

Fountain Lake School District

Darin Beckwith • Superintendent

May 14, 2013

Dr. Tom Kimbrell
Office of the Commissioner
Arkansas Department of Education
Four Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR 72201

RECEIVED
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

MAY 20 2013

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

RE: Arkansas Public School Choice Act

Dear Dr. Kimbrell,

Please accept this letter as official notice from the Lakeside School District as a request for a waiver from the Public School Choice Act of 2013. The reason for this request is that Fountain Lake, along with all of the public school districts in Garland County, have been operating under a Federal Court Desegregation Agreement since 1989. According to this Federal Court Agreement, we are to operate under the Act 609 of 1989.

We fully recognize that this law has since been declared unconstitutional. However, six of the seven school districts in the county are joining together to go back in front of the Federal Court for clarification and direction on how we should proceed in this matter. We are planning on requesting the court allow us for the 2013-2014 school year, to be able to continue to maintain the Status Quo by operating under the provisions of the former Act 609 of 1989. Additionally, we will request guidelines from the court on dealing with out of county School Choice Transfer Requests and other related issues.

As such, we are requesting that the Arkansas Department of Education grant the Fountain Lake School District a waiver from following the Public School Choice Act of 2013 for the 2013-2014 school year.

Sincerely,



Darin Beckwith
Superintendent

DB:cs

cc: D. Scott Hickam, Attorney at Law
Garland County Superintendents

