.</p>

<p>Describe the manner and frequency the school will use to monitor the academic and student engagement in a digital learning setting. Describe the additional supports available for students struggling with engagement.</p>	<p>Cross County High School has access to the Virtual Arkansas Genius SIS and the CANVAS LMS to monitor students in real time. Virtual Arkansas teachers will initiate intervention when a teacher determines a student isn't actively engaging or successfully mastering the content. In cases where needed, Virtual Arkansas will involve the partnering school through the facilitator, first. Virtual Arkansas will contact the administrator or request the administrator to be contacted if the initial intervention is not successful. Additionally, the school's point of contact will monitor the student's engagement, attendance, and make the necessary parent contacts. The point of contact (liason) will report to the principal or designee on the progress of students.</p>
<p>Describe the Academic Response to Intervention plan for digital learning students, including additional supports and personnel.</p>	<p>Virtual Arkansas teachers have been trained in the RTI process to identify and intervene with immediacy when a student is determined to not be successful. They are trained to deliver Tier I and II interventions and, if those are not successful, reach out to the partnering school regarding additional Tier II or Tier III interventions. Virtual Arkansas also has a PLC structure designed to address intervention with targeted intervention meetings that occur in the 4th and 7th weeks of the 9 weeks.</p> <p>Cross County High School will provide the support with the appropriate expert and deliver in the brick and mortar location or virtually, based on need which may include, but not limited to, after school tutoring for virtual learners.</p>

<p>Describe the school's formative assessment plan to support student learning.</p>	<p>Virtual Arkansas courses have periodic formative assessments, checks for understanding, and pre-tests to determine students' mastery of learning throughout the modules of a course that are aligned to the summative module assessments. There are varied methods of assessment utilized both through the asynchronous course with open ended discussions/assessments, choice response activities, multiple choice, and hybrid assessments(open ended and multiple choice). Teachers also use weekly live Zoom to do informal formative checks to ensure clarity for students on asynchronous learning tasks. These strategies of formative assessment, both formal and informal, are utilized in order to guide the RTI process and methods of intervention.</p> <p>Additionally, Cross County High School will require students to take assessments either virtually and onsite which may include Interim Assessments, iReady, etc.</p>
<p>Describe how dyslexia screening and services will be provided to digital learning students.</p>	<p>Virtual Arkansas provides accessibility tools to support students with dyslexia including ReadSpeaker that will read any text in the course to students. Virtual Arkansas will provide the needed accommodations/modifications per the individual 504 plan uploaded into the SIS by partnering school.</p> <p>Cross County High School will ensure all requirements of the dyslexia law are met for on-site and virtual learners and will adhere to the protocols of dyslexia screeners and therapy programs regarding the use of a virtual format. Virtual students may be required to log into a Zoom session for services or even meet onsite.</p>
<p>Describe how Gifted and Talented supports and services will be provided to digital learning students.</p>	<p>Cross County School District has been granted a waiver for Gifted and Talented.</p>
<p>Describe how English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL /ESL) supports and services will be provided to digital learning students.</p>	<p>Cross County School District will ensure all requirements of the District English Learner Plan will be met for on-site and virtual learners.</p>

Describe how all Special Education services and supports will be provided to digital learning students, including the process for special education evaluations and conferences.

Virtual Arkansas teachers will provide information for evaluations and conferences when requested. Cross County High School will upload the modification/accommodation sheet to the Student Information System (SIS) within the first 10 days of school or enrollment if enrollment occurs after school begins. Virtual Arkansas courses are designed in such a way that all applicable accommodations/modifications can be met in the course in conjunction with services provided by the partnering school.

Special Education programs delivered in a virtual learning environment will follow all IDEA/Arkansas Rules and Regulations for Special Education. Information discussed during meetings will be documented and placed in the student's file. All modifications/accommodations will be provided according to students IEP. During virtual learning, students who have been identified as needing special education services will be served through Zoom, or other communication platforms. Based on progress monitoring data, students needing Special Education services may be required to meet face-to-face with district special education certified staff.

Virtual Teachers use curriculum and instructional strategies that include the following evidence-based practices, including Universal Design for Learning, which is designed to meet the needs of students with disabilities:

1. Provide explicit instruction, 2. Model learning strategies, 3. Make instruction accessible, 4. Provide tools to support learning, provide appropriate feedback, and capitalize on technology. The digital curriculum and learning management system provide accommodations for Special Education students and families. These accommodations include addressing multiple learning preferences, accommodations for assessments, video captions/transcripts, color and contrast considerations, read-aloud and translation tools, multiple means of representation of key concepts (verbal, concrete manipulative, numerical, graphical, and symbolic.) For Special Education students with language challenges, Virtual Teachers can enable Canvas' embedded ReadSpeaker tool, a robust language-support, feature. This tool allows students to hear on-screen text read aloud. Students and families will be supported in using the tools during asynchronous learning through the initial course orientation and the Virtual Teacher will facilitate the usage of the tools, as needed, during synchronous learning.

Describe common and frequently used digital accommodations that the district or school has provided to general education teachers to assist students in digital learning classes.

All Virtual Teachers receive training on and have access to digital software/ resources to ensure courses are adaptable to include interactive video tutorials, narrated text, concept maps, digital slide presentations, and usage of images. Interventions may be provided using online tools and assistive technology. Online tools and assistive technology will be available to Virtual general education teachers. Tools will include an interactive whiteboard, annotation tools, mirror image setting, text-to-speech translators, and speech-to-text transcribers.

Virtual Arkansas courses meet the guidelines of IDEA and Section 508. All courses are evaluated for accessibility using Web Content Accessibility Guidelines. Additionally, Virtual Arkansas utilizes embedded tools including ReadSpeaker to provide for students who need content read aloud. Virtual Arkansas also follows the Universal Design for Learning Principles to eliminate both visible and invisible barriers to learning.

Additionally, Cross County High School teachers have utilized tools such as text to speech, annotation, video recordings, etc.

Teacher Supports

Describe school supports to provide on-going digital content and instructional supports for teachers.

Cross County High School will be utilizing Virtual Arkansas as our digital content and digital instruction solution. Virtual Arkansas provides robust online teacher training and development for all new teachers entering the field of online teaching. All Virtual Arkansas teachers are provided both directed/scheduled and embedded professional development activities, book studies, and weekly collaborative teams. Virtual Arkansas provides a team of instructional and digital content experts for just-in-time support for all teachers. Virtual Arkansas also has a team of technology support specialists to assist with any technology.

As part of the Professional Learning Community process, Virtual Teachers will use student data to drive a continuous plan-do-check cycle of improvement. If there is a support need beyond what the Virtual teacher can provide, the Virtual Campus Coordinator will facilitate the support. On-going and job-embedded support will occur throughout the school year based on student achievement data and classroom observations.

<p>Identify the daily or weekly amount of time teachers will need to develop and plan for instruction based on interaction and delivery options selected and digital supports provided. How will the school support teachers with digital content and planning?</p>	<p>Cross County High School will be utilizing Virtual Arkansas for our digital content and digital instruction solution. The Virtual Arkansas teachers will be scheduled with a minimum of two hundred (200) minutes each week for each teacher to schedule time for conferences, instructional planning, and preparation. Virtual Arkansas teachers will utilize curriculum developed by Arkansas subject matter experts (SME's) aligned to Arkansas standards. Schools will provide a facilitator or facilitators, depending upon the number of students, to aid Virtual Arkansas teachers as they provide instruction to the students. Virtual Arkansas will provide training to the partnering school's facilitator(s) and ongoing support to facilitator(s) through Virtual Arkansas' Facilitator Coordinator. Prior to the start of school, Virtual Arkansas will support Virtual Teachers with digital content and planning through training on the primary digital content. This training includes guides for recommended pacing, adding supplemental content, and navigating the platform. This digital content and planning component will be supported by Virtual Arkansas.</p>
<p>School Supports</p>	
<p>Describe how the school will ensure equitable access to opportunities for success for digital learner's needs (poverty, homelessness, migrant, foster care, and military connected students) A link (URL) to the school equity plan may be acceptable if it meets this criteria.</p>	<p>Cross County High School will provide all appropriate testing and support services for all students. Virtual teachers will provide the appropriate testing data, classroom instructional services (as outlined by the appropriate documentation, ie, the IEP), and accommodations as necessary. —</p> <p>All students will be provided devices, internet access, meals, access to SBHC services, and any other services appropriate. Other services will be provided, such as identified migrant services from the school's migrant coordinator.</p>

All students are expected to test (statewide summative assessments) onsite as per DESE guidance. Provide an overview of how the school may communicate to parents and test digital learning students at a school site.

Virtual Arkansas requires trained proctors for major assessments. Districts partnering with Virtual Arkansas will sign a memorandum of understanding to acknowledge this requirement. Communication with parents will include teacher emails, information posted within the announcement section of the learning management system, information via the learning management system with push notifications, and using the learning management system parent application.

The district testing coordinator will create a plan and schedule for all virtual students to complete testing on campus, including contacting the parents with appointment times to take exams. In extenuating circumstances, the school district has transportation methods available to provide transportation of students to the school for on-site assessment. Along with the testing coordinator, the CCC, other school personnel, and the building principal will be in contact as necessary to ensure that students come to campus to complete testing requirements.

<p>Provide a detailed explanation of how the school will monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the digital option(s) and the fidelity of implementation as described within this application.</p>	<p>Virtual Arkansas provides the partnering school with access to the SIS and CANVAS LMS. Facilitators are trained to pull grades from the SIS weekly to monitor student progress. Additionally, parents can access student grades through the Canvas App. Teachers send weekly reports via the SIS messaging that is sent to both student and parent email.</p> <p>The 7-12 virtual option will be closely monitored for effectiveness by the District Superintendent, District Central Office Staff, and District Principal in partnership with Virtual Arkansas, and the Executive Director of Virtual Arkansas, along with Virtual Arkansas Academic Leadership team. Components that affect student achievement are addressed below.</p> <p>Teacher Effectiveness: Virtual Arkansas will follow Arkansas Teacher Effectiveness Support System along with the National Standards for Online Teaching for teacher evaluations with scheduled and non scheduled virtual classroom visits.</p> <p>Curriculum Effectiveness: The content in the learning management system will be reviewed formally on an annual basis through the Quality Matters K-12 Standards for Quality by Quality Matters trained virtual staff to ensure Arkansas standards and International standards for quality are being met. Additionally, Virtual Arkansas is in the process of having a variety of courses reviewed by Quality Matters to earn the Quality Matters Certification.</p> <p>Student Achievement: Student learning will be monitored through formative and summative assessments. This monitoring will be in the form of a Professional Learning Community composed of Virtual Arkansas Teachers and Administration.</p> <p>Data Sources: Monitoring, assessing, reflection on data (inferences and next steps). Parent, student, and staff (virtual) surveys will be conducted at least once per year to monitor the effectiveness of the services.</p>
<p>Describe how the teacher(s) will engage families into the digital learning process. (School may link the District Engagement Plan if digital learning is included. The plan must address how the school will support parents/students with digital tools and resources)</p>	<p>Virtual Arkansas provides parent/guardian informational webinars throughout the school year for families of students in Virtual Arkansas courses. Virtual Arkansas teachers communicate course and grade updates weekly to parents/guardians with provided email addresses. Parents/guardians are also given access to the Parent Canvas App which allows them to monitor their students activity and grades within the course. Family engagement is highly valued and encouraged throughout the year by providing regular Virtual Arkansas updates, emails from teachers, just in time meetings at the local level, and up to date information on the Virtual Arkansas website, including the Virtual Arkansas Parent Guide (https://www.virtualarkansas.org/293342_2).</p>

Provide a URL to evidence of the local school board's approval of the waiver request(s).

Approved April 19, 2021, minutes will be approved in May's school board meeting and posted to the school website. See Cross County School District Board Minutes at <https://www.crosscountyschools.com/browse/162673> .

Provide a URL to evidence of stakeholder feedback regarding the waiver request(s) and the school communication plan regarding digital learning program(s).

The District submitted a survey to stakeholders regarding virtual learning for the 2021-2022 school year on March 5, 2021. This survey was also linked through the district's Facebook account. The survey listed contact emails at the bottom of the survey for administrators in the event a parent had a question, as shown in the PDF below. (Survey link: <https://forms.gle/u2fD8oHdYwTianjaA>) As of June 14, 2021, there were no comments on the Facebook post, and administrators had not received emails regarding any questions. The elementary principal fielded calls from three parents asking about the virtual option being synchronous vs. asynchronous and was able to answer those questions according to TRVP's expectations. The news feed on www.crosscountyschools.com includes the survey. As of June 14, 2021, no comments had been made on the post. Prior to the end of the school year, all parents of current virtual learners were called to be informed of the program expectations for next year and to ask about plans for the 2021-2022 school year.

2021-2022 Virtual Learning Interest Survey

Please fill out and submit this form by Thursday, March 11 if your student is interested in virtual learning for the 2021-22 school year. Description and entrance criteria are listed below. Please note that this is NOT a final application. This is only an interest survey to help the district determine how to best meet virtual students' needs next year. If you have multiple students in your household, please fill out one form per student.

* Required

1. Email *

Virtual Learning Description

Cross County School District will offer a virtual learning option to students in Grades 3rd through 12th Grade whose preferred learning environment is a flexible yet effective, tuition-free online learning approach. Virtual learners will have a face-to-face instructor on a virtual platform. A learning management system will be utilized to allow for parental involvement and student accountability. Course selections will be released at a later date. We anticipate that students will have the option to enroll in both core and elective courses.

Criteria for Entrance

Virtual learning will be available for students in grades 3-12. All students who apply for admission for virtual learning will be required to meet the following criteria in the 2021-22 school year:

- 3rd-8th grade students who have been recommended to be retained at the end of the 2020-2021 school year or 9-12 students who have lost credit in required courses during the 2020-2021 will not be eligible to enroll in virtual learning.
- Any student who exceeds the number of absences per the handbook policy will be required to transition to on site learning for the remainder of the semester and school year.
- Any 3rd-8th grade student receiving a failing grade in one or more core subjects at the end of a quarter will be required to transition to on site for the remainder of the school year.
- Any 9th-12th grade student with a failing grade in any credit/core course (required courses) will be returned to on site instruction at the end of each quarter and remain there for the remainder of the school year.
- Principal and/or Superintendent will have final discretion on a student's ability to remain in virtual learning

2. Student First Name *

3. Student Last Name *

4. Student Grade 2021-2022 (Next Year) *

- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12

5. Does this student fall in any of the following categories? (Leave blank if No)

- IEP/504
- Speech Services
- OT or PT Services

6. Parent/Guardian First Name *

7. Parent/Guardian Last Name *

8. Parent/Guardian Phone Number *

9. Email Address *

Questions?

Please email your building principal or a district leader:

Elementary School Principal Jessica Stacy at Jessica.stacy@crosscountyschools.com

High School Principal Stephen Prince at Stephen.prince@nt.crosscountyschools.com

District Executive Master Teacher Mindy Searcy at mindy.searcy@crosscountyschools.com

Superintendent Dr. Nathan Morris at Nathan.morris@crosscountyschools.com

Policies

Please provide a link (URL) to the attendance policy for digital learning students.

Cross County High School will align digital attendance policies with the digital provider's attendance policies upon approval of the digital provider by DESE. For attendance purposes, students are required to log in to the Virtual Arkansas digital learning system daily and demonstrate progress in their courses. This will be monitored by the facilitator through the login reports. Students will be counted absent for days that they do not log in if their coursework is not completed for that date. Absences will be dealt with in the same manner as CCHS in-person students. If students are not demonstrating progress, a deeper dive into their activity can take place. Approval of the updated 2021-2022 student handbook by the Cross County School Board will occur at the July 2021 school board meeting. Cross County School District's State Required Information can be found at <https://www.crosscountyschools.com/browse/29894> .

Please provide a link (URL) to the discipline policy for digital learning students.

Cross County School District's State Required Information can be found at <https://www.crosscountyschools.com/browse/29894> . When the handbook for the 2021-2022 school year is approved by the school board, it will be linked here. Students will be required to follow the local discipline policies.

Virtual Arkansas students are expected to adhere to our local district discipline policies as well as the policies provided in the Virtual Arkansas student handbook. Students and parents/guardians are expected to complete the MOU with signatures and are collected and maintained by the local school district. <https://virtualarkansas.org/studenthandbook>

<p>Please provide a link (URL) to the grading policy for digital learning students.</p>	<p>Cross County School District's State Required Information can be found at https://www.crosscountyschools.com/browse/29894 . When the handbook for the 2021-2022 school year is approved by the school board, it will be linked here.</p> <p>Virtual Arkansas provides a grading policy to the local school district and students through the student handbook. School districts have the autonomy to determine final grades per local policy. Final grades are provided to the schools who enter the students' grades in eSchool. Local schools are expected to keep records of grades they enter into eSchool.</p> <p>https://virtualarkansas.org/studenthandbook</p>
<p>Charter</p>	
<p>Describe how the addition of a virtual program is in line with the mission or model of the school.</p>	<p>The mission of Cross County School District is to educate the whole child by preparing them to be lifelong learners and responsible citizens in a global society. In order to succeed in a rapidly changing world, all students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Think analytically; ● Solve problems creatively; ● Utilize technology appropriately; ● Collaborate effectively; ● Communicate articulately. <p>Through Virtual Arkansas, students will engage with teachers and students regularly both face-to-face via Zoom for the use of digital, typed discussion to allow students the opportunity to gain experience in the appropriate use of technology when communicating using various software, an essential skill in today's world. Through the high quality curriculum used by TRVP that is in line with current state initiatives, students will be presented with opportunities to analyze and solve problems both individually and collaboratively with peers and teachers. As stated in the Cross County School District mission above, the goal is for our students to succeed in a rapidly changing world. Students who participate in virtual learning through Virtual Arkansas will meet the rapid changes of our world and learn to thrive in a society where the necessity and use of remote collaboration, communication, and problem solving have become an integral part of business across sectors of our economy.</p>

Additional Waiver(s)

Waiver Topic #1	
Arkansas Code Annotated	
Standard for Accreditation	
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	

Waiver Topic #2	
Arkansas Code Annotated	
Standard for Accreditation	
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	

Waiver Topic #3	
------------------------	--

Arkansas Code Annotated	
Standard for Accreditation	
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	

Waiver Topic #4	
Arkansas Code Annotated	
Standard for Accreditation	
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	

Waiver Topic #5	
Arkansas Code Annotated	
Standard for Accreditation	
ADE Rules	

Rationale for Waiver

--