



Act 1240 District Waiver Request Extension

District:	Star City
LEA Number:	4003
Superintendent:	Jordan Frizzell
Email:	Jordan.frizzell@starcityschools.org
Contact for Waiver:	Karen Eoff
Contact Email:	Karen.eoff@searkcoop.com
Contact Phone:	870-723-2074
Date Received by DESE:	

The following documents must be submitted with the waiver request:

1. School Board Resolution approving the waiver request
2. Evidence of stakeholder involvement, including teachers and student families

Waiver Extension Request #1

Topic:	Teacher Licensure
Standards/Statutes/Rules:	Ark. Code Ann §6-15-1004 Qualified teachers in every public classroom Ark. Code Ann §6-17-309 Certification to teach grade or subject matter Ark. Code Ann §6-17-401 Teacher Licensure Requirement Ark. Code Ann §6-17-902 Definition (definition of a teacher as licensed) Ark. Code Ann §6-17-908 Teacher Salary Fund Ark. Code Ann §6-17-919 Warrants void without valid certification Standard 4-D.1 Teacher licensure requirement of Arkansas Law Standard 4-F.1 Teacher licensure requirement of Arkansas Law Section 7 of Ark. Dept. of Education rules governing education licensure
Duration Requested:	Five Year Waivers 2022-2027
Name of Open-Enrollment Charter Holding the Waiver	Ark. Code Ann §6-15-1004, Ark. Code Ann §6-17-309, Ark. Code Ann §6-17-401, Ark. Code Ann §6-17-902, Ark. Code Ann §6-17-919, Standard 4-D.1, Held by Ark. Arts Academy Ark. Code Ann §6-17-908 & Standard 4-F.1, Held by Ark. Virtual Academy

	Section 7 of Ark. Dept. of Education rules governing education licensure, Held by Ark. Connections Academy
Schools, Grades or Classes the Waiver Will Apply To	K-12

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.

Star City School District recognizes that a highly qualified teacher in each classroom is the single most important factor influencing student learning. Star City School District’s greatest desire is to hire a fully licensed highly qualified teacher for each open position that exists in the district. However, the demand for fully licensed highly qualified teachers far exceeds the number of licensed teachers in our Co-op area. The Star City School District has had 57 openings since 2018 that we could not find licensed teachers to fill regardless of how many recruitment activities we conducted. We have hired 57 Act 1240 teachers and 14 of the college graduates hired have completed a licensure program and now hold an Arkansas Teaching License. Several more are in the process of finishing their requirements for licensure. When Act 1240 teachers are hired in our district they are put on a 1240 Teacher Licensure Plan and must meet the specified requirements toward licensure to be rehired. Each of the college graduates we hire has a story of why they want to teach and leave another career behind. One of the hardest positions to fill is that of a computer science teacher because so few in our area have that licence. This is the Amy Dreher story told in her own words to you.

To the Division of Secondary and Elementary Education Board,

In the middle of 2018, I worked as an enterprise resource planning software developer and system administrator at the University of Arkansas at Monticello. My job duties included maintaining our ERP software through updates and upgrades, developing new programs for a more customizable environment, and managing the server closet. While working at this job, I knew that I was impacting the community but wanted something more direct that assisted the upcoming computer science workforce. I received a call from Jordan Frizzell, who was the Assistant Superintendent of Star City Schools at the time, explaining an open teaching position in computer science. After that conversation, I applied for the job and was hired as the new computer science teacher and robotics coach at Star City High School. I quickly became concerned about how I would work in this job without an educator's license or any educational background. I learned that I would be hired under the Act 1240 waiver, which would allow me to work towards licensure while teaching. The ability to jump into a long-growing passion without any delay of financial stability was a Godsend.

The Act 1240 waiver allowed me to work and gain experience teaching while learning how to do it efficiently and effectively. I was able to put ideas into practice and could proactively see what would work for me in the classroom and what wouldn't. The time I spent earning a Master of Arts in Teaching degree at Harding University while working in the classroom became a hands-on learning experience on being a teacher. I am exceedingly grateful for the time I had to gain in knowledge and practice simultaneously while fulfilling the need to create an impact on a community I have grown to love. This would not have been possible without the Act 1240 waiver given to the Star City School District.

This is my fourth year at Star City High School, and I am in my second year of licensure as a computer science endorsed educator. The passion that started this journey grows each year as I get to meet our

future computer science workforce and encourage students to explore and engage with the world around them to make an impact in Arkansas and beyond.



Amy Dreher
Computer Science Teacher
Star City High School

The University of Arkansas at Monticello (UAM) has provided/produced only 58 student teachers from fall 2016 to spring 2021. UAM supplies the majority of traditionally trained teachers to our Co-op area schools. Southeast Co-op schools have had 430 open positions from 2016-2021 for which no licensed teacher could be recruited to fill the position. As you can see, the number of vacant teaching positions far exceeds the number of teachers graduating from teacher education programs. We have a severe teacher shortage in our Co-op area and do not have enough licensed teachers to fill our open positions. When we cannot find a licensed teacher to fill a vacant teaching position we then try to recruit a capable college graduate, preferably from our area and preferably with eighteen hours of college coursework in the area they will be teaching.

The Act 1240 teacher's principal evaluates the teacher using TESS, does classroom walk through observations and provides feedback to ensure that the teacher is using appropriate teaching strategies and has appropriate classroom management. The teachers are assigned a buddy teacher in the same related content and on their Professional Learning Community (PLC). Act 1240 teachers observe veteran teachers and reflect on the practices they observe. The Act 1240 teachers receive the support of the Southeast Co-op content specialists who model engaging lessons and high yield instructional strategies. The teachers are encouraged to attend the Praxis tutoring sessions provided by the ADE and Southeast Co-op. The teachers are given school business leave to take their Praxis exams. The building level principals as well as the district level administrators provided the Act 1240 teachers with extra support, extra supplies as needed, training they identify they need, and mentoring. The assistant superintendent meets with the teachers yearly to review their progress toward licensure. The Act 1240 teachers are active members of a PLC team. In the first year of teaching, the Act 1240 teachers are not assigned sponsorships of clubs, or activities to protect their learning time. The district recognizes that the Act 1240 teachers must be supported in the journey toward licensure otherwise the journey becomes overwhelming! It is often stated that the first year of teaching is the hardest so you can imagine what it is like with the added requirements of obtaining a license through an alternate route.

We understand that this avenue for growing our own qualified teachers is a hard journey for both the college graduates and the administrators and teachers that support the Act 1240 teachers' journey. However, this innovative approach to growing our own teachers works in our area. We have produced far more licensed teachers in our Co-op area than our preferred route of teacher education programs.

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

Student learning opportunities are enhanced when Star City School District utilizes Act 1240 teachers instead of long term substitutes in our classrooms for vacancies we cannot fill. When we place highly capable college graduates in a classroom, enroll them in the three-year Novice Teacher Program at Southeast Co-op, assign them a buddy teacher and a mentor at their school, provide daily support, outline the three-year timeline to obtaining a teacher licensure, and support each Act 1240 teacher on their journey to licensure, we enhance student learning. This approach provides a more qualified and

committed teacher in the classroom than a long term substitute could ever provide. The Act 1240 teacher is vested in completing a licensure program. The Act 1240 teacher is vested in the learning gains of the students they teach. The Act 1240 teacher is vested in our community. Our "Grow Our Own" teachers come from our communities. This program puts educators in the classroom that know the reality the students experience at home. The relationship between the teacher and student is incredibly important to student outcomes. Teachers who know their students live reality can support them in academic learning strategies/structures and emotional support systems needed to ensure their students success.

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

In our four year report summary to the State Board of Education on July 8, 2021 the following data was shared. Of the 237, Act 1240 teachers hired thru May 2020 in our Co-op area, 131 teachers have become licensed teachers in Arkansas. Seventy one percent of these teachers are still teaching in a Co-op school district. As compared to education major teachers, 61 of the 237 were ranked above average teachers, 155 of the 237 were ranked average teachers as compared to education major teachers and only 9% or 21 were ranked below average teachers as compared to education major teachers. The Act 1240 teachers bring content knowledge and real world work experiences to their students.

The effectiveness of the waiver can be shown by the following; We have filled all of the district's open positions posted on our website and on social media. We have printed a copy of the Arkansas License of the Act 1240 teachers who have acquired a license. We have buddy teacher assignment documentation. The principals have documented observations of the teachers. The Co-op specialists have electronic specialists' logs. We have school business leave records for time off to take the Praxis exams. We have records of the assistant superintendent's meetings to review the teachers progress toward licensure. We have documentation of the district stipend schedule list showing sponsoring of a club or extracurricular activity.

4. Describe how the waiver has ensured success in the school or district over the past five years. Provide data or evidence to support your answer.

The grow your own teacher program provided for us by Act 1240 waivers is working for Star City School District. We will hire fully licensed teachers if we can find them for every classroom. However, we just do not have enough licensed teachers in our area to do that each year. Because of the Act 1240 waiver, Star City School District has been able to begin school for the past five years with all positions filled, as allowed by the waiver, thus providing our students with teachers that have completed a bachelor's degree, are committed to the district and are committed to earning their Arkansas Teaching License versus a long term substitute who may not feel the same commitment to the district and students. Also, the waiver has allowed the district to impact the teacher shortage in our area as noted by the 14 ACT1240 teachers hired that have already completed the requirements to earn an Arkansas license while being employed by our district. The Co-op area has impacted the shortage by already producing 169 Act 1240 teachers who have obtained licensure with many more in the final stages of licensure. The teacher education program that we have depend on has only produced 58 teachers through the traditional route in this same time period.

From 2016-2021 the Southeast Co-op schools had 430 open positions that we could not recruit a licensed teacher to fill regardless of how hard we recruited. Please continue to give our students the opportunity and access to have a highly qualified college graduate who wants to complete a

teacher licensure program and become a fully licensed teacher in our classroom during this shortage time. These teachers are enhancing the student learning opportunities of our students and we are adding to the licensed teacher pool each year in our area. We will continue to recruit and fill any open position with a fully licensed teacher if we can find them! However, the demand exceeds the supply so please continue to let us grow our own teachers by continuing our waivers for five years.

Waiver Extension Request #2

Topic:	Teacher Licensure (Library Media Program & Library Media Specialists)	
Standards/Statutes/Rules:	Ark. Code Ann §6-25-103 Library Media Services Program Ark. Code Ann §6-25-104 Library Media Specialists	
Duration Requested:	July 1, 2022 Through June 30, 2027	
Name of Open-Enrollment Charter Holding the Waiver	Ark. Code Ann §6-25-103, Held by Ark. Virtual Academy Ark. Code Ann §6-25-104, Held by Ark. Connections Academy	
Schools, Grades or Classes the Wavier Will Apply To	K-12	

- 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.**

Because of our severe teacher shortage in the Southeast Co-op area we must be creative and innovative in recruiting possible library media specialists when an opening does occur. We do not have many openings in this area. Once a teacher becomes a library media specialist they usually stay in this position until retirement or move out of our area. To fill the position, we basically have to “Grow Our Own” when one of our media specialists informs us of retirement or moving out of our area. Even when we advertise the position on our website, Co-op website, AAEA Job Board, and social media we have no candidates. However, we have learned to be creative and innovative in our Co-op area. We follow the examples of Dr. Billy Adams at Lakeside, Linda Tullos of McGehee, Dr. Nick Hill of Dewitt, and Kristi Ridgell at Dermott.

When we have no applicants, we start looking for someone already in our system or in our community with a degree that has expressed a love for reading, literature, and wants to inspire students to read. Many of our experienced staff members are not willing to return to school to acquire this rigorous program of study and incur the expense involved. Dr. Adams recruited a career coach to work for the Lakeside School District. This career coach inspired her students to set goals, and to read great literature. The career coach wanted to become a teacher. Because of her strong learning attributes, the career coach was accepted in the MAT program at the University of Southern Mississippi. While finishing her masters of education degree in library media the teacher was hired as the library media specialist for the Lakeside Middle School on an Act 1240 waiver. This teacher quickly went to work passing all of the required tests and is now licensed in library media. What a success story this has turned out to be. The teacher is creative, dedicated, and has found her calling. Because she is so creative she has inspired students to love to read! She hosts Saturday morning book clubs at the public library and has virtual book talks posted on her library webpage. She is willing to team up with any teacher in the school district to promote reading and critical thinking in or out of school. She is creative in her approaches and has become a driving force in her school district and community to develop a

culture for reading. By her sheer determination, inspiration, and creativity she is developing a culture of reading and a community of readers in a disadvantaged area.

We will seek to hire a fully licensed library media specialist when we have an opening. We will only use this waiver when we have exhausted all avenues of creative, innovative recruitment and have no licensed applicants. However, the library media specialists are almost impossible to find in our area of the state without our "Grow Our Own" program you have provided us by these waivers. Please continue our waiver extension for library media specialists. We will not abuse this much appreciated route to providing a stable workforce for our school district.

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

Student learning opportunities are enhanced when we recruit and utilize an Act 1240 teacher who has a passion and a desire to motivate students to read great literature, think critically, make the school library a learning hub for homework and provide a safe and nurturing climate for students. Please do not force us to go back to using long term subs in our library media center when we have a vacancy we cannot fill. When we place a highly capable college graduate in a library media center, enroll them in the three year Novice Teacher Program at Southeast Co-op, assign them a buddy teacher at their school, outline the three year timeline to obtaining a licensure, and support, support, support them on their journey to licensure--we enhance student learning! This approach provides a more qualified teacher in the library media center than a long term substitute can ever provide. First of all, we look for passion to be a library media specialist. The teacher is then vested in completing a licensure program. The Act 1240 teacher is vested in the reading gains and critical thinking of all their students that enter the door of the library media center. The Act 1240 teacher is vested in their community. Our "Grow Our Own" teachers come from our communities. This program puts educators in the classroom that know the reality the students experience at home. The relationship between the teacher and student is incredibly important to student outcomes. Teachers who know their students' lived reality can support them in academic learning strategies/structures and emotional support systems needed to ensure their students success. We only pick teachers for library media specialists that have the passion we describe and want to share their passion for reading with students.

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

The principal will evaluate the library media specialist using the TESS Model and the rubric for library media specialist. The principal will do walk-throughs to ensure that the program fosters critical thinking, instills confidence in reading in multiple formats, and provides a safe and nurturing climate for all. The principal will ensure that the library media specialist partners with all teachers to provide print and digital materials to meet the diverse needs of the students. The principal will ensure that the school library is a hub for supporting students and staff in our quest to improve the reading scores of all our students.

4. Describe how the waiver has ensured success in the school or district over the past five years. Provide data or evidence to support your answer.

We have only used the library media waivers four times in our Co-op area since the waivers were granted. All four times the waivers have been used have been extremely successful. Some of the indicators of success include: the library/media center becoming the beehive/learning hub of the school, an increase in books read and tests proficient in the Accelerated Reading Program, observation of an increase in critical thinking skills used in the classroom, an increase

in the number of books being checked in and out of the library/media center, an increase in the number of students with accounts/usage for digital libraries, an increase in numbers of teachers scheduling research/collaboration sessions with the library media specialists in the library/media center.

Dewitt used the waiver for a library media specialist when they absolutely could not recruit a licensed library media specialist for the small rural campus of Gillett with a town population of 763. The Act 1240 teacher recruited exceeded all expectations. The teacher had a love of teaching and learning, and READING! The teacher was passionate about sharing her knowledge and passionate about kids. The teacher received Talents Unlimited training to develop the students creative and critical thinking skills. Because of the teacher's intense desire for every student to read on grade level she also was trained to provide literacy interventions during unscheduled time. Due to a declining population, Gillett Elementary was closed at the end of the 2020-2021 school year. The teacher was so outstanding, hardworking, and passionate about helping students learn that the district moved the teacher to an opening teaching art at Dewitt Elementary School. Passion for helping students learn is the magic ingredient she possesses and she is doing an excellent job now as an art teacher.

The Dermott School District advertised on local and state websites and social media for a library media specialist and had **not one** licensed applicant for the position. None of the current faculty were interested in returning to school to acquire the license. The district did receive two applicants that had a degree and were very interested in becoming a library media specialist. Both Act 1240 candidates agreed that if hired they would return to school to complete a library media program of study and take the required Praxis exams. After intensive interviews a candidate was chosen. The Act 1240 teacher has completed all coursework for the Master of Teaching Program (MAT) at UAM and only needs to pass his Praxis exam to be able to finish a license. He can then move into a Library Media Program of Study. The district only used the library waiver when no licensed applicant could be found.

Let me share McGehee's real life example of what we must go through when an opening for a Library Media Specialist occurs. Kathryn Chastain moved to McGehee in 2020 due to marriage to the director of the McGehee Boys and Girls Club. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Christian Ministry. She has a **passion** for working with youth. When the high school library paraprofessional position became available Mrs. Chastain applied for the position. Mrs. Chastain was hired and quickly displayed exemplary skill in her daily work. She was so outstanding that it was difficult for people to distinguish between the library media specialist and the library media paraprofessional. Mrs. Chastain transformed the library into an area that was welcoming, inviting, and a place where students wanted to be!

McGehee School District has been in a construction project and a grade reconfiguration to create a middle school concept that would house 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students in the new Conner Middle School. When construction was completed the district advertised for a Conner Middle School Library Media Specialist. The district had **no** licensed applicants regardless of recruitment ads posted on social media and websites far and near.

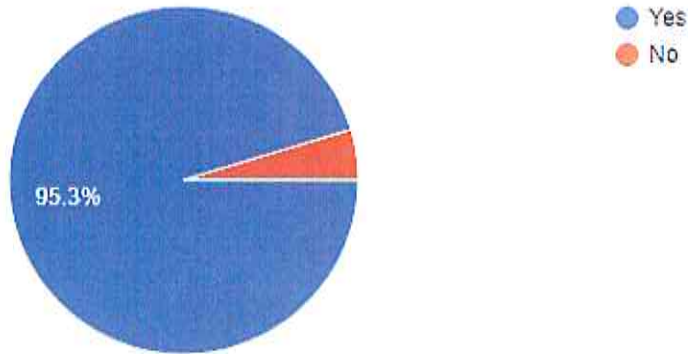
When McGehee could not find a licensed applicant to fill this position they turned to the "Grow You Own Model." Mrs. Chastain was hired under the Act 1240 Library Media Waivers. She agreed to return to school for an additional degree or to complete an additional program of study. However, Mrs. Chastain met the requirements for an Arkansas Ancillary License and agreed to enroll and complete a Library Media Program at the University of Mississippi.

Now for the rest of this success story! Mrs. Chastain has implemented STEM Fridays where students participate in STEM activities in the library every other Friday. Mrs. Chastain has reinvigorated the Accelerated Reading program with a series of monthly challenges. The October Challenge was Harry Potter themed and students earned points in order to catch the Golden Snitch. Starting November 1, the challenge will be "Which Was Better Book vs Movie." There will be 30 different book/movie combinations set up like a basketball tournament bracket. The library/media center has become a bee hive of activity and it starts with this teacher's **passion** for helping students read.

The final example of usage of the Library Media waivers is the Lakeside School District Act 1240 teacher described in detail in question one. This is a young Act 1240 teacher deeply rooted in the community. This teacher is not only impacting the school library media program but also impacting the reading program in the community. This teacher will probably be in the district until she retires. A high starting salary schedule is not the issue with this teacher! The issue is she now has the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of her students and her community.

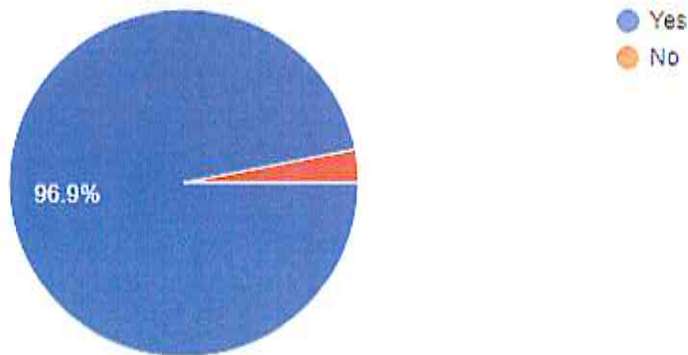
Will you support the Star City School District in applying for ACT 1240 Waivers to provide highly qualified teachers in the classroom?

64 responses



Will you support the efforts of teachers as they participate in approved licensure programs to become certified teachers in high needs areas?

64 responses



Timestamp	Will you support the Star City School District in applying for ACT 1240 Waivers to provide highly qualified teachers in the classroom?	Will you support the efforts of teachers as they participate in approved licensure programs to become certified teachers in high needs areas?	Are there any additional comments you would like to make pertaining ACT 1240 Waivers?
9/23/2021 12:02:04	Yes	Yes	I believe hiring outside of the education realm can bring positive change and new ideas. Often times, education majors are not able to reach all types of students with the strategies they have. Hiring professionals to teach in a school setting can be tricky though. Many do not have classroom management as well as instructional strategies. It is crucial to provide one on one mentors for these new teachers and follow ups to ensure success.
9/23/2021 12:04:41	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 12:10:44	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 12:15:16	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 12:35:27	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 12:46:12	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 13:15:08	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 13:26:29	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 13:28:07	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 13:50:05	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 13:52:53	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 14:02:06	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 14:10:30	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 14:12:22	Yes	Yes	Not at this time .
9/23/2021 14:17:07	Yes	Yes	no
9/23/2021 14:25:07	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 14:47:07	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 15:37:13	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 17:11:31	No	No	
9/23/2021 17:35:04	Yes	Yes	I think a mentor program (with instruction for the mentors) would be beneficial to new teachers in this program.
9/23/2021 20:19:43	Yes	Yes	No
			This is my fourteenth year and I got hired under this waiver. I hope this waiver helps others as it has me.

Timestamp	Will you support the Star City School District in applying for ACT 1240 Waivers to provide highly qualified teachers in the classroom?	Will you support the efforts of teachers as they participate in approved licensure programs to become certified teachers in high needs areas?	Are there any additional comments you would like to make pertaining ACT 1240 Waivers?
9/23/2021 11:23:44	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:29:59	Yes	Yes	I went through a similar process to get my license. I had my degree but no teaching license and no education courses in college. I completed a two year licensure program through the co-op while I was teaching.
9/23/2021 11:32:18	No	Yes	They need more training in professional ethics.
9/23/2021 11:32:46	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:32:54	Yes	Yes	I was on one of these waivers when I started teaching and am so grateful that I was able to!
9/23/2021 11:35:00	Yes	Yes	This is my fourteenth year and I got hired under this waiver. I hope this waiver helps others as it has me.
9/23/2021 11:37:20	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:42:49	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:42:54	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:45:50	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:47:06	Yes	Yes	No
9/23/2021 11:47:22	No	No	If they are not fully licensed they should not be teaching in the school as a assigned teacher they should only be allowed to substitute. Children go to school for an education not to be taught by a half licensed teacher.
9/23/2021 11:50:08	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:51:34	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:51:58	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:58:43	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:58:48	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 12:00:40	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 12:01:01	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 12:01:54	Yes	Yes	

b4 responses
to survey

Comments

Timestamp	Will you support the Star City School District in applying for ACT 1240 Waivers to provide highly qualified teachers in the classroom?	Will you support the efforts of teachers as they participate in approved licensure programs to become certified teachers in high needs areas?	Are there any additional comments you would like to make pertaining ACT 1240 Waivers?
9/23/2021 11:08:31	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:08:34	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:08:58	Yes	Yes	I was under the 1240 waiver (at Dermott) and I am thankful that I had the opportunity to go ahead and work while pursuing my degree in teaching.
9/23/2021 11:09:37	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:09:57	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:10:05	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:11:12	Yes	Yes	grace to allow them to complete, as we have been told to give grace to everyone else. We have worked in pandemics, virtual, and still choose to teach. We need grace too in getting out additional licensure.
9/23/2021 11:12:04	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:13:06	Yes	Yes	While ACT 1240 is not the first option, it is helpful in instances the district is struggling to find certified teachers in certain subject areas. There is much flexibility that comes with ACT 1240 licensure waiver that districts need.
9/23/2021 11:14:10	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:14:33	Yes	Yes	No
9/23/2021 11:16:03	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:17:58	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:22:23	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:22:27	Yes	Yes	Teachers working through an ACT 1240 waiver should be required to attend practice or training to obtain license in the tested area faster. There are many teachers not passing the exams for certification over and over.
9/23/2021 11:22:45	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:23:28	Yes	Yes	
9/23/2021 11:23:37	Yes	Yes	

Timestamp	Will you support the Star City School District in applying for ACT 1240 Waivers to provide highly qualified teachers in the classroom?	Will you support the efforts of teachers as they participate in approved licensure programs to become certified teachers in high needs areas?	Are there any additional comments you would like to make pertaining ACT 1240 Waivers?
9/23/2021 23:16:06	Yes	Yes	
9/24/2021 7:05:48	Yes	Yes	
9/24/2021 7:08:38	Yes	Yes	
9/24/2021 7:42:07	Yes	Yes	They need more guidance from their instructors to ensure they can pass the required test .
9/24/2021 8:20:49	Yes	Yes	This Act is the best thing. I went through this experience to be a part of this school district.

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETINGS

STAR CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT Administrative Building 6:00 p.m.

August 23, 2021

Place

Time

Date

Regular Kind of Meeting

MEMBERS

Absent

Present Charles Knight President - Board of Education Taylor Grayson Vice-President - Board of Education Vivian Finney Secretary - Board of Education Logan Rambin Summer McGhee Jim Haley Steven Stone Jordan Frizzell

Superdaten

Superintendent of Schools

1. President Charles Knight called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

II. A motion was made by Taylor Grayson with a second by Summer McGhee to approve the Consent

Agenda which included the minutes from the July 19, 2021 and August 12, 2021 board meetings the current financial statements, the end of the previous year legal balance comparison, the approval of Electronic Fund Transfer, September 27, 2021 for the Annual Report to the Public and Facilities Plan and the 2020-21 Statement of Assurance. All voted aye and the motion **passed**.

III. A motion was made by Jim Haley with a second by Taylor Grayson to approve the Proposed Budget

of Expenditures with Tax Levy for fiscal year 2022-23 as recommended by the Superintendent. All **voted aye** and the motion **passed**.

IV. A motion was made by Summer McGhee with a second by Taylor Grayson to approve the auction of

fixed assets no longer utilized in the transportation and maintenance departments as recommended by the Superintendent. All voted aye and the motion passed.

V A motion was made by Summer McGhee with a second by Steven Stone to **approve** the

Licensed/Classified Personnel Covid Emergency Leave Policy, Policy 3.32.1 and 8.23.1, to be **effective retroactive** to August 16, 2021 and continue through

May 27, 2022 as presented by the Superintendent. All voted aye and the motion **passed**.



VI. A motion was made by Taylor Grayson with a second by Jim Haley to approve the ACT 1240 Waiver

Resolution concerning teacher licensing by the state in partnership with the Southeast Education Cooperative. All voted aye and the motion passed.

VII. A motion was made by Taylor Grayson with a second by Logan Rambin to approve the purchase of air

purifiers for every classroom and office with ESSER III funds. All voted aye and the motion **passed**.

VIII. A motion was made by Summer McGhee with a second by Taylor Grayson to approve the increase in

adult meal prices as mandated in Commissioner's Memo CNU-22-002. Adult breakfast will increase to \$2.35 and adult lunch to \$4.00. All voted aye and the motion passed.

IX. Mr. Frizzell updated the board on enrollment, COVID 19 impact, construction and board training dates

and hours.

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Star City School District

August 23, 2021

X. Mrs. Richard updated the board on Save the Children, ACT 1240 and ALP, S.O.A.R Grant, ACT

Aspire test results, Wellness Committee meeting date, SCMS Title I meeting, District Title I meeting and JBE Title I meeting and Title I Parent and Family Engagement Committee meeting.

XI. Mr. Raley updated the board on the Bulldog Football program, Bulldog Cross Country team and the Bulldog Foundation.

XII. A motion was made by Taylor Grayson with a second by Summer McGhee to adjourn at 6:28 p.m. All

voted aye and the motion **passed**.

RESOLUTION OF THE STAR CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WHEREAS, the Star City School District is a public school district in Lincoln County in the great state of Arkansas; and;

WHEREAS, the Star City School District recognizes that teachers are the greatest single factor in the learning of the students; and,

WHEREAS, the Star City School District has enlisted many partners to assist in placing teachers in classrooms; and,

WHEREAS, the Star City School District is facing extreme challenges employing licensed teachers for all classrooms; and,

WHEREAS, waivers of certain state laws and administrative rules would allow the Star City school district more flexibility in placing teachers in classrooms; and,

WHEREAS, Act 1240 of 2015, codified at Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-103, allows public school districts to petition the State Board of Education for all or some of the school waivers granted to an open-enrollment public charter school that draws students from the public school districts; and,

WHEREAS, Arkansas Virtual Academy is an open enrollment public character school that draws students from Star City School District; and,

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Board of Education granted Arkansas Virtual Academy a series of waivers, including waivers from the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Standards of Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts, inclusive of section 15.03 and 16.03; and, Title 6 of the Arkansas Code Annotated, including: (1) Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-1004; (2) Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-309; (3) Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-401; (4) Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-902; (5) Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-908; (6) Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-919; (7) Ark. Code Ann. § 6-25-103, and, (8) Ark. Code Ann. § 6-25-104.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE STAR CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS THAT:

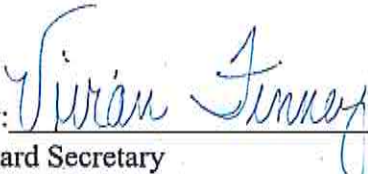
1. Pursuant to Act 1240 of 2015, codified at Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-103, the Star City School District Board of Directors is hereby authorized to request the following waivers from the Arkansas State Board of Education be entered through 2027;

- a. Section 15.03 and 16.02 of the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Standards of Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts;
- b. Ark.Code Ann. § 6-15-1004;
- c. Ark.Code Ann. § 6-17-309;
- d. Ark.Code Ann. § 6-17-401;
- e. Ark.Code Ann. § 6-17-902;
- f. Ark.Code Ann. § 6-17-908;
- g. Ark.Code Ann. § 6-17-919;
- h. Ark.Code Ann. § 6-25-103;
- i. Ark. Code Ann. § 6-25-104; and;
- j. Any other such waivers as may legally be required and granted by the Arkansas licensed teachers in classrooms.
- k. Standard 4-D.1 Teacher license requirement of Arkansas Law granted to Arkansas Arts Academy
- l. Standard 4-F. 1 Library media specialist licensure requirement of Arkansas law Arkansas Virtual Academy
- m. Ark. Dept. of Education rules governing education licensure granted to Arkansas Connections Academy

2. The Star City School District seeks these waivers for July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2027

3. The Star City School District Board of Directors agreed upon this resolution by vote on August 23, 2021, during an open, regularly scheduled meeting.

By: 
Board President

By: 
Board Secretary