



DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY EDUCATION

2023 District Conversion Public Charter School Application

The Academies at Newport High School

Name of Proposed Charter

Initial Application - Deadline June 19, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.
Applications will not be accepted after this time.

Final Application - Deadline August 21, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.
Applications will not be accepted after this time.

Any application that is substantially incomplete will not be forwarded to the authorizer for consideration. An application will be considered substantially incomplete if it does not provide enough information to enable staff at the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education to provide a meaningful review.

**Division of Elementary and Secondary Education
 Charter School Office
 Four Capitol Mall
 Little Rock, AR 72201
 501-683-5312**

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name of Proposed Charter:	The Academies at Newport High School
School District:	Newport
Superintendent:	Jon Bradley
Superintendent Phone:	870-523-1311
Superintendent Email:	jbradley@newportschools.org
Primary Contact for Application:	Amanda Brogdon
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Primary Contact Email:	Amanda.brogdon@newportschools.org

- 1. Describe the public hearing which was held for the purpose of assessing support for the establishment of this conversion public charter school. Include the number of attendees and the feedback and/or public comments that were received.**

Stakeholders: Mary Beth Cain, LPC for Families Inc., Fire Chief Ganz, Newport Fire Department, Lindley Gilliaum, Ignite Coordinator, Danny Muilenburg, DCTE, Director of Trades and Industry, Richard O’Niell, Director of Maintenance, Newport High School, Heather Graham, LEA Supervisor, Joey McKnight, IT Director, Mr. Daniel Been, Principal Instructor for

Arkansas Real Estate School, Mrs. Carolyn Been, Arkansas Real Estate School (former high school principal), Ms. Amber Barnett, Court Reporter, Judge Holly Meyer, Mrs. Skye Wright, Independent Court Reporter, Mr. Clint Jackson, Aviation Instructor at Ozarka in Melbourne (1999 graduate of Newport High School), Mrs. Kristine Penix, Director of Concurrent Enrollment for ASU Newport, Mrs. Haley Thomas, Allied Health Instructor for ASU Newport, Mr. Grover Welch, High School Curriculum Director, Mr. Richard Greer, High School Principal, Mr. Joey McKnight, IT Coordinator, Mrs. Julie Allen, Newport Chamber of Commerce, Mrs. Chelsea Golden, JAG Instructor, Mrs. Amy Thaxton, Director of Curriculum, Ms. Amanda Brogdon, CTE Coordinator, Mr. Ben Holland, Agriculture Instructor, Mrs. Leah Clark, Pharmacy Tech. Instructor, Mrs. Samantha Aitkens, Computer Science Instructor, Mrs. Laura Freeman, ASU Newport Career Coach, Mrs. Candice Long, High School Counselor, Ms. Alley Edwards, Mr. Jon Chadwell, Newport Economic Development Commission, Executive Director.

The meeting was held on June 8th at 6 p.m. in the Administration Board Room (originally scheduled for the High School Auditorium but maintenance on floors prompted us to move the location). The public hearing was advertised in the Jonesboro Sun three weeks prior to the hearing on the following dates: 5/16/2023, 5/18/2023, and 5/25/2023 (bill is included with this application). The Jonesboro Sun has a circulation of 8,000 newspapers for each printing. The CTE Coordinator also personally made phone calls to many of the people who serve on the CTE Advisory Board and reached out to many local business and industry professionals.

Stakeholders including parents, educators, and community members heard proposed information from Mr. Joey McKnight, Mr. Jon Bradley, Ms. Amanda Brogdon. ASU Newport was represented by the Concurrent Director Mrs. Kristine Penix. All stakeholders at the meeting were in favor of pursuing a conversion charter for Newport High School. The meeting focused on purpose and outcomes and the opportunities we want to provide for our students at the Academies of Newport High School.

Community feedback was in support of this conversion charter with additional suggestions for areas within the workforce that we might be able to prepare students for careers in our own community.

2. Describe the educational need for the conversion public charter. Include quantitative data related to academic achievement.

As of the 2022-23 school year, we are coming out of Covid and students are behind. We are working to get them college and career ready. For the 2021-22 school year, we had about 30 certifications in CTE programs of study for the district. We increased the number for the 2022-23 school year to 130. Our students are more actively engaged and with the new Learns Act we are seeing the need to increase the numbers of students in our CTE programs as well as the need to increase the number of program offerings and concurrent courses. We are working with ASU Newport to have students take the Accuplacer and with all students to take the ACT Exam and be ready for college or career. With the addition of our new ASUN Career Coach, Laura Freeman, the number of students who are taking the college entrance

exams have increased. Our current ACT school score for juniors and seniors is below the state average. We are working with students and teachers to have our students more prepared for this exam. We are also looking at options to have our students more prepared for high-wage, in demand jobs.

Academic performance by the district, based on the ACT Aspire scores, indicates the district has room for improvement and expanding to a charter school will help close the gap to where the school strives to perform academically.

Offering the Academies at Newport High School will allow students to achieve the goal of Educate, Empower and Excel. Through the interest in expanded career pathways, students will be challenged to improve learning needed to meet the requirements ensuring through these educational opportunities, that students will discover pathways while developing a bright and productive future. Beyond coursework and internships, students will have the opportunity to earn Occupational Safety and Health Administrations (OSHA) 10 certifications, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Community Emergency Response Training through the Department of Homeland Security (CERT), ServSafe online certification as well as ServSafe Manager. We also offer ACT WorkKeys which allows students to receive certifications based upon job readiness. Additional certifications are available through ASU Newport including Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Phlebotomist, and First Aid, Welding, Criminal Justice, and Diesel Mechanics. All of these certifications will aid students when entering into the workforce.

Services/Programs for underserved student subgroups of Latinos, English Language Learners, low-income, and homeless students are critical. The more certifications these subgroups can earn before graduation, the more employable they will become and the more likely they will be to stay in our community as productive and employable citizens.

Students who require special services, such as 504/IEP accommodations, will be able to benefit from Charter status to access pathways not currently eligible to them. The pathways established through the Charter will allow certifications for students who are limited because of their disabilities. Most programs, such as the certified nursing assistant (CNA), require a score of a 19 on the ACT to enter their program. The pathways offered under the Charter status will provide an option to those students to be able to graduate with a certification provided through partnerships with Newport High School and corporate partners, such as Unity Health and White River Medical Center.

Ultimately, increasing opportunities for students will expand their career and college options and in turn, increase the number of workforce personnel to support Newport and surrounding communities.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029
Grades to be Offered	8-12	8-12	8-12	8-12	8-12

3. What type of educational model will the school follow?

- Traditional
- 100% Virtual
- College Prep
- Credit Recovery/ALE
- Other:

Concurrent and Ignite through ASU Newport

4. Provide the mission statement of the proposed conversion public charter school:

The Academies at Newport will educate, empower and assist our students excel in the academic setting helping to prepare them to be successful in all areas of life. Providing real-world experiences and personalized learning opportunities for all students to enter college and the workforce.

The mission statement puts students first and focuses on educating and caring for the whole child in academics, social-emotional support and physical well-being.

5. Provide a list and brief description of the programmatic features that the school will implement to accomplish the mission.

Educate students with highly qualified instructors in in-demand fields, advanced placement, concurrent credit, and technical programming through ASU Newport, as well as the utilization of other on-line classes to best meet the needs of our students.

Empower students to be successful in all areas of life. Our goal is to produce successful students no matter what field or career they choose. We will utilize school counselors, the Career Coach from ASU Newport, and advisor (assigned) teachers to assist all students in their chosen speciality area. We will utilize each of the adults above to mentor and guide our students to becoming successful and well-rounded, no matter what pathway they choose. Through the experience of community service, work based learning, internships and guidance these students will gain valuable on the job training as well as soft skills and communication skills necessary for success in the real world. We also host job fairs and mock interviews to help students prepare for any career field and learn valuable tools that they can take with them throughout life. The ACT WorkKeys Assessment will also give them a work ready score which employers can use when hiring and promoting. All students also have the opportunity to take the ACT as well as the Accuplacer on multiple occasions and will be encouraged to do so by counselors and advisors.

Excel in all areas. With the help of all involved, students will be given the opportunity through various student organizations, student competitions and community service learning to be well prepared to enter the workforce or go onto college. Students will have acquired all of the content knowledge in the classes, have the test scores needed for their field, and have the soft skills, study skills and communication skills necessary for success.

The Academies at Newport High School will provide students the opportunity to complete various career and technical education pathways. By relying on student interests and the needs of our community business and industry leaders, new and innovative pathways are emerging during this planning process. This charter will allow students to choose various Medical Pathways, Aviation, Digital Marketing, Plant Science, Agriculture Power and Technical Structures, Food Production, Management and Services, Drones, Robotics, Cybersecurity, and Trades and Industry.

6. Describe a plan for school improvement that addresses how the conversion charter school will improve student learning and meet the state educational goals.

The school improvement plan will be evaluated at least semi-annually to ensure that outcomes remain aligned with the Academies mission, make program changes when necessary, and to evaluate the effectiveness of the charter school. The Academies at Newport will continue to gather input from stakeholders and review local data to improve student learning and community educational goals. The Academies at Newport will seek evaluative feedback from stakeholder groups annually to revise and update the school improvement plan to address the needs of students. The Academies at Newport improvement plan will align to the measurable goals contained in the charter application and will be the document for evaluating the goals and outcomes of the charter school along with data analysis and interpretation by the high school curriculum coordinator to provide the district with feedback to determine the next steps in planning academic learning goals.

7. Describe how the licensed employees and parents of the students to be enrolled in the conversion public charter school will be involved in developing and implementing the school improvement plan and identifying performance criteria.

We are currently working with Arkansas State University, Newport, the city of Newport, the Newport Economic Development Council, Searcy Regional Airport, Flying C Aviation, Unity Health, White River Health Systems, Ozarka College, University of Arkansas Community College, United Welding Academy, and the Chamber of Commerce.

NHS has a campus leadership team, a parent advisory group, and a student advisory council. Building leadership will ensure all stakeholders have equal representation to allow for input and guidance from all stakeholders. The NHS employees will convene each semester to review the components of the school improvement plan. A section of the school improvement plan will include pathways for parents and community members to directly engage with the student advisory council to ensure that voices and needs are discussed in a reflective and productive partnership.

Performance criteria will include college credits earned, certifications completed, concentrator status, completer status, and advanced placement passing scores.

8. Describe how the concerns of licensed employees and parents of students enrolled in the conversion charter school will be solicited and addressed in evaluating the effectiveness of the improvement plan.

We are having stakeholder meetings and running ads in the local paper. We are discussing opportunities with several different groups throughout the community. We are including students and parents in all discussions. We also included the Chamber of Commerce, the Newport Economic Development Council, Unity Health, Arkansas State University Newport, Kiwanis, as well as all CTE Advisory Council members in discussions. Many of our teachers are also parents of students, so they are looking at this from two different perspectives. We want to provide our students with the best opportunities we can to give them a successful future. We will include all of this information in our fall parent meetings.

The community, including parents, will be called upon to contribute to the charter’s curriculum and provide support in all phases of the process.

The goal of Newport High School is to expand student exposure to community members who are experts in their field. Community member exposure can increase the number of students choosing related pathways and workforce fields. Furthermore, community members and parents can help identify the unique skills needed for success in different workforce fields.

9. Establish performance criteria that will be used to measure the school’s progress in improving student learning and meeting or exceeding the state educational goals. The mission of the school should be reflected in the performance criteria.

Goal	Measuring Instrument
Increase the number of students earning college credits and certificates annually.	College credits earned, Certificates of Proficiency earned.
We are expecting to move 85-90% percent of students .0-.5 standard deviation on the Arkansas Value Added Model. The school will track student growth and set measurable expectations for each student with focus on Tier-1 instruction to improve students at a rate predicted by the state measured tests. Using the Value Added Model, the school will track student growth within the proposed model to maintain longitudinal data that when analyzed can show improvement areas and needs. We will be using certified data with business rules applied.	iReady, ATLAS

Complete at least one Career Development class each year 7-12.	Student Survey
90 percent of students will complete a certification in each program of study.	DCTE Industry Recognized Certificates

CURRICULUM

10. Will the school provide the required courses as outlined in the Standards for Accreditation and the 38 Required High School Course Offerings? If not, explain what changes will be made. What additional electives will be offered?

Yes, we will provide the 38 required high school offerings. Each year, the Academies of Newport High School will offer an AP course in all of the four core areas, Math, Social Studies, Science and ELA.

11. Describe the process that will be used to ensure all curriculum materials used in the educational program are aligned with the Arkansas Academic Standards?

HQIM provided by DESE.

All courses are aligned to the Arkansas Curriculum Standard as established by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education. We will be using approved curriculum or will develop curriculum as needed. We do use ICEV as a supplemental curriculum and it has been approved in the state of Arkansas as supplemental. We will also work with our curriculum director and leadership team to ensure our curriculum is in line with Arkansas Academic Standards.

One of the primary goals of the Academies of Newport High School is for students to learn valuable workforce skills. Therefore, instructional strategies in all pathway classrooms are implemented with student voice through the advisory council. Additional professional development opportunities will be provided to ensure all teachers have the foundation they need to support students at the highest level.

Core classes will be supported at Newport High School with the addition of the following programs in Newport High School's Career Academies. Arkansas State University Newport courses are identified with an *.

- Agriculture Power, Structural, and Power Systems
- Plant Systems
- Human and Social Services
- Digital Marketing
- Pharmacy Tech.
- Pre-educator
- JROTC I, II, III, and IV
- JAG
- EAST
- Robotics I & II (as electives)
- Emergency Services (not currently offered)
- Skilled Trades Construction (not currently offered)
- Unmanned Aerial Systems I & II (not currently offered)
- Manned Aerial Systems (not currently offered)
- Real Estate (Not currently offered)
- Photography (Not currently offered)
- Court Reporting (Not currently offered)
- Cybersecurity I & II (as electives)
- Construction Technology (HVAC, Plumbing, Electrical, Construction, Furniture Mfg.)
- *ASUN Welding
- *ASUN Health Professions Pathway
- *ASUN Truck Service & Maintenance Pathway
- *ASUN Intro to Criminal Justice (Tentative)

12. Describe how reading instruction and literacy will be addressed. Address each of the following questions.

- a) What curricula are used that are aligned to **the Science of Reading** and are there any **limitations to the selected materials**?

All curriculum materials are selected from the list that is approved by DESE. The curriculum

materials align to the Science of Reading.

b) What is the plan for ensuring that all teachers will be trained in the Science of Reading?

We currently check teachers (professional development files) every year to ensure that they have had the necessary training as required by the state in the Science of Reading. If they have not had the training, we provide or will send them to a session at our local coop.

c) Will there be Science of Reading assessors in the charter school?

Yes, our instructional facilitator is a Science of Reading assessor. He will be available for all programs throughout the high school. Our High School Principal, Mr. Richard Greer, as well as Mrs. Amy Thaxton are both SOR Assessors and will assist with this process.

STUDENT SERVICES

13. Describe how the school will provide comprehensive school counseling services for all students. Include a description of the services, who will be providing the services, how the provider(s) will be trained, and the time allotment to carry out the counseling program.

We will have three counselors on staff, two will be Newport School District employees and one will be the Career Coach through Arkansas State University, Newport. NHS will provide College, Career/Life mentoring to all students without exclusion during the academic school day. In addition to the staff listed above, we will also include an advisory teacher to assist with keeping students on track in their preferred pathway. Counselors and advisors will assist students in developing a road map for each student's interests and aptitudes. By the 8th grade, students will take an aptitude test to find areas of interest in their academic journey. Advisors are given the opportunity to support students on their future options and advance along with students during their educational journey. Academic counselors will provide additional support to help students develop their success plan and post high school transition plan. NHS complies with Arkansas law and ADE: DESE Rules and Regulations regarding

counseling and guidance programs.

14. Describe how the school will provide library media services for all students. Make sure to address the following questions.

- a) How will access to materials that support curriculum, research, and recreational reading be provided to students and teachers.**

We will invite our local school and local county librarian to do an informational professional development with our teachers. Our school librarian also has a list of everything she has in the library by title and by subject area. Any library materials that are needed to support instruction can be requested through the school library, the CTE Director, or the Curriculum Director.

- b) If there will be no librarian who will provide instruction in the use of the library and the Library Media Standards, and how will they be trained to teach the standards?**

There will be a full time librarian on staff.

- c) If there is no librarian, who will provide professional development in new and emerging technologies, integration of technology into the instructional programs, and in the laws and policies pertaining to the use and communication of ideas and information, including copyright law?**

There will be a full time librarian on staff.

- d) Will the school have written policies for selection, removal, and retention of materials as well as a policy for addressing challenged materials, and who will be responsible for implementing those policies?**

The school will have written policies for selection, removal and retention of materials as well as a policy for addressing challenged materials. Our curriculum director will be responsible for these policies as well as establishing a committee when challenges occur.

15. Describe how the school will provide special education services for all students. Address each of the following areas.

a) Describe how you will identify students who have a disability and may need special education and related services (Child Find).

We have Child Find where we reach out to Pre-K through 12th grade students. Flyers are given to the doctor's offices, daycares, dentists, optometrists, and special education referrals are made by teachers and/or parents when there is a concern. At the elementary level, we screen for dyslexia. They do three annual tests to monitor progress throughout the school year. They also do progress monitoring through interventions based on the Response to Intervention. If any issues are found, a referral is made to the LEA Supervisor and a referral conference is held to discuss whether or not the child needs a psychological evaluation or a speech evaluation. If a psychological exam shows deficits in cognition or achievement that meets the criteria outlined in IDEA, a placement conference is held to discuss individualized instruction for the student and a plan is implemented with parental or guardian consent. If the child is in a class or this program and they have an IEP or 504, the teacher will implement accommodations and modifications that are set forth in the students individualized education plan.

We will utilize the same Child Find Plan District Wide.

b) Describe the Least Restrictive Environment continuum available.

The Academies at Newport High School (and Newport School District) offers the full continuum of services to all students with special education and related service needs. The continuum of services includes students from the most restrictive to the least restrictive environments. Our CTE classes include and support all students.

c) Describe your plan for adhering to all federal and state special education laws and rules.

All employees are provided with training on special education laws at the state and federal levels. Teachers are provided with the individualized education plans for the students they serve. They are also provided with support by the LEA Supervisor, Special Education Teachers, and other administrators. The LEA Supervisor, building level administrators, and special education teachers monitor student progress and make observations to ensure the needs of the students are being met as outlined in their individualized education plans

d) Describe how you will provide related services such as Speech-Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy. (Medicaid cannot be the sole funding source for related services. The district must have their own Medicaid

number if related services are billed through Medicaid. The charter is responsible for paying the Medicaid match.)

The Newport School District has a Medicaid number. Medicaid is billed for related services for students who are eligible for Medicaid. Students who are not eligible for Medicaid are provided related services with no cost to them. The school district covers the cost of all related services for students who are not eligible for Medicaid.

16. Describe how the school will provide dyslexia screening and services for all students.

Kindergarten through second grade students are universally screened for Dyslexia following the guidelines set forth by the DESE. Students in these grades are also monitored closely to try to catch them earlier. All teachers in grades kindergarten through second are met at the mid-year point to discuss students and any concerns they may have that might warrant further screening. Grades three through twelve are screened for Dyslexia when a teacher or parent expresses a concern. When the LEARNS Act goes into effect, the district will begin providing Level 2 Screeners to all students who have a deficit in fluency or spelling in order to meet the legal requirements of the new act. The district has already ordered additional tests in order to be prepared to meet the requirements.

Students identified having characteristics of dyslexia will be served using Connections or Take Flight which are both state approved dyslexia intervention programs. Depending on the program of study, students will be served the minutes required to fulfill each program.

Students will be served by a trained interventionist.

17. Describe how the school will provide for the needs of English Learners.

- a) How will you be screening, placing, notifying parents/guardians of placements, and annually reviewing English Learners/Former English Learners as per the Arkansas English Learner Entrance and Exit Procedures?**

We screen students with the ELPA screener. We screen students based on home language surveys as the main source. These surveys are sent out with all registration surveys and are sent in both English and Spanish. All students receive home language surveys. We notify parents/guardians of placement through a letter in their native language. We do an LPAC meeting annually and we review grades, test scores, progress in the language and the results of the ELPA test that they take in the spring. We do this every year at the first part of the school year. If students test proficient at the ELPA test, we put them into monitoring status for four years. We continually (annually) monitor students. If scores are where they need to be, we exit them from the program.

Once students score proficient on the ELPA21 assessment, they must also obtain any two data points as described in the Professional Judgment Rubric (PJR) in order to exit the status of being an English Learner and beginning the four year monitoring process. Each year of monitoring must have two data points as per the PJR to continue to the next monitoring year. After successfully completing four years of monitoring, they are considered as "Monitoring Complete."

b) How do you plan to provide English Language Development and Access to Core instruction aligned with the Arkansas English Language Proficiency Standards to each English Learner?

We do a pull-out system. Our numbers are very low. We pull students for English language development with them. They get their core instruction in the core classroom from the classroom teachers. Our ESL teacher pulls students into small groups weekly for instruction by grade level. If students needed additional assistance, the ESL teacher would pull them individually. We have a total of 30 students currently being served by the ESL Program.

c) How will you communicate information to limited English proficient parents in a language and manner they can understand about any program, service, or activity that is called to the attention of parents who are proficient in English?

When we send letters home in print we print in Spanish or the language that is spoken in the home so that all parents will have the information necessary to help their students be successful in school. We also employ a Spanish translator that is available during all parent meetings and parent teacher conferences.

On an as needed basis, parents who have language barriers other than Spanish, the school district will provide an interpreter in person or through digital means.

18. Describe how the school will address the needs of gifted and talented students.

Our school does a wonderful job meeting the needs of our gifted and talented students. We currently have three gifted and talented teachers and one of those serves as the coordinator and the drama/theater teacher. We offer quiz bowl, odyssey of the mind, and other

opportunities outside of the classroom. In the classroom, all teachers differentiate for our gifted and talented students to ensure we are meeting the needs of all students within our district. We are currently over identified, and we also offer opportunities for all students to participate in after-school activities and we also differentiate for all of those students as well. Most of these classes will easily be challenging for our gifted and talented students because most thrive in a project based classroom.

19. Describe the plan for developing and implementing Student Success Plans that assist students with achieving readiness for college, career, and community engagement.

We currently use Xello to aid our counselors and college and career coach to implement Student Success Plans. Each spring, a meeting is held with students and parents or guardians. School staff facilitate these meetings with students, parents and guardians to develop or revisit student success plans on an annual basis. These plans may be re-visited at any time by parental request, and will be updated at the very least annually. These plans assist students with scheduling, reviewing transcripts to ensure students are on track to graduate, and looking at career interests as well as scheduling tests such as the Accuplacer or ACT. We also utilize our district test coordinator in providing all students the opportunity to take the ACT WorkKeys Exam in which students can earn a certification to showcase their job readiness skills.

We are also pushing hard for all students to complete and receive high school credit for community service. This effort has been successful in helping students understand their civic duty, and is helping them see that anyone can make a difference, they are learning soft skills as well as communication skills, the value of hard work and giving back to our community. This recent increase in community service hours has also shown our community that we do have quality students that are committed to learning and making a difference. These experiences alone will be beneficial when students are looking at different careers.

20. Describe how food services will be provided for students.

Food service will be provided by Aramark. We are a CEP school, meaning a large percentage of our students are considered free and reduced. All students are offered a variety of healthy breakfast and lunch options. Our afterschool students are also provided a healthy snack. Aramark does a wonderful job with providing healthy options for our students.

If there are students who attend virtually, they may come to the school for meals. Meals will be served in a congregate setting. Meals served to virtual students on campus will be claimed based on student eligibility status.

SCHOOL GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

21. Describe the student recruitment process and timeline that will provide an equal opportunity for all parents and students to learn about and apply for admission to the proposed conversion public charter school.

The student recruitment process and timeline will begin each February when master schedules are being developed. A placement committee will be established to review applications and address referrals to The Academies at Newport High School. All students will have the opportunity to apply for admission. An informational night in March or April will provide interested parents and students the opportunity to learn more about the program. Registration into the program will occur after the application process has been followed in May.

22. Describe the facility where the school will be located.

The Academies at Newport High School will be located on the High School Campus. All other courses will be offered through our local secondary and technical career center with Arkansas State University, Newport. There is a possibility some courses could be offered virtually.

23. If a waiver of teacher licensure is requested, describe the process for vetting applicants.

a. How will Arkansas Qualified Teacher requirements be ensured for core areas of Math, Science, English, Social Studies, Elementary Ed., Art, Music, and Foreign Languages?

Ensuring students are college and/or career ready may necessitate partnering with instructors who are not licensed K-12 educators. The goal of an increase in students each year who are college and career ready will require instruction in specialized areas not traditionally covered by K-12 licensure.

Newport has one institution of higher learning, NHS seeks the opportunity to utilize instructors from Arkansas State University, Newport to provide instruction to students.

The request would also allow NHS students to allow employment of professionals from the community that are highly qualified to provide instruction even if they do not possess an Arkansas Teaching License. NHS would ensure any staff members hired as a result of the waiver meet the requirements of Arkansas Qualified Teacher and have successful completion of criminal background checks.

The waiver for school counselors and librarians would allow the school to consider candidates that are otherwise qualified in those specific areas that may not hold an Arkansas teaching license.

24. If a waiver of class size and teaching load is requested, describe how this will be used.

This waiver will not be requested.

WAIVERS

Complete the following tables indicating all sections of Title 6 of the Arkansas Code Annotated, the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education rules, and the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts from which the public charter school seeks to be exempted to meet the goals of the school.

Please use the waiver list provided below. This list includes the appropriate waiver topic and citations to the applicable Arkansas Code Section, Rules, and Standards to fully effectuate the requested waiver.

Each of your waiver requests must include a rationale. Failure to provide a rationale will result in your application being marked as incomplete.

Waiver #1 Topic	Flexible Schedule
Arkansas Code Annotated	Arkansas Code Ann. 6-16-102
Standard for Accreditation	
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	<p>Successful completion of the career programs offered by the Academies at Newport High School will require students to move from the traditional school day and classroom into the workforce and job training programs. Without Library Media Specialist Flexibility, students may have trouble completing their program of study.</p> <p>Since the law notes the school day must be in session for six hours and students receive instruction for six hours, NHS would like a waiver to allow student opportunities to have paid apprenticeships and internships within the community that may take place during the regular school day. Business and industry partners are a wonderful asset to provide real-world on the job experiences for students as they prepare to enter the workforce. With options for competency based learning, acceleration, and enrichment in addition to internships and apprenticeships, instruction may be provided in less than six hours per day or thirty hours per week.</p>

Waiver #2 Topic	Library Media Specialist
Arkansas Code Annotated	6-25-103, 6-25-104

Standard for Accreditation	4-F.1, 4-F.2, 2.D.1
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	<p>The library is a hub where technology and learning occur together. The librarian is a leader in our web-based culture and (as well as our local public library) assists the Academies at Newport High School and will serve as the Instructional Technology contact (ITC).</p> <p>As students explore the Academies at Newport High School, they will use a guided pathway service, personnel will shift to provide a learning environment that is open and flexible. This additional flexibility will allow the media center to not only be a hub for technology and learning, but a support space for student learning and success.</p>

Waiver #3 Topic	
Arkansas Code Annotated	
Standard for Accreditation	
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	

Waiver #4 Topic	
Arkansas Code Annotated	
Standard for Accreditation	
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	

Waiver #5 Topic	
Arkansas Code Annotated	
Standard for Accreditation	

ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	

Waiver #6 Topic	
Arkansas Code Annotated	
Standard for Accreditation	
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	

Waiver #7 Topic	
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Waiver #8 Topic	
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Waiver #9 Topic	
Arkansas Code Annotated	

Standard for Accreditation	
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	

Waiver #10 Topic	
Arkansas Code Annotated	
Standard for Accreditation	
ADE Rules	
Rationale for Waiver	

Waiver Topic Names with Arkansas Code Annotated, Standards, and DESE Rules (when applicable)

<u>178 Instructional Days – standard only</u>	<u>Acquisition of Commodities</u>	<u>Adopt School Calendar</u>	<u>Alternative Learning Environment (ALE)</u>	<u>Arkansas History</u>
<p>Standard 1-A.4.1</p>	<p>Ark. Code Ann. § 6-21-303</p>	<p>Ark. Code Ann. § 6-10-106</p>	<p>Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-15-1005(b)(5) 6-18-503(a)(1)(C)(i) 6-48-102 6-48-103</p> <p>DESE Rules Governing Student Special Needs Funding – Section 4</p> <p>Standard 2-I.1</p>	<p>Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-16-124(a)(2) 6-17-418 6-17-703</p> <p>Standard 1-A.1.2.8</p>
<p><u>Attendance</u></p> <p>Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-213(a)(2)</p>	<p><u>Board of Directors</u></p> <p>Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-13-608 6-13-611 6-13-612(c) 6-13-613 6-13-615 6-13-616(a) 6-13-617 6-13-618 6-13-619(a), (c), (d)(1)(A), (d)(4) 6-13-620(5) 6-13-622(b) 6-13-630 6-13-631 6-13-634 6-13-635 6-13-1303 6-14-101, et seq.</p>	<p><u>Body Mass Index (BMI) Assessment</u></p> <p>DESE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity and Body Mass Index for Age Assessment Protocols in Arkansas Public Schools, Section 5.02.5, 12.00</p>	<p><u>Class Size & Teaching Load</u></p> <p>Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-812</p> <p>Standard 1-A.5 (Class Size)</p> <p>Standard 1-A.6 (Teaching Load)</p> <p>DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load</p>	<p><u>Classified Employee Minimum Salary</u></p> <p>Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-2201, et seq. 6-17-2403</p>
<p><u>Clock Hours</u></p> <p>Standard 1-A.2</p>	<p><u>Comprehensive School Counseling Program & School Counselor</u></p> <p>Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-18-2002(2)(A) 6-18-2003(a)(2)(A) Standard 4-E.1, 4-E.2</p>	<p><u>Credit for College Courses</u></p> <p>Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-223</p>	<p><u>Curriculum – Advanced Placement Courses</u></p> <p>Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-16-1203(a) 6-16-1204(a), (c), and (d)</p>	<p><u>Curriculum – Career & Technical Education</u></p> <p>Standard 1-A.1.2.7 (5-8) 1-A.1.3.9 (9-12)</p>

<p>Curriculum – Concurrent Credit</p> <p>Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-16-1203(b) and (e)</p> <p>DESE Rules Governing Grading and Course Credit – Sections 5.00</p>	<p>Curriculum – CPR</p> <p>Ark. Code Ann. § 6-16-143</p> <p>Standard 1-C.2.5</p> <p>Under Ark. Code Ann. § 6-23-401(b) this is NOT waivable unless the charter is fully virtual.</p>	<p>Curriculum – Fine Arts</p> <p>Standard 1-A.1.1.5 (K-4)</p> <p>1-A.1.2.5 (5-8)</p> <p>1-A.1.3.6 (9-12)</p>	<p>DESE Rules Governing Grading and Course Credit – Sections 4-1.00 & 6.00</p> <p>Standard 1-A.1.3-10</p>	<p>Curriculum – Visual Art or Music</p> <p>Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-16-130(a) – elementary and some 6th grade</p> <p>DESE Rules Governing Visual Art and Music</p> <p>Standard 1-A.1.1.5, 1-A.1.2.5, & 1-A.1.3.6</p>
<p>Eye and Vision Screening</p> <p>Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-18-1501 and 6-18-1502</p> <p>DESE Rules Governing Eye & Vision Screening Report in Arkansas Public Schools</p>	<p>Financial Management – Business Manager</p> <p>Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-2302(b)</p> <p>DESE Rule Governing the Arkansas Fiscal Assessment and Accountability Program – Section 12</p>	<p>Flag Display</p> <p>Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-16-105 and 6-16-106</p>	<p>Flexible Schedule</p> <p>Ark. Code Ann. § 6-16-102, except (a)(5)</p>	<p>Food Services</p> <p>Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-18-705 (breakfast program) and 6-20-701, et seq. (school lunch program)</p> <p>DESE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity and Body Mass Index for Age Assessment Protocols in Arkansas Public Schools</p>
<p>Gifted and Talented</p> <p>Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-20-2208(c)(6) and 6-42-109</p> <p>DESE Rules Governing Gifted and Talented Program Approval Standards</p> <p>Standard 2-G.1</p>	<p>Grading Scale</p> <p>Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-902(a)</p> <p>DESE Rules Governing Grading and Course Credit – Section 2-2.01</p>	<p>Health Services – School Nurse</p> <p>Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-706</p>	<p>Health and Safety Services</p> <p>Standard 2-E.1, 2-E.2</p>	<p>Instructional Day (includes delay/early release of school and recess)</p> <p>Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-16-102 and 6-10-126 – Delay or early release of school due to emergency circumstances</p>
<p>Standard 3-D.1</p>				

<p><u>Instructional Materials</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-21-413 DESE Rules Governing Instructional Materials – Sections 5.01, 5.01.2</p>	<p><u>Leased Academic Facilities</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-21-117(2)-(5) Standard 6-A.1, 6-A.2</p>	<p><u>Library Media Services – includes standard for balance of instructional materials</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-25-103 Standard 2-D.1</p>	<p><u>Library Media Specialist</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-25-104 Standard 4-F.1, 4-F.2</p>	<p>1-A.4.2 1-A.4.3 (Recess) <u>Maintain School Facilities</u> Standard 6-A.1</p>
<p><u>Parent & Family Engagement Plan</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-1701, et seq. DESE Rules Governing Parental Involvement Plans and Family and Community Engagement Standard 5-A.1</p>	<p><u>Period of Silence</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-10-115</p>	<p><u>Personnel Policies – Classified Employees Personnel Policies</u> Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-2301(c) 6-17-2301(c)(1) & (d)(2) 6-17-2302 6-17-2303 6-17-2304 6-17-2305</p>	<p><u>Personnel Policies – Committee on Personnel Policies</u> Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-203 6-17-205 6-17-209</p>	<p><u>Personnel Policies – Daily Planning Period</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-114</p>
<p><u>Personnel Policies – Duty-Free Lunch Period</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-111</p>	<p><u>Personnel Policies – Employment of Licensed Personnel</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-301</p>	<p><u>Personnel Policies – Grievance Procedure</u> Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-208 6-17-210</p>	<p><u>Personnel Policies – Non-instructional Duties</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-117</p>	<p><u>Personnel Policies – Personnel Policies – Incorporated into Teacher Contracts</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-204</p>
<p><u>Personnel Policies – Public School Employees' Fair Hearing Act</u> Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-1701, et seq.</p>	<p><u>Personnel Policies – Requirements</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-201(a) & (c)</p>	<p><u>Personnel Policies – Right to Join Professional Organization</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-202</p>	<p><u>Personnel Policies – School Employees' Minimum Sick Leave</u> Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-1301, et seq.</p>	<p><u>Personnel Policies – Teachers' Minimum Sick Leave</u> Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-1201, et seq.</p>
<p><u>Personnel Policies – Teachers' Fair Dismissal Act</u> Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-1501, et seq.</p>	<p><u>Personnel Policies – Teacher Excellence and Support System (TESS)</u> Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-2801, et seq. DESE Rules Governing Educator Support and</p>	<p><u>Personnel Policies – Use of Personal Leave</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-211</p>	<p><u>Personnel Policies – Website Requirements</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-11-129 DESE Rules Governing Documents Posted to School District and Education Service Cooperative</p>	<p><u>Physical Education</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-16-132 DESE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity and Body Mass Index for Age Assessment Protocols in Arkansas Public Schools – Sections 7.01, 7.01.1, 7.01.1.1, 7.01.1.2, 7.01.3, 7.09</p>

	Development			Websites – Sections 5&6	Standards 1-A.1.1.6, 1-A.1.2.6, & 1-A.1.3.8
<u>Pledge of Allegiance</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-16-108	<u>Principal</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-302 Standards 4-C.1, 4-C.2	<u>Professional Development</u> Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-703 6-17-704 6-17-705 DESE Rules Governing Professional Development Standard 4-G.1	<u>Report Cards</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-903(a)(2)	<u>Required Instruction</u> K-4 Standard 1-A.1.1	
<u>Required Instruction</u> 5-8 Standard 1-A.1.2	<u>Required Instruction</u> 9-12 Standard 1-A.1.3	<u>Salaries and Compensation</u> Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-807 6-17-812 6-17-908 6-17-2401 et seq. 6-21-303(b)	<u>School Calendar – School Start Date</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-10-106	<u>School Counselor</u> Standard 4-E.1 & 4-E.2	
<u>School Property and Supplies – Rules</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-21-303(b)	<u>School Safety Policies & Procedures</u> Standard 6-A.2	<u>Statewide Assessment System</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-2907 Under Ark. Code Ann. § 6-23-401(b) this is NOT waivable.	<u>Written Student Discipline Procedures</u> Ark. Code Ann. 6-18-503(b)(2) DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety, 4.11	<u>Superintendent</u> Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-13-109 6-17-427 DESE Rules Governing the Superintendent Mentoring Program	
<u>Teacher Excellence & Support System (TESS)</u> Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-17-2801, et seq. DESE Rules Governing Educator Support and Development	<u>Teacher Licensure</u> Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-15-1004 6-17-309 6-17-401 6-17-418 6-17-902 6-17-908 6-17-919 DESE Rules Governing	<u>Teachers' Salaries – 12-mo. Contract for Vocational/Agri Teachers</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-802	<u>Tornado & Earthquake Safety Drills</u> Ark. Code Ann. § 6-10-121 Under Ark. Code Ann. § 6-23-401(b) this is NOT waivable unless the charter is fully virtual.	Standard 4-B.1, 4-B.2 <u>Transportation</u> Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-19-101, et seq.	

	Educator Licensure – Section 7 Standard 4-D.1			
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REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

1. Attach documentation to demonstrate that each of the following requirements of Arkansas Code Annotated § 6-23-201(b)(1)(B) was met:
 - a. The notice of public hearing was distributed to the community, licensed personnel, and the parents of all students enrolled at the public school for which the public school district initiated the application; and
 - b. The notice of the public hearing was published in a newspaper having general circulation in the public school district at least three (3) weeks before the date of the meeting.

Text Message Thursday 1:55 PM

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 ...effort to support organic
 ...and transitioning producers,
 ...OTI also includes farm-
 ...er-to-farmer mentoring,
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 ...opment projects.

In addition to NRCS,
 USDA's Agricultural Mar-
 keting Service (AMS) and

...ganic producers.

The National Organic
 Program is a federal regula-
 tory program administered
 by AMS, that develops and
 enforces consistent nation-
 al standards for organical-
 ly produced agricultural
 products sold in the United
 States.

For more information, vis-
 it farmers.gov/organic.



Newport School District

will host an informational meeting for the community
June 8th at 6 pm in the High School Auditorium
 concerning the application for a charter school within a school.

**The Career and Technical Academies
 at Newport High School**
 with approval from the state would begin
 in the 2024-2025 school year.

This meeting will address the direction of the program
 and possible options for career certifications.



In paper today

Jonesboro Sun
 Times Dispatch, Daily Press, Evening Times
 PO Box 1200
 Paducah, KY 42002-1200

3-00000678

ADVERTISING INVOICE / STATEMENT

BILLING DATE	TERMS OF PAYMENT
05/28/2023	Standard Terms

*****AUTO**ALL FOR AADC 720
 Jon Bradley
 Newport School District (Ni)
 406 Wilkerson Dr
 Newport, AR 72112-3949

BILLED ACCOUNT NO.	AGENCY/CLIENT
00012144	00012144
NAME OF AGENCY/CLIENT	
Newport School District (NI)	

DATE	AD #	TRANS #	DESCRIPTION	INS	UNITS	AMOUNT	TOTAL
05/11/2023	70660160	301688433	Balance Forward			1460.00	1,460.00
			Graduation 2023 - 70660160 Graduation 2023			550.00	2,010.00
			124NIS1 Ni Special Section -	1	117.00in		
05/16/2023	70670909	301697484	Charter School Meeting - 70670909 Charter	✓		35.00	2,045.00
			124JSD1 Jonesboro Sun - Charter	1	6.00in		
05/18/2023	70670909	301704446	Charter School Meeting - 70670909 Charter	✓		35.00	2,080.00
			124NIE1 Newport Independent -	1	6.00in		
05/23/2023	70670909	301711914	Charter School Meeting - 70670909 Charter			35.00	2,115.00
			124JSD1 Jonesboro Sun - Charter	1	6.00in		
05/25/2023		401703426	Payment Check 2523798 252378			-1460.00	655.00
05/25/2023	70670909	301719286	Charter School Meeting - 70670909 Charter	✓		35.00	690.00
			124NIE1 Newport Independent -	1	6.00in		
05/25/2023	70685087	301720874	Memorial Day Sig Page 2023 - 70685087	✓		30.00	720.00
			124NIE1 Newport Independent -	1	2.25in		

[Handwritten Signature]
 6-5-23

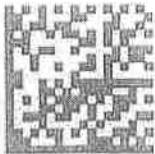
MAY 2023	April 2023	March 2023	February 2023	January 2023
\$ 720.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

TOTAL NET AMOUNT DUE
\$ 720.00

PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION
 WITH YOUR REMITTANCE

If you desire to charge this amount to your credit card, please complete the following information and return to the address below: [] Visa [] Mastercard [] Discover [] American Express
 Acct# _____ Exp Date: _____
 Signature _____

BILLED ACCOUNT NO.	BILLED ACCOUNT NAME	AMOUNT DUE
124 00012144	Newport School District (NI)	\$ 720.00



SENT TO
 Jonesboro Sun
 c/o Paxton Media Group
 PO Box 1200
 Paducah, KY 42002-1200
 Phone: 270-575-8731
 Fax: 270-575-8726

Payment in full is due upon receipt of the statement. A service charge on all balances over 30 days will be computed by a 'Periodic Rate' of 1-1/2% per month, which is an ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE OF 18%, this applies to the previous balance after deducting current payments and credits appearing on your statement. Refunds less than \$10.00 will be refunded electronically, donated to NIE, or collected in cash at the newspaper.

Remittance Advice

Billing Date

000121440000000000072000

NEWPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

AGENDA

DATE: June 19th, 2022

REGULAR MEETING: Regular Board Meeting
Newport Administration Building

A. REGULAR MEETING:

1. Call to Order by Board President at _____ p.m. Mr. George

B. PLEDGE AND PRAYER:

C. PROCEDURAL MATTERS:

1. Extend a welcome to any guests: Mr. George

2. Discuss and Act on the Regular Board minutes and Special Board minutes
From May 16th, June 2nd, and June 14th Mr. George

Motion: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders
Second: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders

D. Financial Report

1. Discuss and Act on the May Financial Report Dr. Churchwell

Motion: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders
Second: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders

E. New Business Operations:

1. Discuss Science Curriculum Mr. Bradley
2. Discuss and act on the proposal to renew the MOU's with Families Inc./Mid-South Counseling

Services for the 23-24 school year

Mr. Bradley

*Motion: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders
Second: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders*

*3. Discuss and act on the proposal to amend Angie
Brooks Contract to allow years of experience*

Mr. Bradley

*Motion: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders
Second: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders*

*4. Discuss and act on the proposal to approve the
FASHOUNDS pay scale for non-contracted summer
Work*

Mr. Bradley

*Motion: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders
Second: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders*

*5. Discuss and act on the proposed Resolution from
M&P Insurance concerning the purchase of the
Multi-purpose building.*

Mr. Bradley

*Motion: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders
Second: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders*

*6. Discuss and act on the proposal to purchase
Equipment for the Command-and-Control Center* *Mr. Bradley*

*Motion: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders
Second: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders*

*7. Discuss and act on the proposal to declare the old
HVAC units that have been replaced as surplus
And eligible for scrap and/or sale*

Mr. Bradley

*Motion: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders
Second: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders*

8. *Discuss and act on the proposal to approve an Out-of-state overnight trip for the girls Basketball team to Delta State in Mississippi* **Mr. Bradley**

Motion: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders
Second: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders

9. *Discuss and Act on the proposal to approve The AEGIS grant pay scale* **Mr. Bradley**

Motion: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders
Second: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders

10. *Discuss and approve the proposal to file for a District Charter Conversion.*

Motion: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders
Second: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders

F. Superintendent's Report **Mr. Bradley**

<i>Important Dates</i>	<i>June 20th-22nd</i>	<i>Superintendent's Retreat</i>
	<i>June 22nd</i>	<i>New Board Member Training</i>
	<i>July 18th</i>	<i>Next Board Meeting</i>

G. Closed Session- Personnel— (We will not need a Closed Session)

1. *Resignations/Retirements/Employment*

H. Return to Open Session (For Any Action Necessary) Time _____

1. *Personnel Moves/Contract Adjustments*
Motion _____ Second _____
Board Approve/Reject _____

Resignations
Motion _____ Second _____

Board Approve/Reject_____

Employment

Motion_____ Second_____

Board Approve/Reject_____

I. Adjournment

Motion: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders

Second: Norris Prince Foshee George Washam Sampson Anders

Time: _____

Newport School District

Regular Minutes June 19, 2023

The Newport School District Board of Directors met on Monday, June 19th, 2023 for their regularly scheduled board meeting. The meeting was held at the Central Administration Office in the Boardroom.

Attendees: Heath George, Monica Prince, Todd Norris, Jeff Sampson, Justin Foshee, LaTonya Anders, Superintendent Jon Bradley, Dr. Nancy Churchwell, Grover Welch, Richard Greer, Tiffany Brogdon, Misty Burgin, Celia Miller, and Joey McKnight. Absent: Mr. Donnie Washam

Mr. George opened the meeting at 6:01pm, and welcomed all guests. The Board then began the meeting after a prayer by Mr. George and the pledge led by Mr. Sampson.

The first item of business was to approve the minutes of the May 16th Regular Meeting and the minutes from the Special Meetings held on June 2nd and June 14th. Mr. Norris made a motion to approve with a second from Mr. Sampson. **Board Approved 6-0**

The next order of business was to approve the Financial Report for the month of March. Mr. Bradley turned the meeting over to Dr. Churchwell. She reported the district was in good financial shape, and had received 94% of the tax revenue for the year, and would receive a little over \$148,000 from the state to compensate for taxes not collected. Dr. Churchwell also informed the Board the district received \$22,000 in ESA matching funds. Mr. Foshee made a motion to approve with a second by Ms. Prince. **Board Approved 6-0**

New Business

Agenda Item #1: Discuss District Science Curriculum

Mr. Bradley turned the meeting over to Mr. Grover Welch to discuss the Science Curriculum currently being used. He explained to the Board the district is using the SAVAAS curriculum along with the supplemental resources. Mr. Welch also spoke about the online resources available to the faculty through this program.

Agenda Item #2: Discuss and act on the proposal to renew the MOUs with Families Inc./Mid-South Counseling Services for the 23-24 school year

Mr. Bradley explained to the Board the district has been pleased with the services offered by these companies over the past year and would like to renew the agreement with both companies for the 2023-24 school year. Mr. Norris made a motion to approve the renewal of the MOUs with Families Inc. and Mid-South Counseling with a second by Mr. Sampson. **Board Approved 6-0**

Agenda Item #3: Discuss and act on the proposal to amend Angie Brooks' contract to give credit for years of experience

Mr. Bradley reported that it had come to his attention that Nurse Brooks was the only nurse on staff whom was not given credit for years of experience upon employment. He also stated that he would like to correct that. Amending her 2023-2024 contract would show a difference of \$3,000 to be dispersed over 24 pay periods. Mr. Norris made a motion to approve with a second by Ms. Prince. **Board Approved 6-0**

Agenda Item #4: Discuss and act on the proposal to approve the FASHOUNDS pay scale for non-contracted summer work

Mr. Bradley discussed with the Board the hours the coaches work in the summer when they are not on contract. He also reported that it has been agreed in the past to pay \$30/hour (up to 20 hours per week) for that work. He requested the Board approve the pay scale for the non-contracted summer work. Mr. Foshee made a motion to approve with a second by Mr. Sampson. **Board Approved 6-0**

Agenda Item #5: Discuss and act on the proposed Resolution from M&P Insurance concerning the purchase of the Multi-Purpose Building

Mr. Bradley informed the Board this was a Resolution from M&P Insurance (just for paperwork purposes) explaining the process of the purchase of the building. The bank is securing the loan and making renovations, and the building will be purchased as a completed project. Mr. Norris made a motion to approve with a second by Mr. Sampson. **Board Approved 6-0**

Agenda Item #6: Discuss and act on the proposal to declare the old HVAC Units as Surplus Items allowing them to be eligible for sale or scrap

Mr. Bradley explained the old HVAC units that have recently been replaced are currently in storage and taking up space on campus. In order for the district to dispose of them by either sale or scrap, the Board must declare them as surplus items. Mr. Sampson made a motion to declare the units surplus with a second by Mr. Norris. **Board Approved 6-0**

Agenda Item #7: Discuss and act on the proposal to approve an out-of-state trip for the girls basketball program

Mr. Bradley reported to the Board Coach Haigwood had recently requested to take the group to Delta State in Mississippi this coming week. He also explained how the district wishes to have all out-of-state trips prior-approved. He told the Board the group would either travel by bus or in the school vans for the trip. Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve with a second by Mr. Norris. **Board Approved 6-0**

Agenda Item #8: Discuss and act on the proposal to approve the AEGIS pay scale

Mr. Bradley spoke to the Board about the AEGIS grant that had been awarded to the district in the amount of \$8,910.13. He explained how a pay scale/budget had to be submitted and approved in order to pay for the director, teachers, and supplies. Mr. Bradley reported the required items had been approved, and he requested the board approve the pay scale for the grant. Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve with a second by Mr. Foshee. **Board Approved 6-0**

Agenda Item #9: Discuss and act on the proposal to give approval to the district to file for a district conversion charter

Mr. Bradley explained to the Board they had already given approval to file for the charter, but the approval for the application needed to be recorded in the Board Minutes. Mr. Norris made a motion to approve the application with a second by Mr. Sampson. **Board Approved 6-0**

Mr. George then closed the New Business portion of the meeting and turned it over to Mr. Bradley for the Superintendent's Report.

Mr. Bradley began by reporting that the district had recently held a community information meeting regarding the conversion charter. The meeting was held on June 8, and included discussions about security, the plan for and possibilities of the charter, and the partnership with ASUN concerning the concurrent side of the charter.

Mr. Bradley then discussed the construction of the cafeteria kitchen. He reported the addition was underway and briefly spoke on the timeline for the project. He stated the goal was to have the new portion completed by January. The addition would then be connected with the old dining area while the current kitchen area is remodeled. The goal for the entire project is to be completed by March of 2024.

Mr. Bradley then reported how several district teachers and administrators are currently attending in-service. He also informed the Board he had sent surveys to the faculty at the end of the year concerning curriculum, academic support, policies and procedures, and a few other areas. Mr. Bradley requested that Mr. Welch share the results with the board for their review.

Mr. Bradley then praised the district's maintenance crew for being on top of things this summer even with a smaller crew than usual.

Mr. Bradley let the Board know he had sent nine buses to have the hoods repainted because they were peeling. Two of the buses have been returned, and two are in the process of being painted. The buses are being sent two at a time.

Mr. Bradley then spoke about the ballistic film that is currently being placed on all of the windows. He also gave an update on the progress of the security grant.

He ended his report by informing the Board on the success of the "Rescue A Hound" Fundraiser held on June 13th. The fundraiser included approximately 30 members of the community who all volunteered their time to be in the "pound". The goal for the day

was set at \$10,000. The district ended up with pledges of over \$20,000. The money raised will be used for academic supplemental supplies and to provide meals for students during extra-curricular events.

Mr. Bradley then discussed a few important dates, including the New Board Member training this week in Hot Springs that Mrs. Anders will attend, and the next board meeting date, July 18th.

The Board then entered into an executive session at 6:35pm.

At 7:13pm, the Board returned from the executive session, and Mr. George turned the meeting over to Mr. Bradley for Resignation, Employment, and Retirement.

Mr. Bradley requested the Board approve the following:

Resignations:

Mrs. Ginger Willis as G/T coordinator and Theater teacher at NHS

Mrs. Shawna Talley as 8th grade Math teacher at NHS

Mr. Bryce Morris as Agri teacher at NHS

Mr. Foshee made a motion to accept the resignations with a second by Mr. Sampson.

Board Approved 6-0

Employment:

Mr. Connor Balentine as Agri Teacher at NHS for the 23-24 school year

Mr. Nate Tiner as 8th grade Math teacher at NHS for the 23-24 school year

Mrs. Amber Gomez as PreK IA at NES for the 23-24 school year

Mrs. Samantha Walton as PreK IA at NES for the 23-24 school year

Mr. Norris made a motion to approve with a second by Ms. Prince. **Board Approved 6-0**

Mr. Bradley then recommended the following personnel moves:

Mrs. Tabitha Owens to G/T Coordinator and amending her contract to 200 days for the 23-24 school year

Mrs. Brittany Smith from PreK IA to Kindergarten teacher at NES for the 23-24 school year

Ms. Foshee made a motion to approve with a second by Mr. Sampson. **Approved 6-0**

No other business to discuss.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Sampson with a second by Mr. Norris. **Board Approved 6-0**

Board adjourned at 7:16pm.

Board President

Board Secretary

Newport School District

Regular Minutes June 19, 2023

The Newport School District Board of Directors met on Monday, June 19th, 2023 for their regularly scheduled board meeting. The meeting was held at the Central Administration Office in the Boardroom.

Attendees: Heath George, Monica Prince, Todd Norris, Jeff Sampson, Justin Foshee, LaTonya Anders, Superintendent Jon Bradley, Dr. Nancy Churchwell, Grover Welch, Richard Greer, Tiffany Brogdon, Misty Burgin, Celia Miller, and Joey McKnight. Absent: Mr. Donnie Washam

Mr. George opened the meeting at 6:01pm, and welcomed all guests. The Board then began the meeting after a prayer by Mr. George and the pledge led by Mr. Sampson.

The first item of business was to approve the minutes of the May 16th Regular Meeting and the minutes from the Special Meetings held on June 2nd and June 14th. Mr. Norris made a motion to approve with a second from Mr. Sampson. **Board Approved 6-0**

The next order of business was to approve the Financial Report for the month of March. Mr. Bradley turned the meeting over to Dr. Churchwell. She reported the district was in good financial shape, and had received 94% of the tax revenue for the year, and would receive a little over \$148,000 from the state to compensate for taxes not collected. Dr. Churchwell also informed the Board the district received \$22,000 in ESA matching funds. Mr. Foshee made a motion to approve with a second by Ms. Prince. **Board Approved 6-0**

New Business

Agenda Item #1: Discuss District Science Curriculum

Mr. Bradley turned the meeting over to Mr. Grover Welch to discuss the Science Curriculum currently being used. He explained to the Board the district is using the SAVAAS curriculum along with the supplemental resources. Mr. Welch also spoke about the online resources available to the faculty through this program.

Agenda Item #2: Discuss and act on the proposal to renew the MOUs with Families Inc./Mid-South Counseling Services for the 23-24 school year

Mr. Bradley explained to the Board the district has been pleased with the services offered by these companies over the past year and would like to renew the agreement with both companies for the 2023-24 school year. Mr. Norris made a motion to approve the renewal of the MOUs with Families Inc. and Mid-South Counseling with a second by Mr. Sampson. **Board Approved 6-0**

Agenda Item #3: Discuss and act on the proposal to amend Angie Brooks' contract to give credit for years of experience

Mr. Bradley reported that it had come to his attention that Nurse Brooks was the only nurse on staff whom was not given credit for years of experience upon employment. He also stated that he would like to correct that. Amending her 2023-2024 contract would show a difference of \$3,000 to be dispersed over 24 pay periods. Mr. Norris made a motion to approve with a second by Ms. Prince. **Board Approved 6-0**

Agenda Item #4: Discuss and act on the proposal to approve the FASHOUNDS pay scale for non-contracted summer work

Mr. Bradley discussed with the Board the hours the coaches work in the summer when they are not on contract. He also reported that it has been agreed in the past to pay \$30/hour (up to 20 hours per week) for that work. He requested the Board approve the pay scale for the non-contracted summer work. Mr. Foshee made a motion to approve with a second by Mr. Sampson. **Board Approved 6-0**

Agenda Item #5: Discuss and act on the proposed Resolution from M&P Insurance concerning the purchase of the Multi-Purpose Building

Mr. Bradley informed the Board this was a Resolution from M&P Insurance (just for paperwork purposes) explaining the process of the purchase of the building. The bank is securing the loan and making renovations, and the building will be purchased as a completed project. Mr. Norris made a motion to approve with a second by Mr. Sampson. **Board Approved 6-0**

Agenda Item #6: Discuss and act on the proposal to declare the old HVAC Units as Surplus Items allowing them to be eligible for sale or scrap

Mr. Bradley explained the old HVAC units that have recently been replaced are currently in storage and taking up space on campus. In order for the district to dispose of them by either sale or scrap, the Board must declare them as surplus items. Mr. Sampson made a motion to declare the units surplus with a second by Mr. Norris. **Board Approved 6-0**

Agenda Item #7: Discuss and act on the proposal to approve an out-of-state trip for the girls basketball program

Mr. Bradley reported to the Board Coach Haigwood had recently requested to take the group to Delta State in Mississippi this coming week. He also explained how the district wishes to have all out-of-state trips prior-approved. He told the Board the group would either travel by bus or in the school vans for the trip. Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve with a second by Mr. Norris. **Board Approved 6-0**

Agenda Item #8: Discuss and act on the proposal to approve the AEGIS pay scale

Mr. Bradley spoke to the Board about the AEGIS grant that had been awarded to the district in the amount of \$8,910.13. He explained how a pay scale/budget had to be submitted and approved in order to pay for the director, teachers, and supplies. Mr. Bradley reported the required items had been approved, and he requested the board approve the pay scale for the grant. Mr. Sampson made a motion to approve with a second by Mr. Foshee. **Board Approved 6-0**

Agenda Item #9: Discuss and act on the proposal to give approval to the district to file for a district conversion charter

Mr. Bradley explained to the Board they had already given approval to file for the charter, but the approval for the application needed to be recorded in the Board Minutes. Mr. Norris made a motion to approve the application with a second by Mr. Sampson. **Board Approved 6-0**

Mr. George then closed the New Business portion of the meeting and turned it over to Mr. Bradley for the Superintendent's Report.

Mr. Bradley began by reporting that the district had recently held a community information meeting regarding the conversion charter. The meeting was held on June 8, and included discussions about security, the plan for and possibilities of the charter, and the partnership with ASUN concerning the concurrent side of the charter.

Mr. Bradley then discussed the construction of the cafeteria kitchen. He reported the addition was underway and briefly spoke on the timeline for the project. He stated the goal was to have the new portion completed by January. The addition would then be connected with the old dining area while the current kitchen area is remodeled. The goal for the entire project is to be completed by March of 2024.

Mr. Bradley then reported how several district teachers and administrators are currently attending in-service. He also informed the Board he had sent surveys to the faculty at the end of the year concerning curriculum, academic support, policies and procedures, and a few other areas. Mr. Bradley requested that Mr. Welch share the results with the board for their review.

Mr. Bradley then praised the district's maintenance crew for being on top of things this summer even with a smaller crew than usual.

Mr. Bradley let the Board know he had sent nine buses to have the hoods repainted because they were peeling. Two of the buses have been returned, and two are in the process of being painted. The buses are being sent two at a time.

Mr. Bradley then spoke about the ballistic film that is currently being placed on all of the windows. He also gave an update on the progress of the security grant.

He ended his report by informing the Board on the success of the "Rescue A Hound" Fundraiser held on June 13th. The fundraiser included approximately 30 members of the community who all volunteered their time to be in the "pound". The goal for the day

was set at \$10,000. The district ended up with pledges of over \$20,000. The money raised will be used for academic supplemental supplies and to provide meals for students during extra-curricular events.

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Mr. Foshee made a motion to accept the resignations with a second by Mr. Sampson.

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Mr. Nate Tiner as 8th grade Math teacher at NHS for the 23-24 school year

Mrs. Amber Gomez as PreK IA at NES for the 23-24 school year

Mrs. Samantha Walton as PreK IA at NES for the 23-24 school year

Mr. Norris made a motion to approve with a second by Ms. Prince. **Board Approved 6-0**

Mr. Bradley then recommended the following personnel moves:

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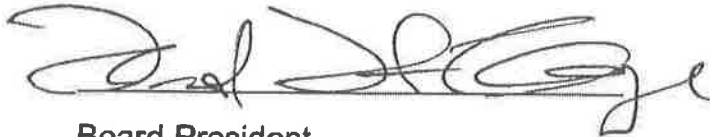
Mrs. Brittany Smith from PreK IA to Kindergarten teacher at NES for the 23-24 school year

Ms. Foshee made a motion to approve with a second by Mr. Sampson. **Approved 6-0**

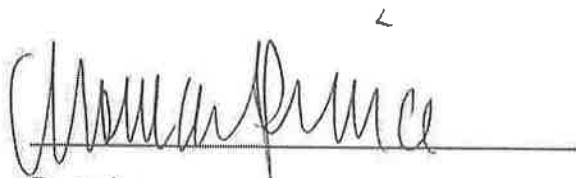
No other business to discuss.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Sampson with a second by Mr. Norris. **Board Approved 6-0**

Board adjourned at 7:16pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Sampson", written over a horizontal line.

Board President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Prince", written over a horizontal line.

Board Secretary



Economic Development Commission

June 20, 2023

Arkansas Department of Education
Division of Learning Services
Four Capitol Mall, Mail Slot #3
Little Rock, AR 72112

Dear Commissioner Key,

The Newport Economic Development Commission would like to send this letter as an indication of our full support for the Newport School District's conversion charter school application. The proposal to create a charter school that will provide real career training opportunities for industries in our area will be a huge factor in our ability to regain our existing industries and recruit new businesses. The student's lives will be enriched by the program and have skills that are extremely marketable in today's economy.

The ability to have the flexibility to include paid internships, apprenticeships and to use leaders in our local and regional business community to transfer skill sets to students will be invaluable. The strategic plan is completely in line with our economic development strategic objectives. The Newport School District is already a valuable partner in our success as a community and this will allow them to grow even stronger.

We look forward to working with the Newport School District on the conversion charter school process and are excited about the innovative learning opportunities this will provide. Our young people deserve the best we can give them, and this proposal moves us in that direction.

Should you have any questions about our support, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Jon Chadwell, CECD
Executive Director

201 HAZEL STREET
NEWPORT, ARKANSAS 72112
www.newportarchamber.org



PHONE: (870) 523-3818
FAX: (870) 523-1055
director@newportarchamber.org

June 20, 2023

Arkansas Department of Education
Division of Learning Services
Four Capitol Mall, Mail Slot #3
Little Rock, AR 72112

Dear Commissioner Key,

Education is a vital component in our community's growth and prosperity. The Newport Area Chamber of Commerce works closely with the Newport School District to help increase opportunities for our young people. For this reason, we fully support the conversion charter school application being submitted by the district.

Our young people need the opportunity to gain real world skills and experience while still in their secondary school years. The avenues provided by the charter school model will ensure that they have the ability to gain meaningful and economically rewarding employment directly out of high school or attend college to further their education.

This application has been developed with community leaders and employers. It is responsive to the businesses needs of Newport, Jackson County, and the region. The Newport School District has our full support as they move forward in this endeavor.

We are excited about career training, internships, and apprenticeships. As the lead organization for businesses in our county, we know how valuable these will be for students. This application has the potential to dramatically improve the workforce our businesses need.

Please feel free to contact us about our support for this program.

Sincerely,



Julie Allen, PCED
Executive Director



Amanda Brogdon <amanda.brogdon@newportschools.org>

Information for Final District Conversion Application Submission

2 messages

Dorie Summons (ADE) <Dorie.Summons@ade.arkansas.gov>
To: "Dorie Summons (ADE)" <Dorie.Summons@ade.arkansas.gov>
Cc: "Thomas Coy (ADE)" <Thomas.Coy@ade.arkansas.gov>

Fri, Jul 28, 2023 at 11:37 AM

Good morning,

I wanted to share some information on submitting the final application. We talked about this briefly on the feedback zooms. A draft copy of your final application will be shared with the Charter Authorizing Panel, and a clean copy of with your revisions will be posted to the agenda and on the ADE website.

Remember the draft copy should show changes in red and use the strikethrough feature if any changes are made. Please make sure that the change from the initial application to the final application are clear.

When you submit your final application, ***send a draft copy and a clean copy of your final submission.*** You may submit it in Canvas or send it to the Charter email address ade.charterschools@ade.arkansas.gov.

Final applications are due August 21, 2023 by 5 pm.

If you have any questions, please contact the charter office.

Sincerely,

Dorie Summons

Dorie Summons, Ed.S
Director of Public Charter Schools
Arkansas Department of Education
Division of Elementary and Secondary Education
Office of Public Charter Schools
Public School Accountability
Four Capitol Mall, Box 26