

**LEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRICT OPERATIONS**

Action Item: 9

Subject: Digital Learning Contingency Plan Act 1240 Waiver Request Form

Prepared by: Willie Murdock

Rationale: Digital Learning Contingency Plan Act 1240 Waiver Request Form

Cost: N/A

Funding Source: N/A


Recommendation: I recommend that the Board of Education approve Digital Learning Contingency Plan Act 1240 Waiver Request Form

Recommended by:



Superintendent

Approved by:



Commissioner, Arkansas Department of Education

Digital Learning Contingency Plan -- Act 1240 Waiver Request Form


In response to the rising COVID-19 numbers across the State of Arkansas, the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is offering districts that did not submit a Digital Learning Plan (DLP) through the expedited process over the summer an additional opportunity to submit a DLP. Since it is not feasible to review the DLPs prior to the start of the 2021-2022 school year, DESE will support districts in requesting limited contingency Act 1240 waivers, listed below, to allow districts a temporary virtual option while their DLP is being reviewed. To take advantage of this opportunity, this form must be returned to DESE at Quarnicia.Smith@ade.arkansas.gov by 9:00 a.m. on **August 2, 2021**. DESE will present these contingency waivers to the State Board of Education at the Board's next meeting on **August 12, 2021**. The following waivers will be requested through this process:

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|------------------------------|--|
| Physical Attendance | Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-213(a)(2) |
| Clock Hours (for 9-12 only) | Standard for Accreditation 1-A.2 |
| Recess (for Elementary only) | Ark. Code Ann. § 6-16-102(a)(5) Standard for Accreditation 1-A.4.3 DESE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity, Sec. 7.11 |

All contingency virtual learning must follow mandated class sizes, teaching load, and instructional time. To obtain these waivers, the school district must agree to submit a full DLP to DESE LEA Insights by 5:00 p.m. on **September 1, 2021**. If a plan is not received by the deadline, waivers granted under this request will expire immediately. If a plan is received by the deadline, waivers granted under this request will stay in place until the DLP is reviewed by the State Board. If the State Board approves the DLP, the waivers requested in the DLP will replace waivers granted under this contingency request. If the State Board does not approve the DLP, the Board will decide what happens to the waivers granted under this request. Districts that previously had a digital plan approved for specific grade bands, but want to include other grades will need to participate in this contingency waiver for those grades. DESE Support Staff will assist the district with an addendum to their DLP.

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|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| School District Name | Lee County School District |
| Superintendent Name | Willie Murdock |
| Contact Person Name | Mary Hayden |
| Contact Person Phone Number | 870-295-7100 |

By signing this form, I request that DESE request the above Act 1240 waivers on behalf of my school district for the grades and schools listed below. I understand that these waivers are only to be used for purposes of a contingency plan for virtual programming in response to COVID-19. I understand that these waivers will expire on September 1, 2021, if I do not submit a DLP by that deadline.


Superintendent Signature

8-2-21
Date

Please list the schools and grades to which the waivers will apply in the following format: DESE Middle School 5-8, DESE Elementary School K-4, DESE West Elementary School K-4, etc.

Anna Strong Learning Academy, K-6
Lee High School, 7-12