



Act 1240 Digital Learning Waiver Request

Status: **Submitted to ADE DESE**

 Bradford School District (7303000)

School Year 2021-2022

! New Digital Learning Waiver requests can not be created after May 1st. Existing drafts and revisions will continue to be reviewed.

Applications will be reviewed in the order received. Incomplete applications will be returned to the district.

A notification letter will be sent to the superintendent at the email address listed above upon approval by the Arkansas State Board of Education.

NOTE: The approved application must then be posted on the district website - State Required Information.

District:

LEA #: 7303000

Superintendent: Patti Stevens

Email: pstevens@bradford.k12.ar.us

Phone: (501) 344-2707

Duration Requested (not to exceed five years): 1 Year
(School year 2021-2022 to 2022-2023)

The proposed waiver(s) will apply to the following schools:

LEA(s)	Grades/Courses	Interaction	Delivery	Platforms
7303014 - Bradford Elementary School	K-12	Asynchronous	Blended (Hybrid)	LMS
7303015 - Bradford High School		Synchronous		CMS



Waivers

Waiver Topic	Standard for Accreditation	Division Rules	Arkansas Statutes	Indicate if the district is applying for the waiver and explain how the district waiver will be utilized.
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Attendance

6-18-
213(a)(2)



Waiver Topic	Standard for Accreditation	Division Rules	Arkansas Statutes	Indicate if the district is applying for the waiver and explain how the district waiver will be utilized.
				<p>The nature of digital learning gives students and their families some degree of control over time, pace, path, and place for learning. Attendance for full-time virtual students is based on utilization of the courseware and completion of assignments. For weekly attendance to be counted for each course or subject area, students must meet goals for progress in each course. That information will come from the curriculum and instruction within the online coursework and attendance/participation in live instruction sessions. Attendance will be pulled weekly from the online platform and captures a student's log in, class attendance, and course work activity. All assignments for the week must be completed by Sunday at 12:00 AM. The District's appointed virtual learning facilitator will student activity daily as well. District policies and practices regarding student absences apply to virtual students. Chronic absenteeism may result in a recommendation to return to onsite instruction or a referral to the juvenile court for additional services.</p>



Waiver Topic	Standard for Accreditation	Division Rules	Arkansas Statutes	Indicate if the district is applying for the waiver and explain how the district waiver will be utilized.
Class Size Number of students:	1-A.5	DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load	6-17-812(a)(2)	Bradford School District will not need this waiver because the digital learning classes are 100% virtual.
Teaching Load Number of students: 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	Bradford School District will not need this waiver because the digital learning classes are 100% virtual with the K-6 virtual students being assigned a certified teacher of record and the 7-12 virtual students being assigned a Virtual Arkansas teacher.
Six Hour Instructional Day (Waiver applies to virtual/remote students only)	1-A.4.2		6-16-102; 6-16-126	Bradford School District will need the Six Hour Instructional Day Waiver because school days or portions of days pertaining to virtual learners could have an instructional day less than 6 hours per day or 30 hours per week.
Clock Hours	1-A.2			Bradford School District will need the Clock Hour Waiver because credit will be awarded on subject matter competency.



Waiver Topic	Standard for Accreditation	Division Rules	Arkansas Statutes	Indicate if the district is applying for the waiver and explain how the district waiver will be utilized.
Recess (Waiver applies to virtual/remote students only)	1-A.4.3	DESE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards and Body Mass Index, Section 7.11	6-6-102(a)(5)	Bradford School District will need a Recess Waiver because K-6 virtual students will not be required to have 40 minutes of recess. The instructional day will be less than 6 hours.

Digital Model

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

Interaction / Delivery

What are the ways teachers and students will interact with digital content (Synchronous or Asynchronous)? Please describe instructional expectations and participation for students.



Bradford School District will employ a K-6 Virtual Learning Teacher to support virtual learners with synchronous and asynchronous learning utilizing the Lincoln Learning content on the BUZZ Learning Management System (LMS). The virtual student will be required to attend daily Live Sessions with the virtual teacher unless prior arrangements have been made with the teacher. Students in grades K-2 will be provided daily virtual Science of Reading instructional lessons for a maximum of 45 minutes. The Virtual Learning Teacher will communicate with the Building Level Principal and parents weekly regarding the learner's progress through email, phone calls, requested conferences, etc. Students needing intervention will be assigned an interventionist. The interventionist will interact remotely with the student. This model allows for flexibility with learning, connectedness w/student and teacher relationships, and targeted learning for all students.

Bradford School District will utilize Virtual Arkansas for virtual learners in grades 7-12. This is a "high touch" virtual learning experience that harnesses the benefit of synchronous or "live" instruction aligned with asynchronous courses. This allows for students and instructors to develop relationships, address needed "just-in-time" instruction, and flexibility with learning. At the High School level, Virtual Arkansas students are provided the opportunity to attend 2 zoom meetings per week per class, per content area, and request additional one:one Zoom sessions as needed. While Zoom sessions may not be 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/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.

All virtual students will be invited to participate in all field trips, academic competitions, and other special enrichment functions that occur in the brick and mortar.



What delivery approach will the school or district utilize to meet the needs of both teachers and students (i.e., virtual (online) / remote (distance) or blended (hybrid)? Please explain.

The delivery approach that Bradford School District will utilize to meet the needs of both teachers and students is that the District will employ a K-6 Virtual Learning Teacher to support virtual learners with synchronous and asynchronous learning utilizing the Lincoln Learning content on the BUZZ Learning Management System (LMS). The virtual student will be supported by the K-6 Virtual Learning Teacher. A virtual student identified as not making adequate progress will be assigned an interventionist who will interact with him or her through Zoom or Whizzimo, depending on the need for small group or one-on-one intervention. All virtual students will be invited to participate in all field trips, academic competitions, and other special enrichment functions that occur at the school.

The delivery approach that Bradford School will utilize for virtual learners in grades 7-12 is Virtual Arkansas. This is a 100% online virtual remote learning opportunity that uses a synchronous and asynchronous approach. Students will engage in their digital coursework through the CANVAS Learning Management System (LMS). Students will have the opportunity to engage in synchronous learning through live scheduled Zooms with their assigned teacher. A virtual student identified as not making adequate progress will be assigned Tier 2 or Tier 3 intervention. All virtual students will be invited to participate in all field trips, academic competitions, and other special enrichment functions that occur at the school.



Will teachers be dedicated to primarily remote instruction or serving in a dual role, teaching both remote and in-person learners?

Â *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.

The K-6 Bradford School District Virtual Learning teacher will be dedicated to primarily remote instruction as he or she interacts digitally with virtual students utilizing the Lincoln Learning/BUZZ LMS. Art, music, and physical education teachers for K-6 virtual students will teach both remote and in-person learners with the support of the Bradford School District Virtual Learning teacher. The art, music, and physical education K-6 teachers of record will communicate with the K-6 Virtual Learning teacher to ensure the progress of each virtual learner.

For virtual students in grades 7-12, the District 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 the District will provide the trained facilitator. The facilitator will be a paraprofessional with appropriate Virtual Arkansas training. Virtual Arkansas provides training and support for facilitators via the Facilitator Coordinator. This model includes synchronous targeted instruction partnered with asynchronous course content and activities.

Describe the expectation for teacher instruction, interaction, and frequency with virtual students.



Bradford School District's K-6 Virtual Learning Teacher will be expected to instruct his or her virtual learners synchronously and asynchronously utilizing the Lincoln Learning content on the BUZZ Learning Management System (LMS). The interaction between the teacher and the student is expected to be through daily two-way engagement in Live Sessions with the virtual teacher unless prior arrangements have been made with the teacher. The Virtual Learning Teacher will communicate through email, phone calls, requested conferences, etc with the Building Level Principal and parents weekly regarding the learner's progress. Students needing intervention will be assigned an interventionist. The interventionist will interact remotely with the student. This model allows for flexibility with learning, connectedness w/student and teacher relationships, and targeted learning for all students.

Bradford School District will utilize Virtual Arkansas for virtual learners in grades 7-12. This is a "high touch" virtual learning experience that harnesses the benefit of synchronous or "live" instruction aligned with asynchronous courses. This allows for students and instructors to develop relationships, address needed "just-in-time" instruction, and flexibility with learning. At the High School level, students are provided the opportunity to attend a specified number of Zoom sessions per week, per content area, and request additional one:one Zoom sessions as needed. While Zoom sessions may not be 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/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.

All virtual students will be invited to participate in all field trips, academic competitions, and other special enrichment functions that occur in the brick and mortar.



If utilizing district waivers for **class size**, what supports will the district put in place to support the teacher and students? How will the district monitor and determine if the supports are adequate for teachers who exceed class size in digital learning settings?

N/A

If utilizing district waivers for **teaching load**, what supports will the district put in place to support the teacher and students? How will the district monitor and determine if the supports are adequate for teachers who exceed teaching loads in digital learning settings?

N/A

Technology / Platforms

Identify the learning management system/content management system that schools and districts will use? (Canvas, Buzz, Google Classroom, etc.)

K-6 virtual students in the Bradford School District will use the Lincoln Learning course content that will be accessed from the state-provided Buzz Learning Management System (LMS).

The Canvas Learning Management System (LMS) will be utilized through Virtual Arkansas (Grades 7-12).

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



The digital content that will be available to students and digital curriculum and supports that will be available to Bradford School District virtual students and teachers in grades K-6 will be the Lincoln Learning course content that will be accessed from the Buzz Learning Management System (LMS) per the direction of a licensed K-6 teacher. APSRC, in partnership with the Arkansas Department of Education and Lincoln Learning Solutions, launched a statewide online learning resource to serve all Arkansas schools for the 2021-22 school year. This resource is provided at no cost to schools and includes content that can be accessed from the Buzz Learning Management System (LMS) or can be uploaded onto a school's own device. Assignments can be uploaded Google documents or downloaded Lincoln Learning content. While the District will continue to provide internet access to those virtual learners who need it, there might be a time when internet access is down. To accommodate the virtual learner, he or she would have internet access through PDF lessons that have been downloaded onto a device. A vast digital library with training on how to access on the Lincoln LMS (Buzz) will be provided to the teachers. A parent can view a student's schedule, assignments, and lessons and monitor a student's progress using the online gradebook and communicate with teachers via email.

The digital content that will be available to students and digital curriculum and supports that will be available to Bradford School District virtual students and teachers in grades 7-12 will be Virtual Arkansas courses that 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 high school counselor will enroll virtual students in courses based on their grade level and need for electives. A parent can view a student's schedule, assignments, and lessons and monitor a student's progress using the online gradebook and communicate with teachers via email.



What video communication software is required for any remote student? Please describe the video communication software the teacher will use to facilitate live conferences between two or more participants.

Bradford School District virtual students in grades K-6 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 K-6 Virtual teacher will utilize Zoom to facilitate synchronous sessions with students during scheduled Zoom sessions during the week. The Zoom link and Zoom schedule will be communicated in advance of the session.

Bradford School District virtual students in grades 7-12 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 onsite and Virtual Arkansas teacher will utilize Zoom to facilitate synchronous sessions with students during scheduled Zoom sessions during the week. The Zoom link and Zoom schedule will be placed in a common location within each course and will be communicated in other ways when needed.

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.

Bradford School District virtual students in grades K-2 will be issued a CIPA - compliant iPad. Virtual students in grade 3- 6 will be issued a CIPA - compliant Chromebook. Dual layers of protection (State and Go Guardian) will be on the devices. Virtual students who do not have reliable internet service may apply for a district-issued hotspot. Wi-Fi will be available on each campus in posted areas. Two WiFi access points are installed on the exterior of buildings in the school's parking lots.

Bradford School District virtual students in grades 7-12 will be issued a CIPA-compliant Chromebook. Dual layers of protection (State and Go Guardian) will be on the devices. Virtual students who do not have reliable internet service may apply for a district-issued hotspot. Wi-Fi will be available on each campus in posted areas. Two WiFi access points are installed on the exterior of buildings in the school's parking lots.

Student Supports



Describe the manner and frequency the district or school will use to monitor the wellness and safety (food security, physical, mental health, etc.) of students in a total remote setting. (This may be in-person, video communication, etc.). Identify supports available to assist students within the district.

Bradford School District will continue to monitor the wellness and safety (food security, physical, mental health, etc.) of students in a total remote setting by implementing a system that requires weekly contact with the K-6 virtual learners to assess their wellness and safety needs. When needed, the school counselor will provide mental health support to virtual learners. In addition, K-6 virtual students will continue to have the option for a free breakfast and/or lunch and the weekly food box and/or food backpack. The K-6 Virtual Teacher will be trained to recognize and report suspected maltreatment/abuse.

Grades 7-12 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. In addition, grades 7-12 virtual students will continue to have the option for a free breakfast and/or lunch and the weekly food box and/or food backpack.

Describe the manner and frequency the district or school will use to monitor the academic and student engagement in a virtual setting. Describe the additional supports available for students struggling with engagement.



Bradford School District's K-6 Virtual Teacher will consistently monitor academic and student engagement of virtual learners. Engagement will be based on records of attendance, participation in Zoom meetings, submission of daily completed assignments, and attendance. These items will be examined weekly, and outreach will be conducted weekly or more often as needed. Any issues or concerns on academics, welfare, engagement, etc will be reported to the building principal, counselor, or other assigned personnel to handle, based on school district policy. Lack of engagement would include one or more grades below a C or one or more areas not meeting grade-level benchmarks, three unexcused absences, more than one incomplete or missing assignment. In addition to the two regularly scheduled Parent-Teacher Conferences during the year, additional conferences will be scheduled as needed. Responses to lack of engagement will include a referral to the Building Level Principal to determine the problem, a conference between the parent or guardian and the teacher, and/or a required return to onsite instruction.

Additionally, facilitators of students in grades 7-12 will have access to the Virtual Arkansas 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. Lack of engagement would include one or more grades below a C or one or more areas not meeting grade-level benchmarks, three unexcused absences, more than one incomplete or missing assignment. In cases where needed, Virtual Arkansas will involve the partnering school through the facilitator first. Virtual Arkansas will contact administrators if the initial intervention is not successful. Responses to lack of engagement will include a referral to the Building Level Principal to determine the problem, a conference between the parent or guardian and the teacher, and/or a required return to onsite instruction.



Describe the Academic Response to Intervention plan for remote (virtual) students, including additional supports and personnel.

The Bradford School District will continue Academic Response to Intervention for remote (virtual) students who are in need of targeted interventions. The District-employed K-6 Virtual Teacher will be trained to identify students in need of Tier 1 and Tier 2 interventions based on formative and summative assessment data (i.e. RAN, PAST, Dibels, IStation), and he or she will coordinate a time with the virtual student's parent or guardian to bring the student onsite for testing. The K-6 Virtual Teacher will have access to online intervention resources and will utilize Zoom sessions to administer targeted interventions. Depending on the need of the virtual student, his or her targeted intervention plan will be developed in collaboration with the parent, the Virtual Teacher and/or an interventionist, and the Building Level Principal. The number of sessions and length of sessions will be based on the type of intervention that addresses the academic deficit. The District plans to use Sonday System, a multisensory program, for small group reading and dyslexia intervention, and will continue to use the Susan Barton Reading and Spelling System for students identified with dyslexia or as having the characteristics of dyslexia.

Additionally, Bradford School District virtual students in grades 7-12 will be assigned to Virtual Arkansas teachers who have been trained to identify and intervene with immediacy when a student is determined to not be successful. They are trained to deliver Tier 1 and 2 interventions and, if those are not successful, reach out to the partnering school regarding additional Tier 2 or Tier 3 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. If a student is not responding to this level of intervention, the Virtual Arkansas teacher will notify the Bradford School District Virtual Arkansas Facilitator and arrange for additional interventions.

Describe the district or school's formative assessment plan to support student learning.



Bradford School District's formative assessment plan to support student learning in grades K-6 will include screening and assessing students using the same assessments and screeners (PAST, RAN, Dibels, IStation, STAR) that will be used with onsite learners. This assessment and screening process will begin at the beginning of the school year and will continue during the year through the collection of progress monitoring data from Dibels and IStation. End of year re-assessment will be included in the evaluation data to know if a virtual student is progressing or in need of intervention. Periodic formative assessments will be embedded in the online curriculum with the intent of checking for understanding, determining student mastery of standards and learning goals, etc. These periodic formative assessments will be in varied forms (open-ended response questions, multiple choice, and hybrid assessments - both open-ended and multiple choice) and will align with Arkansas Standards in preparation for summative assessments (IStation, ACT Aspire). In addition live Zoom meetings will be implemented as part of the informal formative assessing of student understanding. Unless waived by the State, all K-6 virtual learners will be required to test onsite.

Bradford School District's formative assessment plan to support student learning in grades 7-8 will include screening and assessing students using the same reading assessments (IStation, STAR) that will be used with onsite learners. This assessment and screening process will begin at the beginning of the school year and will continue during the year through the collection of progress monitoring data from IStation. End of year re-assessment will be included in the evaluation data to know if a virtual student is progressing or in need of intervention. Periodic formative assessments will be embedded in the online curriculum with the intent of checking for understanding, determining student mastery of standards and learning goals, etc. These periodic formative assessments will be in varied forms (open-ended response questions, multiple choice, and hybrid assessments - both open-ended and multiple choice) and will align with Arkansas Standards in preparation for summative assessments (ACT Aspire and ACT). In addition live Zoom meetings will be implemented as part of the informal formative assessing of student understanding. A Virtual Arkansas teacher will make the facilitator aware of any concerns/issues that are revealed through data analysis. The Virtual Arkansas facilitator employed by the District will share this concern with the Building Level Principal to determine a plan for interventions from a trained District interventionist. Unless waived by the State, all 7-8 virtual learners will be required to test onsite.

Bradford School District's formative assessment plan to support student learning in grades 9-12 will include periodic formative assessments that will be embedded in the online curriculum with the intent of checking for understanding, determining student mastery of standards and learning goals, etc. These periodic formative assessments will be in varied forms (open-ended response questions, multiple choice, and hybrid assessments - both open-ended and multiple choice) and will align with Arkansas Standards in preparation for summative assessments (ACT Aspire and ACT). In addition live Zoom meetings will be implemented as part of the informal formative assessing of student understanding. A Virtual Arkansas teacher will make the facilitator



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of student understanding. A Virtual Arkansas teacher will make the facilitator aware of any concerns/issues that are revealed through data analysis. The Virtual Arkansas facilitator employed by the District will share this concern with the Building Level Principal to determine a plan for interventions from a trained District interventionist. Unless waived by the State, all 9-12 virtual learners will be required to test onsite.

Describe how dyslexia screening and services will be provided to digital learning students.



Bradford School District will ensure all requirements of the dyslexia law are met for onsite and remote learners.

Bradford School District will provide dyslexia screening and services to digital learning students in Grades K-6. Virtual students will be screened onsite at the beginning of the school year using Dibels, the PAST, and the RAN. To determine the need for dyslexia services, additional Level II assessments - the WRMT III, the C-Topp, and the TWS - will be given by a trained certified employee. The information from these assessments will be transferred to a Profile Sheet to determine if the student has the characteristics of dyslexia. If it is determined that the student qualifies for Dyslexia intervention, the student will receive intervention from the Susan Barton Reading and Spelling System or the Sonday System, a multisensory intervention program. Student progress during the intervention will be monitored. The parent or guardian of the virtual learner will be informed of the assessment data, the intervention need, and a schedule for the services. Intervention will be provided by a trained interventionist. This virtual option provides accessibility tools to support students with dyslexia. Whizzimo, a remote platform, will be utilized to provide the Barton dyslexia services. 504 accommodations and IEP modifications will be followed for all virtual students.

Bradford School District will provide dyslexia screening and services to digital learning students in Grades 7-12. If it is determined that a student qualifies for Dyslexia intervention, the student will receive intervention from the Susan Barton Reading and Spelling System or the Sonday System, a multisensory intervention program. Student progress during the intervention will be monitored. The parent or guardian of the virtual learner will be informed of the assessment data, the intervention need, and a schedule for the services. Intervention will be provided by a trained interventionist. This virtual option provides accessibility tools to support students with dyslexia. Whizzimo, a remote platform, will be utilized to provide the Barton dyslexia services. 504 accommodations and IEP modifications will be followed for all virtual students. These will be uploaded into the Virtual Arkansas SIS system. In addition, Grades 7-12 Virtual Arkansas provides accessibility tools to support students with dyslexia including ReadSpeaker that will read any text in the course to students.



Describe how Gifted and Talented supports and services will be provided to digital learning students.

Bradford School District will provide supports and services to K-6 Gifted and Talented digital learning students. The District will follow all Gifted and Talented Program Approval Standards with K-6 virtual and face-to-face students. GT identification procedures will be the same for face-to-face and virtual students. Both virtual and face-to-face students may be referred for Gifted and Talented placement testing by any individual who has knowledge of the student(s) leadership and/or academic strengths including teachers, parents, administrators, community members, and/or self-referral. Upon referral, the GT Coordinator/Facilitator will initiate the evaluation process. After parental permission is obtained, parents will be notified of the date, time, and location for testing. Once all documentation has been collected, the GT placement committee will review and determine what placement is most appropriate for meeting the student's academic needs based on the available data. The Gifted and Talented Coordinator will be responsible for monitoring the success of the virtual Gifted and Talented students. K-3 virtual students will participate through enrichment lessons and activities. Grades 4-6 identified virtual students will engage in enriched curriculum.

Grades 7-12 identified virtual students will have access to Honors courses and Advanced Placement courses.

Bradford School District will provide supports and services to Gifted and Talented digital learning students in grades 7-12. The District will follow all Gifted and Talented Program Approval Standards with grades 7-12 virtual and face-to-face students. GT identification procedures will be the same for face-to-face and virtual students. Both virtual and face-to-face students may be referred for Gifted and Talented placement testing by any individual who has knowledge of the student(s) leadership and/or academic strengths including teachers, parents, administrators, community members, and/or self-referral. Upon referral, the GT Coordinator/Facilitator will initiate the evaluation process. After parental permission is obtained, parents will be notified of the date, time, and location for testing. Once all documentation has been collected, the GT placement committee will review and determine what placement is most appropriate for meeting the student's academic needs based on the available data. The Gifted and Talented Coordinator will be responsible for monitoring the success of the virtual Gifted and Talented students. Grades 7-12 identified virtual students will have access to Honors courses and Advanced Placement courses. All current Virtual Arkansas teachers have been trained with the GT Secondary Course Content training and have support for gifted learners provided within the course as well as a representation of those learning offerings for documentation for partnering schools. New hires will also be expected to attain this training if they do not already have it. Additionally, Virtual Arkansas provides student perception surveys sent out each semester asking for student feedback on their learning experience. A parent perceptions survey will be conducted as well. Teachers are also encouraged to do informal surveys with students regarding the course learning experience throughout the year.



Describe how English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL / ESL) supports and services will be provided to digital learning students.



Bradford School District will provide ESOL/ESL supports and services to all digital learning and onsite students in grades K-6. The District will ensure that all requirements of the District's English Learner plan are met for on-site and remote learners, including ELPA21 screening and summative assessment provided by the District. Communication with families will be in a language and manner families will understand. All ELL accommodations are determined by the districts' Language Proficiency and Assessment Committee (LPAC) and will be shared with the virtual platform providers who will ensure accommodations are provided so that English Learners have access to the core curriculum via providing integrated supports. The District will regularly communicate with the virtual platform provider regarding the ELL students' progress and make any necessary adjustments to needed accommodations and supports. The District ESOL/ESL Coordinator will be responsible for monitoring the progress of ESOL/ESL virtual students and will coordinate a meeting with parents or guardians, the Virtual Learning Teacher, and the Building Level Principal when needed.

Bradford School District will provide ESOL/ESL supports and services to all digital learning and onsite students in grades 7-12. The District will ensure that all requirements of the District's English Learner plan are met for on-site and remote learners, including ELPA21 screening and summative assessment provided by the District. Communication with families will be in a language and manner families will understand. All ELL accommodations are determined by the districts' Language Proficiency and Assessment Committee (LPAC) and will be shared with the virtual platform providers who will ensure accommodations are provided so that English Learners have access to the core curriculum via providing integrated supports. The District will regularly communicate with the virtual platform provider regarding the ELL students' progress and make any necessary adjustments to needed accommodations and supports. The District ESOL/ESL Coordinator will be responsible for monitoring the progress of ESOL/ESL virtual students and will coordinate a meeting with parents or guardians, the Virtual Learning Teacher, and the Building Level Principal when needed.



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

Special Education services and supports will be provided to Bradford School District K-6 digital learning students. Special Education services and supports will be determined by the student's IEP committee. The District will maintain all records for special education virtual students. The District will provide all special education supports and services, such as meeting IEP goals, sped conferences, etc. This committee will determine the method of delivery of services. Accommodations for K-6 virtual students will be provided by the K-6 Virtual Teacher. Students will be scheduled on-site for special education evaluations. Conferences will be conducted virtually if possible. Programming and evaluations for virtual special education students will be identical to on site protocols. These protocols include: two week notification before meetings, on site meeting of all applicable IEP committee members, evaluation process completed within 60 days, and evaluation programming meeting will be held within 30 days of completion of the evaluation. All evaluations will be held onsite and coordinated with special education teacher.

Special Education services and supports will be provided to Bradford School District 7-12 digital learning students through Virtual Arkansas. Virtual Arkansas teachers will provide information for evaluations and conferences when requested. Bradford School District 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. Students will be scheduled on-site for special education evaluations. Conferences will be conducted virtually if possible. Programming and evaluations for virtual special education students will be identical to on site protocols. These protocols include: two week notification before meetings, on site meeting of all applicable IEP committee members, evaluation process completed within 60 days, and evaluation programming meeting will be held within 30 days of completion of the evaluation. All evaluations will be held onsite and coordinated with special education teacher.



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.

Bradford School District K-6 virtual learners will be provided with digital accommodations including but not limited to digital copies of notes, text to speech embedded in the learning platform, internet browser text reader, extended time on assignments, flexible assignments, and adaptive intervention resources to assist students in digital learning classes.

Bradford School District 7-12 virtual learners will be provided with digital accommodations including but not limited to digital copies of notes, text to speech embedded in the learning platform, internet browser text reader, extended time on assignments, flexible assignments, and adaptive intervention resources to assist students in digital learning classes.

Teacher Supports

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



Bradford School District will provide ongoing digital content and instructional supports to the K-6 Virtual Teacher. Professional Development offerings are approved by the Arkansas Department of Education and will count towards the required 36 hours of Professional Development required for teachers each year. Additional continuous learning requirements for certification are generally met through graduate level course work and/or additional external training opportunities. Our teachers are following a state-approved pathway to obtain proficiency in the Science of Reading.

Bradford School District will provide ongoing digital content and instructional supports through 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 issues. Virtual Arkansas provides support for new teachers through a 3-day orientation. This takes them through the logistics of the SIS, LMS, Zoom, protocols, parameters, and expectations of being a Virtual Arkansas teacher. Virtual Arkansas has a google site that provides a wide variety of supports including intervention strategies for online learners, how to accommodate/modify for students with 504/IEP/LEP plans, creating spreadsheets to progress monitor, templates for communication with students, parents, and other stakeholders, etc. Virtual Arkansas teachers that are returning are all expected to go through Quality Matters asynchronous training that provides them with the K12 Rubric for Online Courses. This is also coupled with training for continuous professional growth and evaluation through the National Standards for Quality for Online Teaching that is blended with the Charlotte Danielson framework. Additionally, there is summer training that addresses disciplinary literacy, more in-depth training on IEP/504/LEP support in an online environment, and will be launching a UDL course for Virtual Arkansas teachers this summer. There is also embedded PD throughout the year through book studies (innovation focused), WhatIF Fridays (intervention focused), and action research all led by our teacher leaders (Collaborative Team Leaders, Innovation Team Leaders, and Intervention Team Leaders).

VA also uses an Instructional Model for Online Learning as a guide for PD both in small amounts and for longer PD sessions. They also have a #VAEdCamp when they return for PD in August. This is one day set aside for teachers to present based on proposals of innovative things they are doing in their practice that was submitted in the spring. It can be tool-based, instructional-based, or other.



Identify the daily or weekly amount of time teachers will need to develop and plan for instruction based on options selected and digital supports provided. How will the district support teachers with digital content and planning?

Bradford School District will provide daily time for the K-6 Virtual Teacher to develop and plan for instruction. The K-6 Virtual Teacher will be provided, at a minimum, the guidelines and policies set by the state of Arkansas in regards to teacher planning time (40 minutes per day). District employees providing special services to virtual students will follow guidelines and policies set by the state of Arkansas in regards to teacher's rights, planning, and lunch breaks.

Bradford School District Grades 7-12 will be utilizing Virtual Arkansas for our digital content and digital instruction solution. Virtual Arkansas teachers are given 200 minutes per week of preparatory time. 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. District employees providing special services to virtual students will follow guidelines and policies set by the state of Arkansas in regards to teacher's rights, planning, and lunch breaks.

District Supports



Describe how the district 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 district equity plan may be acceptable if it meets this criteria.

Bradford School District will ensure equitable access to opportunities for success of digital learner's needs (poverty, homelessness, migrant, foster care, and military connected students). The District K-6 Virtual Teacher will communicate with assigned District personnel as student needs are identified. Assigned District personnel will immediately (within 24 hours) identify and communicate with the appropriate liaison to address the student needs: homeless liaison, migrant coordinator, school counselor, school nurse, Parent Center Coordinator, and ESL Coordinator.

Bradford School District will ensure equitable access to opportunities for success of digital learner's needs (poverty, homelessness, migrant, foster care, and military connected students). The grades 7-12 Virtual Arkansas teacher will communicate with assigned the District Virtual Arkansas Facilitator as student needs are identified. The Virtual Arkansas Facilitator will immediately (within 24 hours) identify and communicate with the appropriate liaison to address the student needs: homeless liaison, migrant coordinator, school counselor, school nurse, Parent Center Coordinator, and ESL Coordinator.

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

Unless waived, all virtual students will be required to do statewide summative and school/district required testing (NWEA MAP, Istation, etc..) at the building/district site. These tests will be conducted and monitored by the school/district personnel. All testing data will be shared by the school/district for analysis by digital personnel. Virtual Arkansas requires trained proctors for major assessments.

The District Test Coordinator will work with parents to accommodate scheduling onsite testing for virtual students.



Provide a detailed explanation of how the district will monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the digital option(s) and the fidelity of implementation as described within this application.

Bradford School District's Virtual Option for K-6 will be monitored and evaluated for its effectiveness of the digital option and the fidelity of implementation by conducting surveys of parents, schools, and students. Analysis of student data such as common formative assessments, summative assessments, LMS work, and school/district specific assessments will be used for formative and summative purposes in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the program.

Bradford School District's Virtual Option for grades 7-12 virtual students, Virtual Arkansas will provides the partnering school with access to the SIS and CANVAS LMS. Facilitators will be 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.

Describe how the teacher(s) will engage families into the digital learning process. (District may link the District Engagement Plan if digital learning is included. The plan must address how the district will support parents/students with digital tools and resources)



Bradford School District will engage K-6 families of virtual learners into the digital learning process throughout the school year. At the beginning of the school year, the District will provide a Virtual Learning orientation one week prior to the start of school with onsite and remote access to engage families into the digital learning process. Parents will have access to the student's gradebook, coursework, and any announcements and communication from the district or teachers. Parent-teacher conferences scheduled in September and February and other planned meetings will be scheduled throughout the school year as needed. K- 6 Virtual Learners needing tech support or with questions may contact Mrs. Kayla Lock at (501)344-8245 or Mrs. Patti Stevens at (501)344-2707 or by email at klock@bradford.k12.ar.us or pstevens@bradford.k12.ar.us

Bradford School District will engage grades 7-12 families of virtual learners into the digital learning process throughout the school year. Grades 7-12 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. In addition, Bradford School District will host an orientation for virtual students and their parents or guardians one week prior to school starting. Parent-teacher conferences scheduled in September and February and other planned meetings will be scheduled throughout the school year as needed. Virtual Learners in grades 7-12 needing tech support or with questions may contact Mrs. Jennifer Woodell at (501)344-2607 or Mrs. Patti Stevens at (501)344-2707 or by email at jwoodell@bradford.k12.ar.us or pstevens@bradford.k12.ar.us

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

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1l3xuFelAswDU3OfF4DHBcygty55efRIN>



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

Bradford School District has requested stakeholder feedback in the following for

Policies

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

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZE1pDlc9H6qcIJlUPROYEAxl9ti-SZDLKU/>

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

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Dob9QN3-fEBVR84frZqPRw4W5tOhTtaqI/>

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

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LE3iNROHO8mbSj4hiq6RSUEvFpGLkdW/>

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