



Division of Elementary and Secondary Education

Transforming Arkansas to lead the nation in student-focused education

Please submit this form through the [Standards for Accreditation Tool \(SFA\)](#) by selecting the Document Management tab.

Statement of Assurance

Pursuant to Arkansas Code § 6-15-202, each Arkansas school district superintendent and each chief academic officer of an open-enrollment charter school shall give written assurance each school year of the school district or charter school compliance with Arkansas law. This written assurance shall be uploaded to the SFA system by September 1 of each school year. By my signature below, I certify that:

- To the best of my knowledge, the school district is in compliance with all state laws and the Standards for Accreditation; and
- This statement is submitted in compliance with Arkansas Code §§ 6-15-202 and 6-15-206(c)(1), and is subject to the enforcement provisions of Arkansas Code §§ 6-15-202 and 6-15-207.

Constitutionally Protected Prayer

Section 8524 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as reauthorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA), requires that, as a condition of receiving ESEA funds, each school district and charter school must certify in writing to the Arkansas Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) that it has no policy that prevents, or otherwise denied participation in, constitutionally protected prayer in public schools as set forth in guidance from the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) to all school administrators, dated January 16, 2020. http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/religionandschools/prayer_guidance.html

- The school district has no policy that prevents or otherwise denies participation in constitutionally protected prayer in public schools.

District Arkansas Connections Academy

Supt. Name Nicole Stephens

LEA # 0444703

Signature Nicole Stephens

Date 8/20/2025