



Division of Elementary and Secondary Education

Transforming Arkansas to lead the nation in student-focused education

Jacob Oliva
Secretary

June 6, 2023

Dr. Ivy Pfeffer
Deputy
Commissioner

Dr. Nancy Anderson, Superintendent
Cutter Morning Star School District

Stacy Smith
Deputy
Commissioner

nancy.anderson@cmseagles.net
Via email

**State Board of
Education**

RE: Notice of Probationary Status Appeal Hearing

Dear Dr. Anderson,

Ouida Newton
Poyen
Chair

On May 17, 2023, the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (“the Division”) notified you via email that the Division had found the Cutter Morning Star School District (“the District”) to be in violation of the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts for the following reasons:

Dr. Sarah Moore
Stuttgart
Vice Chair

- Violation of Standard 2-B.2, which states that “[e]ach public school shall maintain accurate student attendance records in a format prescribed by the Division.” (D/P). Specifically, the Division identified nineteen (19) dually enrolled students who are receiving instruction from All Children’s Academy and no instruction from the District. The District staff indicated that they did not receive daily attendance records, but all nineteen (19) students were marked present in eSchool at the District each day.

Dr. Fitz Hill
Little Rock

Kathy McFetridge
Springdale

- Violation of Standard 3-A.3, which states that “[e]ach public school shall submit accurate and timely reports deemed necessary to assure compliance with federal and state law and the rules of the Division, as requested.” (D/C). Specifically, the Division identified nineteen (19) dually enrolled students who are receiving instruction from All Children’s Academy and no instruction from the District. The District staff indicated that they did not receive daily attendance records, but all nineteen (19) students were marked present in eSchool at the District each day. The District received funding based on increased enrollment.

Steve Sutton
Marion

Adrienne Woods
Rogers

Randy Henderson
Blytheville

Lisa Hunter
White Hall

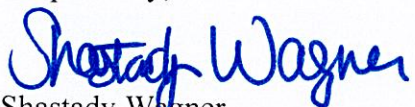
Jeff Wood
Little Rock

The Division received the District’s appeal on June 2, 2023. The Division will recommend to the Arkansas State Board of Education that it place the District on Accredited-Probation status for the violation of Standard 2-B.2. The Division will also recommend to the State Board that the District be placed on Accredited-Cited status for the violation of Standard 3-A.3. A hearing on this matter will take place at the State Board meeting on **Thursday July 13, 2023, at 9 a.m.** in the Auditorium of the Arch Ford Education Building, Four Capitol Mall, Little Rock, AR 72201.

The hearing will be conducted pursuant to the authority vested in the State Board of Education by Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-201 et seq., and the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts. The District officials who can respond to the State Board's questions should attend the hearing. If the State Board places the Cutter Morning Star School District on Accredited-Probation status, it may take any of the actions listed in Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-207(c).

Any exhibits or other documents that the District wishes to submit to the State Board should be sent to me via email at **shastady.wagner@ade.arkansas.gov** no later than noon on Friday June 30, 2023. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require further information.

Respectfully,



Shastady Wagner
Attorney Supervisor
Phone: 501-682-1958

cc: via email – Cody Kees