

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

On September 12, 2019, during a regular meeting of the Arkansas State Board of Education, a hearing was conducted pursuant to the legal authority and jurisdiction vested in the Board by the Opportunity School Choice Act (codified at Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-227) and the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Opportunity School Choice. Before the Board was the appeal of the Harris-Hudson family ("Petitioner") challenging the decision of the Benton School District ("Respondent") denying their application for a transfer of their child under the Opportunity School Choice Act.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Petitioner resides in the Little Rock School District.
2. On or about July 30, 2019, the Petitioner submitted an Arkansas Public School Choice application to the Benton School District on behalf of their child.
3. On August 14, 2019, the Benton School District informed Petitioner the application was denied based on the assertion that Respondent was not the nearest district, as provided by Ark. Code Ann. §6-18-227.
4. On August 19, 2019, pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-227, the Petitioner requested a hearing before the State Board to appeal the decision of the Respondent to deny the school choice application.
5. Petitioner and Respondent did not appear at the hearing and no testimony was presented by either party.

ORDER

6. Petitioner's school choice appeal is hereby denied.

Signed this 13 day of September, 2019



Diane Zook, Chair
Arkansas State Board of Education

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