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VAN BUREN SCHOOL DISTRICT



Via Email

February 29, 2016

Arkansas Department of Education
Four Capital Mall
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Van Buren School District, I respectfully submit this letter of intent to apply for a conversion charter school within the school district.

- The school district to apply is the Van Buren School District #42.
- The contact person is Dr. Harold Jeffcoat, Superintendent Van Buren Schools, harold.jeffcoat@vbsd.us, Phone: 479-474-7942
Van Buren School District #42
2221 East Pointer Trail, Van Buren, AR, 72956
- The Van Buren Schools will establish a new LEA for a K-12 Virtual Academy within the school district.
- The name of the proposed charter is The River Valley Virtual Academy.
- The location of the charter is Van Buren Freshman Academy, 821 Pointer Trail East, Van Buren, AR 72956. An alternate location separate from an existing campus will be sought as the virtual school expands.
- The grade levels of students will be K-12.
- The proposed initial enrollment cap is 200.

The River Valley Virtual Academy will give students and families the opportunity for choice in their public school education. Virtual learning is an effective mode of educational delivery that is growing throughout the US. As technology continues to advance and our culture in education continues to evolve, we must be willing to create systems that meet the needs of all students, including those who desire a virtual learning experience. Online instruction, as well as a blended learning environment, is ideal for students who need more flexibility in their education. The River Valley Virtual Academy will provide homeschool and traditional students a unique and personalized learning opportunity. Students interested in an accelerated learning plan or early graduation will be able to progress at a rate that corresponds with their ability and aspirations. The River Valley Virtual Academy will add a new and needed educational opportunity for students in Van Buren, as well as those in our region.

Respectfully,

Harold Jeffcoat, Ed.D.
Superintendent