



DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY
& SECONDARY EDUCATION

Public School Waiver Request

District:	Paragould School District
LEA Number:	2808000
Superintendent:	Nick Jankoviak
Email:	njankoviak@paragouldschools.net
Contact for Waiver:	Nick Jankoviak
Contact Email:	njankoviak@paragouldschools.net
Contact Phone:	(870) 240-2291
Date Received by DESE:	

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

Waiver Request #1

Topic:	School Start Date
Standards/Statutes/Rules:	A.C.A. 6-10-106
Duration Requested:	Five years
Name of Open-Enrollment Charter Holding the Waiver	Arkansas Virtual Academy
Schools, Grades, or Classes the Waiver Will Apply To	K-12
PURPOSE OF THE WAIVER (Must check at least one)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance Student Learning Opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Promote Innovation <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Equitable Access to Effective Teachers

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 member school districts of the Northeast Arkansas Education Service Cooperative are collectively and separately requesting a waiver from A.C.A. 6-10-106, which establishes the first allowable day of class as the Monday of the week that contains August 19. For the 2024-2025 school year, it will be Monday, August 19, 2024.

We respectfully request a waiver to allow the Paragould School District to set their start date “no earlier” than August 12 for each of the next five school years.

The advantages of the early start option include the following:

1. It gives us a greater chance of having more instructional time before state testing, even in years when we miss a significant number of days due to inclement weather.
2. It allows us to begin in mid-August when students and staff are eager to return to the new year and complete the year by the end of May before many of the summer activities begin in early June.
3. It provides a greater balance between the number of days in the first and second semesters of the school year.

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

The requested waiver will not impact the calendar length chosen by the Paragould School District. It will only provide the flexibility to begin the school year earlier, providing the above advantages to students, staff, and parents. The services provided to our students will be the same as those supplied without waiver approval regarding days and/or hours of instruction.

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

The district will monitor the following items:

- 1) The number of instructional days or hours gained in advance of state testing by starting earlier,
- 2) Student and staff attendance on those dates, and
- 3) State test results to try and determine what correlation exists between achievement results and instruction time before testing.

**RESOLUTION OF PARAGOULD SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Paragould School District
1501 West Court Street
Paragould, AR 72450
February 12, 2024

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF PARAGOULD SCHOOL DISTRICT
AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT TO REQUEST A WAIVER**

WHEREAS, the Paragould School District Board of Directors is committed to providing a high-quality education to all students within the district;

WHEREAS, certain circumstances or regulations may require the district to seek waivers to better address the unique needs or challenges faced by the district;

WHEREAS, the member school districts of the Northeast Arkansas Education Service Cooperative are collectively and separately requesting a waiver from A.C.A. 6-10-106, which establishes the first allowable day of class as the Monday of the week that contains August 19. For the 2024-2025 school year, it will be Monday, August 19, 2024.

WHEREAS, the Paragould School District intends to request a waiver that will allow a start date "no earlier" than August 12 for each of the next five school years;

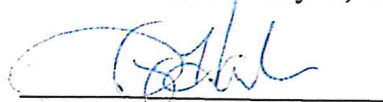
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of Paragould School District hereby authorizes the district administration to formally request a waiver that will allow a start date "no earlier" than August 12 for each of the next five school years;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent or designee is authorized to take all necessary steps and actions to submit the waiver request, including providing any additional information or documentation required by the relevant authorities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Directors expresses its support for the waiver request and acknowledges the importance of flexibility in addressing the unique needs and circumstances of the district.

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED this February 12, 2024 by the Board of Directors of Paragould School District.



Jeremy Hancock, President
Paragould School District Board of Directors

ATTEST:



Josh Honeycutt, Secretary
Paragould School District Board of Directors



184 responses

View in Sheets

Not accepting responses

Message for respondents

This form is no longer accepting responses

Summary

Question

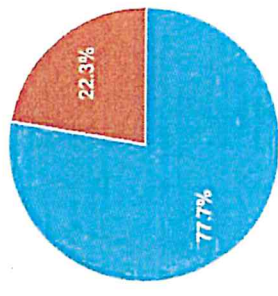
Individual

Copy

Would you support the school's efforts in seeking a waiver to start school as soon as August 12, 2024, in place of August 19, 2024?

184 responses

● Yes
● No





221 responses



Message for respondents

This form is no longer accepting responses

Summary

Question

Individual

Would you support the school's efforts in seeking a waiver to start school as soon as August 12, 2024, in place of August 19, 2024?



221 responses

Yes No

