



## **Statement of Assurance Constitutionally Protected Prayer in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools**

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 denies 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.

This guidance is available at the following website:

[http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/religionandschools/prayer\\_guidance.html](http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/religionandschools/prayer_guidance.html)

The signature below assures the Arkansas Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) that the referenced school district or charter school complies with the conditions of Constitutionally Protected Prayer in Public Schools.

School District/Charter School \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent (Printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent (Signature) \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send assurances electronically in Portable Document Format (PDF) to [ADE.equityassistance@ade.arkansas.gov](mailto:ADE.equityassistance@ade.arkansas.gov) on or before September 15<sup>th</sup> annually.**