

2020-2021 District Support Plan

On website by Sept 1, 2020

District	Fort Smith Public Schools
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ARKANSAS READY FOR LEARNING PLAN:

Ready for Learning Expectations		District Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the continuity of teaching and learning by providing: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a guaranteed and viable curriculum that includes: 	<p>In addition to existing curricular expectations, including the foundational use of grade level content standards, our teachers will resume collaborative conversations in September, facilitated by Solution Tree consultants, to identify Essential Standards that will serve as THE guaranteed and viable curriculum in each classroom, at all grade levels. The district-wide Essential Standards will be derived based upon the work that has occurred at each individual school, utilizing the expertise of grade level teachers.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ blended learning (K-12), and 	<p>In addition to on-site learning, instruction will be designed and delivered utilizing teacher prepared blended learning units. Blended learning will be available for students at all K-12 campuses to provide each campus with the ability to pivot between on-site and home instruction. More information is provided in these links:</p> <p>Blended Learning</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ diagnostic assessments (K-8) 	<p>A calendar for administration of ACT Aspire Periodic (Interim) assessments for grades 3-10, has been established and disseminated, and is additionally available on the FSPS website at this link: Assessment Information. Instruction: ISIP will continue to be utilized in grades K-2. Additionally, a district focus for 2020-21, in partnership with Solution Tree consultants, will be the continued development and</p>

		use of Common Formative Assessments, and Common Summative Assessments. These assessments must be designed so that they may be administered to students learning virtually/remotely, as needed.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify how to address unfinished learning from the prior year by using: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arkansas Playbook: Planning for Re-engagement 	The district's literacy, mathematics, science, and ELL coordinators have prepared a document that identifies standards which were to be introduced during the fourth quarter, per our district-created curriculum maps/pacing guides. Additionally, the Arkansas Playbook will be identified as a part of our re-entry plan. A webinar will be presented to applicable staff that will illustrate how both of these resources should be utilized at the beginning of the 2020-21 school year.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> district-developed resources 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilize a Learning Management System 		Google Classroom (PK-6), Schoology (7-12)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule teacher training for how to use the LMS 		Teacher training for utilizing an LMS and how to "pivot" between multiple models for delivery of instruction, i.e., blended learning, has been developed and staff is currently participating in 18 hours of professional development.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule teacher training for blended learning (delivery of instruction) 		Teacher training for utilizing an LMS and how to "pivot" between multiple models for delivery of instruction, i.e., blended learning, has been developed and staff is currently participating in 18 hours of professional development.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide support for parents and students Family and Community Engagement Plan Support Parent Page on DESE Website 		A Ready to Learn Committee was established to create guidance in the creation of a Family and Community Engagement Support Plan. The committee is made up of parents, community leaders, teachers and administrators. The Back to School Ready to Learn Plan is a living document that is on the district website and it has been communicated on the district's social media platforms.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a communication plan for interacting with parents, students, and the community 		A Ready to Learn Committee was established to create guidance in the creation of a Family and Community Engagement Support Plan. The committee is made up of parents, community leaders, teachers and administrators. The Back to School Ready to Learn Plan is a living document that is on the district website and it has been communicated on the district's social media platforms.

The following waivers were requested through submission of the Assurance and Application for Arkansas Ready for Learning:

[See Table 1](#) for explanation of waivers with text of statutes, rules, and standards for accreditation.

Waivers	Explanation for waivers the district chooses to use. For any left blank, the
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	district has chosen not to use.
Ark. Code Ann. 6-17-117 (Non Instructional duties - only for the purpose of implementing ADH requirements and guidelines regarding health and safety)	<p>The waiver for Ark. Code Ann. 6-17-117 is necessary to ensure that each school has adequate human resources to monitor social distancing, provide before and after school supervision to ensure drop-off and pick-up routines follow ADH guidelines regarding health and safety.</p> <p>Additional non-instructional duty will be required to meet the following COVID-19 related district plans:</p> <p>Student and Staff Safety Child Nutrition and Transportation</p>
Ark. Code Ann. 6-17-204(b) (Teacher contracts - only for the purpose of adopting model policies necessary to implement the Arkansas Ready for Learning Model)	Teacher contract terms include the calendar. The calendar was changed by the Board after the fiscal year began in order to accommodate an August 24 start date. A staff mask policy was also adopted by the Board in July for implementation during the current fiscal year. These changes and additions were not approved “by a majority of the licensed personnel employed by the school district voting by secret ballot.” In order to implement the Arkansas Ready for Learning Model, additional changes may be required during the 2021 fiscal year without approval by a majority of the licensed personnel employed by the school district voting by secret ballot.
Ark. Code Ann. 6-17-205(b)(2) (Teacher contracts - only for the purpose of adopting model policies necessary to implement the Arkansas Ready for Learning Model)	Teacher contract terms include the calendar. The calendar had to be changed after the fiscal year began in order to accommodate the August 24 start date. The Certified PPC Calendar Committee developed the new calendar and the PPC conducted an electronic vote on July 17. A policy requiring staff face coverings was adopted by the Board without a formal vote of the PPC. In order to implement the Arkansas Ready for Learning Model, additional changes may be required during the 2021 fiscal year without submitting them to the Certified Personnel Policy Committee before the Board votes.
Ark. Code Ann. 6-17-2304(b) (Classified employee policies – only for the purpose of adopting model policies necessary to implement the Arkansas Ready for Learning Model)	Classified employee contracts include the calendar. The calendar was changed by the Board after the fiscal year began in order to accommodate an August 24 start date. A staff mask policy was also adopted by the Board in July for implementation during the current fiscal year. These changes and additions were not approved “by a majority of the classified personnel employed by the school district voting by secret ballot.” In order to implement the Arkansas Ready for Learning Model, additional changes may be required during the 2021 fiscal year without approval by a majority of the classified personnel employed by the school district voting by secret ballot.
Ark. Code Ann. 6-17-2305(c)(2) (Classified employee policies – only for the purpose of adopting model policies necessary to implement the Arkansas Ready for Learning Model)	Classified contract terms include the calendar. The calendar had to be changed after the fiscal year began in order to accommodate the August 24 start date. The Classified PPC emailed all classified employees to request input and feedback. A policy requiring staff face coverings was also adopted by the Board without a formal vote of the Classified PPC. In order to implement the Arkansas Ready for Learning Model, additional changes to policies may be required during the 2021 fiscal year without submitting them to the Classified Personnel Policy Committee before the Board votes.

The following waivers apply only on days, or portions of days, when technology-based approaches are the primary instructional delivery, for specific groups of students that are receiving their instruction primarily through technology-based approaches, or for staff providing instruction primarily through technology-based approaches, or if necessary to implement ADH requirements or guidelines:

Waivers	For the waivers you choose to use, explain what that looks like in the district.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ark. Code Ann. 6-16-102(a)(1) through (a)(5)(E)(i)(b), and (c) (School Day) Standard for Accreditation 1-A.4.2 and 1-A.4.3 (School Day) 	<p>The district will provide students with learning options that include, blended, and virtual. These innovative approaches will allow students to learn without following the traditional school day guidelines.</p> <p>This link outlines the learning options that may require a waiver from the school day Standard for Accreditation: School Day Waiver Rationale</p>
<p>Ark. Code Ann. 6-17-111(a) (Duty-free lunch)</p>	<p>Duty-free lunch may be impacted due to the need for social distancing during lunch. There may be a need for some lunches to be held in a teacher's classroom. In those instances, the teacher may need to eat lunch with the students in order to provide supervision. This waiver is also necessary in order to ensure that the following safety procedures are carried out:</p> <p>Student and Staff Safety</p>
<p>Ark. Code Ann. 6-17-114 (Planning time)</p>	<p>This waiver will allow the district staff to have the flexibility and time that may be necessary to address the following areas associated with COVID-19:</p> <p>Student and Staff Safety Student Support Child Nutrition and Transportation</p>
<p>Ark. Code Ann. 6-17-211 (Employee leave)</p>	<p>Staff Leave</p>
<p>Ark. Code Ann. 6-17-812(a)(2) (Class size)</p>	<p>This waiver is necessary to ensure that students learning in multiple platforms have access to a certified teacher in the content that is being delivered. In our response to COVID-19 we have created, blended, and virtual learning options. Providing multiple instructional delivery models may create situations in which a teacher's class size will need to be waived.</p> <p>The instructional and learning options are:</p> <p>Student Learning Options Blended and Virtual Learning Options 10-12 Virtual Option K-9 Virtual Option</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load, Sec. 3.00 and 4.01 through 4.03 	<p>This waiver is necessary to ensure that students in the Virtual option, who receive their instruction primarily through technology-based approaches, have a certified teacher of record in the content area being delivered digitally. The Virtual option allows for greater flexibility for teachers to facilitate & supervise larger groups of students. This waiver allows the district to follow the model set forth in the DESE Rules Governing Distance and Digital Learning (May 2020): "6.07 Distance learning courses shall be considered large group instruction courses..."</p> <p>Student Learning Options Blended and Virtual Learning Options 10-12 Virtual Option</p>

	K-9 Virtual Option
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DESE Rules Governing Student Special Needs Funding, Sec. 4.03.2 • through 4.03.2.2.1 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DESE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards and Body Mass Index for Age Assessment Protocols in Arkansas Public Schools, Sec. 7.10.1 and 7.10.2 	This waiver is necessary to ensure that students in the Virtual option, who receive their instruction primarily through technology-based approaches and will not be on-campus, will be exempt from these rules. The Virtual option allows for greater flexibility for teachers to facilitate & supervise larger groups of students.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard for Accreditation 1-A.5 	

DISTRICT SUPPORT PLAN FOR LITERACY

(Required for schools receiving Level 3, 4, or 5 support) [Link Plan in Indistar.](#)

Explain the needs assessment process used to identify the focus of the school level improvement plan(s). [PLAN]

N/A

District Literacy Plan	
(1) Goals for improving reading achievement throughout the district	N/A

(2) Prioritization of funding, including without limitation enhanced student achievement (ESA) state categorical funds to improve reading achievement throughout the district.	N/A
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Name of School(s)	Support Requested	District Support Provide a brief description of resources and support to school(s) to meet evidence based practice	Strategy Code 1: safe/collaborative 2: effective instruction 3: viable curriculum
N/A			
N/A			

Explain how the district will monitor the fidelity of implementation of the school-level improvement plan(s). [DO]

N/A

Explain how the district will evaluate the school-level improvement plan for progress. This explanation should include clearly defined expectations. [check]

N/A

Rubric for district support plan (for information only): N/A

Status	Support Plan [plan]	Monitoring Timeline and written expectations [do]	Evaluation timeline and expectations [check]
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Approved	Systems are examined and supports are identified that will ensure full implementation of the evidence based practices at the school level. District literacy plan addresses goals and prioritization of funding.	Monitoring the timeline is explicit and written expectations are clear.	Evaluation timeline is explicit and written expectations are clear.
Needs Improvement	Support plan does not address the identified needs of the schools and district. No support plan submitted.	Monitoring timeline and written expectations are not provided or need clarity.	Evaluation timeline and written expectations are not provided.

DISTRICT PLAN FOR SCHOOLS RECEIVING 1003 FUNDS (Only required for schools receiving those funds) This plan is in Indistar.

Belle Point (CSI)

Increase Math Performance

- Train teachers in methods of math instruction for non-traditional learners
- Implement On Cloud Nine math program and provide training to teachers

Increase Literacy Performance

- Ensure all teachers are trained in the Lindamood Bell model
- Track student reading levels
- Purchase new materials for library
- Add a Response to Intervention Program period to allow teachers to identify and intervene with struggling students

Increase Attendance Rate

- Track student attendance and use this data to to allow students who reach attendance goals to have flex time

Increase Graduation and Career Readiness

- Students will attend field trips to familiarize themselves with career options

Decrease Discipline Incidents

- Create scheduling opportunities for students to have breaks
- Encourage behavior goals by allowing students to attend career field trips

Increase Parent Involvement/Student Achievement

- Parents and staff will reach out to parents on an ongoing basis to discuss student progress with parents in academics, attendance, and behavior
- School social worker will work closely with staff and parents to insure a strong partnership

Increase Digital Literacy

- Purchase technology to create learning labs in each classroom
- Purchase coding software and hardware
- Purchase and train staff with NewTech learning platform

Increase Mental and Physical Wellness

- Create a crossfit program for students

Strengthen Non-traditional Instruction

- Continue to train staff through Solution Tree and varied training sources to teach students to work within a team and enable staff to better meet the needs of their students