



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

District Conversion Public Charter School Renewal Application for

Don Tyson School of Innovation

****FINAL APPLICATION SUBMITTED 12/6/20****



Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Charter School Office

Four Capitol Mall

Little Rock, AR 72201

501.683.5313

Charter Information

Name of Charter:	Don Tyson School of Innovation
LEA Number:	7207703
Enrollment Cap:	8,000
Authorization Date:	November 19, 2015
Expiration Date:	June 30, 2020
Enrollment Cap:	8,000
Grades Served:	K-12
Superintendent:	Jared Cleveland
Charter Mailing Address:	2667 Hylton Road Springdale, AR 72764
Charter Physical Address:	2667 Hylton Road Springdale, AR 72764
Contact for the Application:	Kelly Boortz, Principal
Contact Email:	kboortz@sdale.org
Contact Phone Number:	479-750-8780

Number of Years Requested for Renewal (1-5):

5

Section 1: Charter Data

Current Accreditation Status: Accredited
Level of Support: Collaborative

Enrollment (3 Quarter ADM)

2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
500.40	766.25	1,144.61	1,221.21

Graduation Rates

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
4 Year	N/A	N/A	61.5%	97%
5 Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	-

Letter Grades

2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
A	A	A	N/A

ESSA SCHOOL INDEX

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Overall Index	83.57 State Avg = 67.43	75.78 State Avg = 66.28	75.35 State Avg = 66.48	N/A
Weighted Achievement	87.78 State Avg = 55.81	73.37 State Avg = 49.4	73.78 State Avg = 49.1	N/A
Growth	83.95 State Avg = 79.84	79.06 State Avg = 79.74	78.85 State Avg = 79.69	N/A
SQSS	72.51 State Avg = 52.54	70.44 State Avg = 52.4	67.36 State Avg = 52.95	N/A

Section 2: Charter Mission Statement

Previous mission statement:

“Personalized Learning Designed for Student Success”

The Springdale Don Tyson School of Innovation is a technology-rich STEM-focused school. Students and educators embrace personalization, real world applications, flexibility, and alternative offerings through digital or blended learning opportunities. This design allows for student agency, opportunities for digital course offerings, self-paced, and project-based learning that promotes college and career readiness.

Our "learning today, leading tomorrow" philosophy is delivered through initiatives such as 1:1 technology for all students and career exposure through Real World Wednesday initiatives that incorporate community, business, industry, STEM, and Career and Technical programs. The Springdale Don Tyson School of Innovation is dedicated to the education of the whole child by promoting advanced communication skills, a collaborative environment, and an innovative approach to teaching and learning. Students have the opportunity to be self-directed while being equipped with the perseverance and skills needed to be college and career ready.

If the mission statement for the charter will change, please provide the new mission:

The mission of Don Tyson School of Innovation has been amended to reflect the belief that the innovative student deserves and demands access to a variety of meaningful educational pathways to prepare them for diverse careers and a society that is constantly evolving and changing.

“To inspire all students to imagine their greatest dreams through innovative education.”

This mission statement reflects the endless possibilities for DTSOI students and encourages them to dream big, take risks, evolve and change as they learn and have new experiences. Resources and access are provided for the student to map their pathway to success and support them in overcoming barriers to turn their dreams into reality.

Don Tyson School of Innovation provides a dynamic environment and a flexible approach to teaching and learning which includes inquiry, student choice and personal demonstration of mastery. Through a personalized learning environment, students have ownership in designing their learning path, taking risks, finding and solving problems, networking, being creative, developing products and solutions, inquiring and persevering (Innovator's Mindset).

THE DTSOI vision of accelerated, advanced, college and industry allows students to apply the mission while taking advantage of a multitude of opportunities (associate degrees, career pathways, industry certifications, internships, etc.) in order to for every student to graduate with a diploma and some form of recognized accomplishment that will begin her or his next steps toward college and career.

What type of educational model does the school follow?

Alternative Learning Environment

Traditional

Virtual Only

College Prep

Credit Recovery

Other Focus Area: To graduate with something in addition to a high school diploma (Associate's Degree, Career and Industry Certifications, and/or completion of internship).

Section 3: Charter Goals

Goal 1	Metric	Evaluation of Goal
Exceed the state and district average in Mathematics on the state assessments	State Assessments	Don Tyson School of Innovation exceeded the state and district averages in math on ACT Aspire for three consecutive years. Students did not test in the 2019-2020 school year due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

	2016-2017			2017-2018			2018-2019		
	DTSOI	DISTRICT	AR	DTSOI	DISTRICT	AR	DTSOI	DISTRICT	AR
Math	59.82 %	50.54%	48.23 %	52.18 %	50.15%	46.99 %	54.16 %	48.86%	47.18 %

Goal 2	Metric	Evaluation of Goal
Exceed the state and district average in ELA on the state assessments	State Assessments	Don Tyson School of Innovation exceeded the state and district averages in ELA on ACT Aspire for three consecutive years. Students did not test in the 2019-2020 school year due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

	2016-2017			2017-2018			2018-2019		
	DTSOI	DISTRICT	AR	DTSOI	DISTRICT	AR	DTSOI	DISTRICT	AR
ELA	79.23 %	54.23%	53.63 %	63.17 %	42.37%	43.96 %	64.66 %	40.97%	44.59 %

Goal 3	Metric	Evaluation of Goal
Exceed the state and district average in Science on the state assessments	State Assessments	Don Tyson School of Innovation exceeded the state and district averages in science on ACT Aspire for three consecutive years. Students did not test in the 2019-2020 school year due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

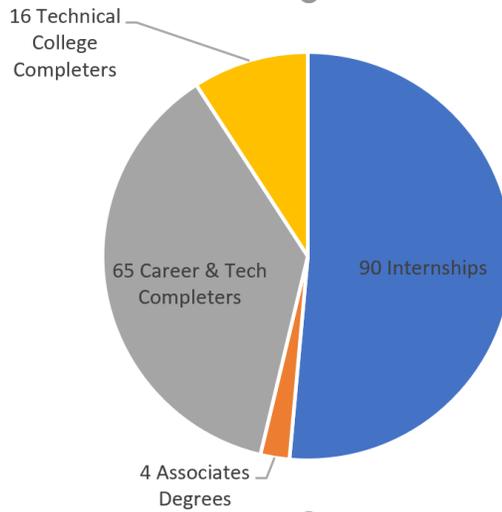
	2016-2017			2017-2018			2018-2019		
	DTSOI	DISTRICT	AR	DTSOI	DISTRICT	AR	DTSOI	DISTRICT	AR
Science	62.44 %	40.22%	41.63 %	53.47 %	36.75%	39.89 %	54.64 %	35.68%	40.09 %

Goal 4	Metric	Evaluation of Goal
Students will exceed district averages on the interim assessments in ELA and Math	Interim Assessments	Since the writing of this goal, the school has found Aspire interim data is not a consistent metric for comparison. Further, the data supplied for our performance on state assessments suggests that Don Tyson School of Innovation would have likewise exceeded district averages on these interim assessments.

Goal 5	Metric	Evaluation of Goal
100% of students will participate in internships, or industry partnerships prior to graduation	Personal Learning Plans	<p>By the 2019-2020 school year 100% of Don Tyson School of Innovation students participated in internships or industry partnerships through career and technical courses, Real World Wednesday (weekly seminars with speakers from industry), and/or through our College and Career Readiness courses which are required for all Don Tyson School of Innovation students beginning in grade 6.</p> <p>Students complete a Personal Learning Plan (Student Success Plan) to plan, support and document college and career readiness, community engagement / partnerships and internship opportunities.</p>



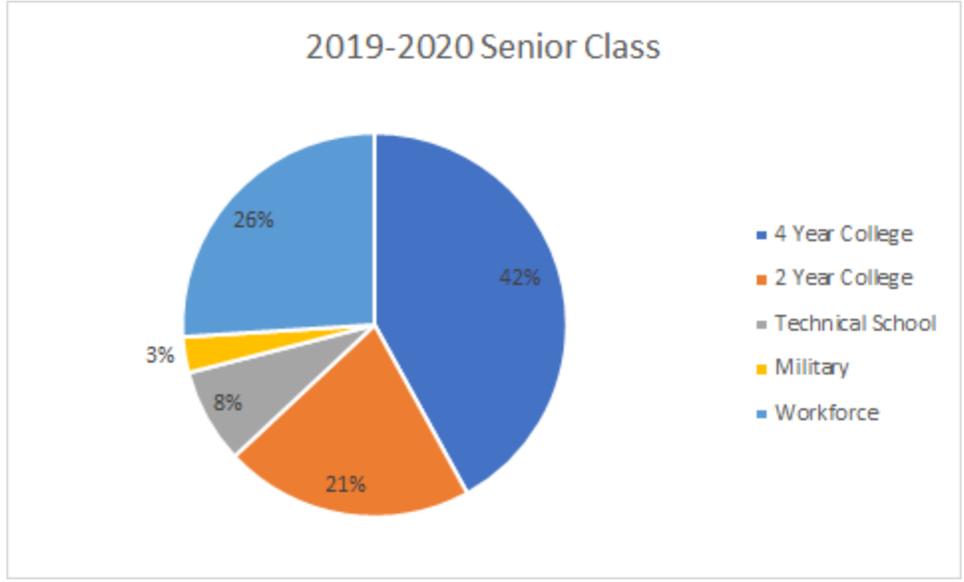
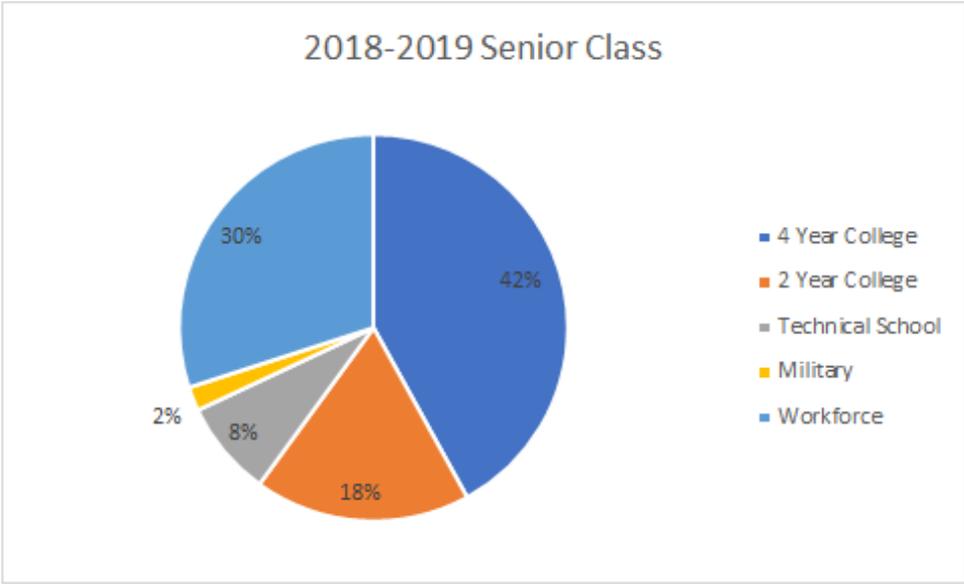
Goal 6	Metric	Evaluation of Goal
85% of students will complete either an Associate's degree or industry certification.	Transcripts/Personal Learning Plans	To date, DTSOI has not met the goal of 85% of students completing an Associate's degree or industry certification. During the years of this charter, DTSOI has seen annual growth and worked to map out pathways that will support more students achieving this goal. The data below provides a snapshot of achievements from our graduating class of 2020 as evidence of our growth. The focus for future smart goals will focus on annual growth rather than a defined percentage.



Goal 7	Metric	Evaluation of Goal
All students will take the PSAT and scores will be at or above district average	PSAT	Don Tyson School of Innovation exceeded the district averages on the PSAT for four consecutive years.

	2016-2017		2017-2018		2018-2019		2019-20	
	DTSOI	DISTRICT	DTSOI	DISTRICT	DTSOI	DISTRICT	DTSOI	DISTRICT
Reading & Writing	484.7	469.8	500.1	461.9	502.2	464.5	490.1	453.3
Mathematics	474.2	465.9	473.3	456.1	504.6	455.3	459.8	451.0

Goal 8	Metric	Evaluation of Goal
100% of students after graduation will either enter college or the workforce.	Post-Graduation Surveys / My 10 year plan	Don Tyson School of Innovation's 2019 and 2020 senior classes reached the goal of 100% post-secondary placement. Below is an analysis of where all our students were their first year after graduation.



Goal 9	Metric	Evaluation of Goal
95% or higher graduation rate	ADE Report	Note, in the early years of our charter there were a significant number of students who enrolled that were credit deficient upon entering.

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
4 Year	N/A	N/A	61.54	97%
5 Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Section 4: New Goals

Select performance goals for the period of time requested for renewal that are related to the specific mission of the charter.

SMART Goal
1 - DTSOI will exceed the state and district percentages of students “Meeting” or “Exceeding” the college and career readiness standard, as measured by state assessments for math, ELA, and science.
2 - DTSOI will annually increase the number of students who earn college credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early College Experience: 5% annual increase in the percentage of graduates who earn 30 hours of college credit through concurrent enrollment • Associates Degree: 3% annual increase in the percentage of graduates who earn 60 hours of college credit through concurrent enrollment • AP Course Work: 5% annual increase in the percentage of AP students who earn college credit by passing an AP exam with a score of 3 or better
3 - DTSOI will annually increase the number of students who participate in career and industry experiences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness and Exploration: 100% of students in grades 6-12 will participate in activities that promote career and industry awareness and exploration (ex. guest speakers, field trips, job shadowing, etc.) • Work-Based Learning: 5% annual increase in the percentage of graduates who participate in an internship, pre-apprenticeship, apprenticeship or career practicum • Certifications: 3 % annual increase in the percentage of graduates who earn an industry certification
4 - DTSOI will transition 100% of graduates directly to post-secondary education or careers.

Section 5: Waivers

Waiver #1	Statute/Standard/Rule	Rescind or Continue Waiver
Unit of Credit Meets for Minimum of 120 Clock Hours	Standard 1-A.2	<input type="checkbox"/> Rescind <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue Waiver
<p>Explain how the above waiver has enhanced student learning opportunities, promoted innovation or increased equitable access to effective teachers.</p>		
<p>During the current term of this charter, Don Tyson School of Innovation has used waiver #1 to support our vision of individualized learning as students work at a pace that suits their ability and interests. DTSOI has made progress in implementing competency-based grading and mastery learning, which is supported by the waiver of 120 clock hours.</p> <p>By allowing for accelerated course work, students have greater opportunity to participate in internships, complete programs of study leading to industry certification, or earn college credit. Examples include courses, such as concurrent college courses, where students earn 1 credit in a semester and then have the ability to work as medical interns during what would otherwise be instructional periods on campus.</p> <p>Perhaps most notably, this waiver has allowed for students enrolled in our virtual program to have the flexibility to complete courses any time, any place, and at any pace without the requirement of 120 clock hours. Students are awarded credit for a course when they demonstrate mastery by completion of an online course.</p>		
<p>If the waiver is continued, will the service be provided in an alternate way?</p>		
<p>DTSOI requests to continue the provisions of this waiver and, in the main, intends on continuing gradual implementation in line with our current practice. As the school deepens its practices around competency-based grading, the ability for individual students to progress and earn credit based on their ability, not clock hours, will become even more important.</p> <p>DTSOI operates under an alternating block schedule with 90-minute classes. With the continuation of this waiver, the school has an interest in exploring new applications such as classes that meet for shorter blocks (ex. two 45-minute classes per week) or that bear full credit in a semester or less (ex. courses during the summer months).</p> <p>Don Tyson School of Innovation will follow the competency-based model as outlined in <i>A Handbook for Personalize Based Education</i> (Marzano) and highlighted by iNOCOL(Aurora Institute).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PLCs meet to establish learning goals for each unity of study for each course. • Rubrics are developed in PLCs to guide define when students have achieved mastery in the course. • Students provide evidence by applying knowledge and skills relevant to the content standards (projects, formative & summative assessments) for each learning goal and would progress at their own pace in earning credits once mastery is demonstrated for all learning goals independent of clock hours. 		

Waiver #2	Statute/Standard/Rule	Rescind or Continue Waiver
School Calendar	Standard 1-A.5.2 A.C.A. § 6-10-106 A.C.A. § 6-16-102	<input type="checkbox"/> Rescind <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue Waiver
<p>Explain how the above waiver has enhanced student learning opportunities, promoted innovation or increased equitable access to effective teachers.</p>		
<p>During the current term of this charter, Don Tyson School of Innovation has used waiver #2, particularly standard 1-A.5.2, for individual students who accelerate through their graduation requirements and, as seniors, may only needed one or two classes for graduation.</p> <p>This waiver has also allowed for blended or full virtual students to meet the curriculum requirements in less that 30 hours per week.</p> <p>Regarding the other provisions of this waiver, DTSOI has maintained a school calendar consistent with the start and end dates of Springdale Public Schools. Likewise, DTSOI has operated under a school day of 6 or more hours for all students for a full calendar year.</p>		
<p>If the waiver is continued, will the service be provided in an alternate way?</p>		
<p>DTSOI requests to continue the full provisions of this waiver allowing for flexibility to design the school year, week and day to meet the individualized needs of all learners. If the school were to offer a calendar that differs from the rest of the Springdale Public Schools, this would be designed with stakeholders and approved by the SPS superintendent and school board.</p>		
<p>DTSOI has discussed a variety of alternate applications of waiver #2. For example, in light of challenges that have come with COVID-19, DTSOI has considered recovering learning by extending the school year or creating a “third semester” during the summer. This idea of a “third semester” could also be used for summer intensives that benefit career technical programs with high student interest, such as Industrial Maintenance or Culinary Arts, allowing a cohort of students to either begin or persist through a pathway during the summer. This would allow more students to access and complete career pathways. DTSOI also sees the potential of a “third semester” to address summer regression in academic courses and also provide flexible options that can address the needs of students who do not fit the traditional student profile, further supporting our vision for individualized learning “any time.”</p>		
<p>DTSOI wishes to retain the flexibility of 6-10-106 to start school earlier than the prescribed date and deviate from the Springdale School District calendar if it chooses. 6-16-102 is necessary for our virtual program where 6 hours of instructional time may not be planned. DTSOI requests to add Section 7.11 of DESE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards and Body Mass Index for Age Assessment Protocols in Arkansas Public Schools.</p>		

Waiver #3	Statute/Standard/Rule	Rescind or Continue Waiver
Library Media Licensure and Ratio	Standards 4-F.1 and 4-F.2 A.C.A. § 6-25-103 A.C.A. § 6-25-104	<input type="checkbox"/> Rescind <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue Waiver
<p>Explain how the above waiver has enhanced student learning opportunities, promoted innovation or increased equitable access to effective teachers.</p>		
<p>During the current term of this charter, Don Tyson School of Innovation has used waiver #3 to staff our Library Media Specialist below the ratio defined by standard. This is justified given our composition of face-to-face, blended, and virtual learners. DTSOI offered students access to a physical library as well as an e-Library with 24 hour access. This allowed students to access the media center at all times, and supported literacy for all our students whether face-to-face, blended, and virtual. It also facilitated our mastery-based instruction as students were allowed access to learning materials both on and off campus. Our application of the waiver allowed for an efficient use of staffing and resources while providing access for all students.</p>		
<p>If the waiver is continued, will the service be provided in an alternate way?</p>		
<p>DTSOI requests to continue the provisions of this waiver to allow for flexibility in the staffing and duties of a Library Media Specialist. The school continues to offer an e-Library with even greater access to digital resources. Additionally, the school has expanded our collection of physical books and relocated our stacks to a brand-new space in our Phase 2 construction. This new space, which serves as home to our Library Media Specialist, includes not only our library of books but also incorporates technology and tools associated with the maker movement, supporting greater collaboration, creativity, and a broader definition of literacy. Our Library Media Specialist fosters open exploration, intrinsic interest, and creative ideation within the school at large, and is reflective of progressive public libraries within our community and across the nation.</p>		

Waiver #4	Statute/Standard/Rule	Rescind or Continue Waiver
Superintendent Licensure	Standard 4-B.2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rescind <input type="checkbox"/> Continue Waiver
Explain how the above waiver has enhanced student learning opportunities, promoted innovation or increased equitable access to effective teachers.		
<p>During the current term of this charter, Don Tyson School of Innovation has not used waiver #4 and, further, has no intention of doing so. We request waiver #4 to be rescinded from our charter.</p>		
If the waiver is continued, will the service be provided in an alternate way?		

Waiver #5	Statute/Standard/Rule	Rescind or Continue Waiver
Teacher Licensure	Standard 4-D.1 A.C.A. § 6-15-1004 A.C.A. § 6-17-309 A.C.A. § 6-17-401 A.C.A. § 6-17-919 DESE Rules Governing Educator Licensure	<input type="checkbox"/> Rescind <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue Waiver
Explain how the above waiver has enhanced student learning opportunities, promoted innovation or increased equitable access to effective teachers.		
<p>During the current term of this waiver, Don Tyson School of Innovation has used waiver #5 to hire individuals who are considered experts in their field but do not hold a teaching license. The individuals hired without a teaching license go through a complete hiring process, often including individuals from industry on the interview panel, and pass a criminal background and Child Maltreatment Registry check. Although not required, nearly all such teachers go on to complete a teaching certification and/or a technical permit.</p> <p>This has allowed our students access to industry professionals to teach highly specialized courses and have rich learning experiences based in real world applications. Further, our advisory boards and business partnerships have been strengthened as a result of the credibility of our teachers.</p> <p>Note, this waiver has not and will not be used in hiring Special Education teachers.</p> <p>DTSOI agrees to limit its waiver of DESE Rules Governing Educator Licensure to Section 7 and confirms that teachers must meet Arkansas Qualified Teaching Standards.</p>		
If the waiver is continued, will the service be provided in an alternate way?		
<p>DTSOI requests to continue the provisions of this waiver consistent with current practice in order to hire teachers from a wide variety of backgrounds. All school employees will meet applicable fingerprinting and background check requirements.</p>		

Waiver #6	Statute/Standard/Rule	Rescind or Continue Waiver
School Counselor Licensure	Standard 4-E.1	<input type="checkbox"/> Rescind <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue Waiver
Explain how the above waiver has enhanced student learning opportunities, promoted innovation or increased equitable access to effective teachers.		
<p>During the current term of this charter, Don Tyson School of Innovation has not used waiver #6. While it is the intent of DTSOI to always hire fully licensed school counselors, the school requests to continue the waiver in order to provide flexibility considering the diversity of our face-to-face, blended, and virtual learners as well as our variety of CTE programs and college courses. Just as we see the need for flexibility in our hiring of teachers, so too we request the potential for flexibility in hiring our counselors.</p> <p>DTSOI request to add Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-2003(a)(2)(A).</p>		
If the waiver is continued, will the service be provided in an alternate way?		
<p>DTSOI requests to continue the provisions of this waiver consistent with the rationale provided above.</p>		

Waiver #7	Statute/Standard/Rule	Rescind or Continue Waiver
Principal Licensure	Standards 4-C.1 and 4-C.2	<input type="checkbox"/> Rescind <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue Waiver
Explain how the above waiver has enhanced student learning opportunities, promoted innovation or increased equitable access to effective teachers.		
<p>During the current term of this charter, Don Tyson School of Innovation has not used waiver #7. While it is the intent of DTSOI to always hire a fully licensed principal, the school requests to continue the waiver in order to provide flexibility considering the diversity of our face-to-face, blended, and virtual learners as well as our variety of CTE programs and college courses. Just as we see the need for flexibility in our hiring of teachers and counselors, so too we request the potential for flexibility in hiring our principal.</p> <p>DTSOI requests to rescind Standard 4-C.1 and add Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-302(a).</p>		
If the waiver is continued, will the service be provided in an alternate way?		
<p>DTSOI requests to continue the provisions of this waiver consistent with the rationale provided above.</p>		

Waiver #8	Statute/Standard/Rule	Rescind or Continue Waiver
Class Size and Teaching Load	Standard 1-A.5 A.C.A. § 6-17-812 DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load	<input type="checkbox"/> Rescind <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue Waiver
<p>Explain how the above waiver has enhanced student learning opportunities, promoted innovation or increased equitable access to effective teachers.</p>		
<p>During the current term of this charter, Don Tyson School of Innovation has used waiver #8 to allow for flexibility in support of our block scheduling as well as our Virtual Innovation Academy.</p> <p>Students typically take 8 courses per semester, allowing students to meet graduation requirements earlier in their high school career so that they have the freedom to deeply explore, and complete, career pathways, participate in internships, and take college courses. In turn, teachers have 6-7 classes of students meaning that there is often the need for the waiver for teaching load. The result is that students have greater access to a broad course of study and are able to have meaningful college and career experiences. Block scheduling also allows for deeper consideration of content and time for inquiry-based learning and real-world applications.</p> <p>DTSOI also uses this waiver within our virtual academy. With students individualizing their learning by completing work at their own pace, and with asynchronous instruction being most common with blended and fully virtual learning, teachers are able to manage larger class sizes and teaching loads.</p>		
<p>If the waiver is continued, will the service be provided in an alternate way?</p>		
<p>DTSOI requests to continue the provisions of this waiver consistent with the rationale provided above.</p>		

Waiver #9	Statute/Standard/Rule	Rescind or Continue Waiver
Attendance	A.C.A. § 6-18-211(a) though (b)(2)(A)(ii)(a) A.C.A. § 6-18-213(a)(2) DESE Rules Governing Mandatory Attendance Requirements for Students in Grades Nine through Twelve	<input type="checkbox"/> Rescind <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue Waiver

Explain how the above waiver has enhanced student learning opportunities, promoted innovation or increased equitable access to effective teachers.

The only waiver necessary to continue is Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-213(a)(2). All other provisions have been repealed.

During the current term of this charter, Don Tyson School of Innovation has used waiver #9, particularly as it relates to the daily attendance accounting of our students in the Virtual Innovation Academy. Understanding that students in the virtual academy work asynchronously at their chosen time and pace, DTSOI has not accounted for virtual students' daily attendance.

If the waiver is continued, will the service be provided in an alternate way?

DTSOI requests to continue the provisions of this waiver consistent with the rationale provided above.

Waiver #10	Statute/Standard/Rule	Rescind or Continue Waiver
Gifted and Talented	Standard 2-G.1 A.C.A. § 6-20-2208(c)(6) A.C.A. § 6-42-109 DESE Rules Governing Gifted and Talented Program Approval Standards	<input type="checkbox"/> Rescind <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue Waiver

Explain how the above waiver has enhanced student learning opportunities, promoted innovation or increased equitable access to effective teachers.

During the current term of this charter, Don Tyson School of Innovation has used waiver #10 in various ways.

Most broadly, DTSOI has held the belief of “enrichment for all” as we offer accelerated and advanced options for all students beginning in 6th grade. As students progress through the grades, they have opportunities for advancement and enrichment by taking Pre-Advanced Placement, Advanced Placement, or concurrent courses through Northwest Arkansas Community College and Northwest Technical Institute.

Further, individualized learning, facilitated by an instructional model of inquiry-based learning and competency-based grading, supports gifted students receiving enrichment within the context of any class.

Over time, DTSOI has added GT teachers who conduct pull-out sessions with gifted students to offer even further opportunities for enrichment. That said, the provisions of this waiver are still used to allow for flexibility in the minutes and ratio at which the position is staffed.

If the waiver is continued, will the service be provided in an alternate way?

DTSOI requests to continue the provisions of this waiver consistent with the rationale provided above.

Waiver #11	Statute/Standard/Rule	Rescind or Continue Waiver
Fine Arts	Standards 1-A.1.1.5, 1-A.1.2.5, 1-A.1.3.6, 1-A.3	<input type="checkbox"/> Rescind <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue Waiver
Explain how the above waiver has enhanced student learning opportunities, promoted innovation or increased equitable access to effective teachers.		
<p>During the current term of this charter, Don Tyson School of Innovation has used waiver #11 in support of our vision of students pursuing their passions. By using the provisions of this waiver, such as 6th grade students having the flexibility of not taking a music course and an art course, students are able to individualize their learning and take classes in a career pathway of interest. Any course substituted for a fine art will meet or exceed state curriculum standards.</p> <p>DTSOI requests to add Ark. Code Ann. § 6-16-130(a)(2).</p> <p>Need rationale for Standard 1-A.3. Do we need waivers for any level but middle?</p>		
If the waiver is continued, will the service be provided in an alternate way?		
<p>DTSOI requests to continue the provisions of this waiver consistent with the rationale provided above.</p>		

Waiver #12	Statute/Standard/Rule	Rescind or Continue Waiver
Basic Language of Instruction	A.C.A. § 6-16-104	<input type="checkbox"/> Rescind <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue Waiver
Explain how the above waiver has enhanced student learning opportunities, promoted innovation or increased equitable access to effective teachers.		
<p>During the current term of this charter, Don Tyson School of Innovation has not used waiver #12. The original intent of offering dual language options has not come to fruition during this term, yet the rationale of the current charter is still applicable and therefore DTSOI would request to continue the waiver in order to have the flexibility of potentially offering immersion classes in the future.</p>		
If the waiver is continued, will the service be provided in an alternate way?		
<p>DTSOI requests to continue the provisions of this waiver consistent with the rationale provided above.</p>		

Waiver #13	Statute/Standard/Rule	Rescind or Continue Waiver
Non-Instructional Duties	A.C.A. § 6-17-117	<input type="checkbox"/> Rescind <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue Waiver
Explain how the above waiver has enhanced student learning opportunities, promoted innovation or increased equitable access to effective teachers.		
<p>During the current term of this charter, Don Tyson School of Innovation has used waiver #13 to benefit both virtual and face to face learners. Due to fact that blended and virtual students have flexibility to learn anytime, anyplace, any pace, so too virtual teachers may not follow a traditional schedule. DTSOI has used this waiver to provide supervision during assigned hours to meet the learning needs of students. With greater availability in the day, teachers have been used to provide added supervision across campus, creating a safer learning environment for all and creating more opportunities for students to build rapport and relationships with adults on campus.</p>		
If the waiver is continued, will the service be provided in an alternate way?		
<p>DTSOI requests to continue the provisions of this waiver consistent with the rationale provided above.</p>		

Waiver #14	Statute/Standard/Rule	Rescind or Continue Waiver
Professional Development	A.C.A. § 6-17-704 A.C.A. § 6-17-705	<input type="checkbox"/> Rescind <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue Waiver
<p>Explain how the above waiver has enhanced student learning opportunities, promoted innovation or increased equitable access to effective teachers.</p>		
<p>During the current term of this charter, Don Tyson School of Innovation has used waiver #14 to provide relevant and high-quality professional development to all teachers. Just as DTSOI recognizes the importance of individualized learning for students, so too we recognize that a one size fits all approach to professional develop does not work for all teachers.</p> <p>DTSOI, in conjunction with Springdale Public Schools, creates a set of coordinated, planned learning activities for the school staff as a whole. At the same time, this waiver has allowed flexibility to meet the diverse needs of our staff, in particular CTE teacher and teachers coming to the school out of industry. These teachers often require off campus training and support in order to stay current with the practices in industry. In turn, students benefit from having teachers that are grounded in the reality of current practices and teachers who are connected to business partners in the community.</p> <p>Similarly, due to the nature of virtual or blended teaching, at times DTSOI has used the waiver to provide training to these teachers that is personalized and outside of the traditional PD model.</p> <p>In all such cases, the PD plan is submitted and approved by administration. All state required PD is completed.</p> <p>DTSOI request to add Section 6.01 of the DESE Rules Governing Professional Development in order to effectuate this waiver.</p>		
<p>If the waiver is continued, will the service be provided in an alternate way?</p>		
<p>DTSOI requests to continue the provisions of this waiver consistent with the rationale provided above.</p>		

Waiver #15	Statute/Standard/Rule	Rescind or Continue Waiver
Salaries	A.C.A. § 6-17-807 A.C.A. § 6-17-902	<input type="checkbox"/> Rescind <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue Waiver
<p>Explain how the above waiver has enhanced student learning opportunities, promoted innovation or increased equitable access to effective teachers.</p>		
<p>During the current term of this charter, Don Tyson School of Innovation has used waiver #15 to recruit and retain industry professionals, and this waiver is specific to industry professionals. In order to provide fair compensation in acknowledgement of an individual's career experiences, as well as the extended hours and workdays that may go along with creating a high-quality program, DTSOI has used the provisions of this waiver to offer varied contracts. The benefit for students is clear as our programs provide them with the best teachers from industry and stay current with the practices of industry.</p>		
<p>If the waiver is continued, will the service be provided in an alternate way?</p>		
<p>DTSOI requests to continue the provisions of this waiver consistent with the rationale provided above.</p>		

Waiver #16	Statute/Standard/Rule	Rescind or Continue Waiver
Teacher Fair Dismissal	A.C.A. § 6-17-1501 et seq.	<input type="checkbox"/> Rescind <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue Waiver
<p>Explain how the above waiver has enhanced student learning opportunities, promoted innovation or increased equitable access to effective teachers.</p>		
<p>During the current term of this charter, Don Tyson School of Innovation has used waiver #16 to employ teachers on an at-will basis. This waiver has provided freedom for both the school and the employee in order to meet the mission and vision of our charter, particularly so when hiring teachers from industry who possess unique skills or backgrounds but without teaching experience.</p> <p>That said, in practice DTSOI has consistently given all teachers the accord of receiving feedback and evaluation in line with Arkansas' Teacher Excellence and Support System and evaluation tracks as the goal is always to support teachers and provide our students the most effective teachers.</p>		
<p>If the waiver is continued, will the service be provided in an alternate way?</p>		
<p>DTSOI requests to continue the provisions of this waiver consistent with the rationale provided above.</p>		

Waiver #17	Statute/Standard/Rule	Rescind or Continue Waiver
Public School Employee Fair Hearing Act	A.C.A. § 6-17-1701 et seq.	<input type="checkbox"/> Rescind <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue Waiver
Explain how the above waiver has enhanced student learning opportunities, promoted innovation or increased equitable access to effective teachers.		
<p>During the current term of this charter, Don Tyson School of Innovation has used waiver #17 to employ teachers on an at-will basis. As above, in practice the school has always followed the procedures consistent with the statute. That said, DTSOI requests to continue the waiver in order to provide flexibility with hiring to achieve our mission and vision.</p>		
If the waiver is continued, will the service be provided in an alternate way?		
<p>DTSOI requests to continue the provisions of this waiver consistent with the rationale provided above.</p>		

Waiver #18	Statute/Standard/Rule	Rescind or Continue Waiver
Eye and Vision Screening Procedures	A.C.A. § 6-18-1501 et seq.	<input type="checkbox"/> Rescind <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continue Waiver
<p>Explain how the above waiver has enhanced student learning opportunities, promoted innovation or increased equitable access to effective teachers.</p>		
<p>During the current term of this charter, Don Tyson School of Innovation has used waiver #18 specifically for our virtual students. While virtual students and families are always made aware of when eye and vision screenings take place, in acknowledgement of their needs and desire to be virtual students, these students are not required to come on campus in order to be screened.</p> <p>DTSOI requests a waiver of DESE Rules Governing Eye and Vision Screening Report in Arkansas Public Schools in order to effectuate this waiver.</p>		
<p>If the waiver is continued, will the service be provided in an alternate way?</p>		
<p>DTSOI requests to continue the provisions of this waiver consistent with the rationale provided above.</p>		

Waiver #19	Statute/Standard/Rule	Rescind or Continue Waiver
Immunizations	A.C.A. § 6-18-702	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rescind <input type="checkbox"/> Continue Waiver
Explain how the above waiver has enhanced student learning opportunities, promoted innovation or increased equitable access to effective teachers.		
<p>During the current term of this charter, Don Tyson School of Innovation has used waiver #19 specifically for our virtual students. While virtual students and families are always made aware of immunization laws and opportunities to participate in flu clinics, in acknowledgement of their needs and desire to be virtual students, these students are not required to present evidence of immunization.</p>		
If the waiver is continued, will the service be provided in an alternate way?		
<p>DTSOI requests to continue the provisions of this waiver consistent with the rationale provided above.</p>		

Provide information on new waivers that are being requested.

Waiver Topic	Statutes/Standards/Rules	Rationale

Section 7: Amendment Requests

List any amendment requests and provide a rationale for each (i.e., changes to grade levels, enrollment cap, location, addition of campus)

	Topic	Rationale
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

Section 8: Desegregation Analysis

*Required for Amendment Requests Only

Describe the impact, both current and potential, of the public charter school on the efforts of affected public school district(s) to comply with court orders and statutory obligations to create and maintain a unitary system of desegregated public schools.