



March 1, 2016

Ms. Alexandra Boyd, Charter School Program Advisor
Arkansas Department of Education
Four Capital Mall
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Ms. Boyd:

The Cedar Ridge School District proposes to create a district conversation public charter school. Please accept this as the District's Letter of Intent.

School District: Cedar Ridge Public School District

Contact Individual: Andy Ashley, superintendent
Cedar Ridge School District
1502 North Hill Street
Newark, AR 72562
Phone: 870-799-8691
Email: andy.ashley@cedarwolves.org

Name of the school to be converted to charter status: Cedar Ridge High School

Name of the proposed district conversation charter school: Cedar Ridge Charter High School

Location of the proposed district conversation charter school: 1500 North Hill St., Newark, AR 72562

Grade levels to be served: 7-12

Number of students intended to serve: 425

Description of the purpose or special emphasis of the proposed school: The Cedar Ridge School District proposes to establish a conversion charter school, Cedar Ridge Charter High School, to increase the college and career readiness of our students. For students in the seventh and eighth grades, in preparation for the 9-12 experience, we will start to implement college and career readiness pieces. This would expose access and pathways to our students with the University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville. In grades nine through twelve, we will offer concurrent credit classes which will help to expand our secondary and career-technical centers where we can share infrastructure and resources. This conversion approach would provide alternative offerings in addition to the ones we already have. It would also give us an opportunity to establish innovative and authentic pathways towards jobs that would provide a family supporting wage. It would also help the Independence County Region by providing a workforce that has skills, trainings, certificates, and degrees so when students graduate from Cedar Ridge they will be ready to enter the workforce or begin a post-secondary education.

Respectfully,

Andy Ashley, superintendent
Cedar Ridge Schools