

OEP WEB LINKS



November 19, 2009

From the OEP

SAVE THE DATE: The Office for Education Policy will be hosting a conference on **Friday, April 16, 2010**. The theme this year is “**Preparing Effective School Leaders for Arkansas**.” Several educators, policy makers, and researchers will be joining us, including Dean Diana Pounder (UCA), Dean Tom Smith (U of A, Fayetteville), and a keynote address by Arkansas Education Commissioner Tom Kimbrell. We will keep you informed about details for the conference in the coming months. Be sure to put this on your calendar!

Today we have posted the final section of the **Outstanding Educational Performance Awards**. This week we highlight the schools with the most improvement between 2008 and 2009 based on the percent of students scoring proficient or advanced on state assessments. We hope you have enjoyed this publication; we have enjoyed highlighting Arkansas’ outstanding schools!

News from Around the Natural State

Knowledge is Power Program

The Knowledge is Power Program is searching for a Fisher Fellow to start and lead a new KIPP Delta school in Arkansas in 2011. The Fisher Fellowship program offers leadership candidates a year-long program of an intensive summer of coursework, residencies at KIPP schools, and individualized coaching. If you are interested, please visit http://www.kippdelta.org/careers_schoolleader.cfm for more information.

Race to the Top Focus of Meetings

The Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) posted the schedule for a series of meetings to be held throughout the state that will provide a general overview of the Race to the Top requirements, as well as solicit input on developing the plan for the state’s application. (To stay up to date with ADE news, other postings can be viewed by visiting **ADE Briefs**, the ADE blog.)

Fayetteville School: District to Mull Curriculum

Parents and patrons in the Fayetteville School District will have a chance to speak up about the district’s curriculum today and Thursday in a process designed to determine how students are taught and how that’s measured.

Springdale School Seeks Former Students for Interviews

Harvey Jones Elementary School is seeking former Jones Jaguars willing to tell their stories to commemorate the school’s 50th anniversary.

News from Around the Nation

Test Scores Rise for Students with Disabilities

Test scores on state assessments for students with disabilities have increased in recent years, according to a new study released by the Washington-based Center on Education Policy.

Selling Lessons Online Raises Cash and Questions

Between Craigslist and eBay, the Internet is well established as a marketplace where one person's trash is transformed into another's treasure. Now, thousands of teachers are cashing in on a commodity they used to give away, selling lesson plans online for exercises as simple as M&M sorting and as sophisticated as Shakespeare.

Site Seeing

Are ELL Students Remaining in English Learning Classes Too Long? This report uses longitudinal data from Los Angeles to examine what happens to English Language Learners' achievement when they are "reclassified" as fluent enough in English to move out of ELL programs. Analysts followed 28,714 students from sixth grade through the end of high school, tracking their ELL status, standardized test scores, pass rates in ninth grade, AP class enrollment, and dropout rate.

Mark Your Calendar

November 20: Lecture: "Content Knowledge for Teachers" by Richard Askey, Professor Emeritus of Mathematics, University of Wisconsin-Madison at the U of A Graduate Education building

December 4: Lecture: "Classroom Management Strategies: Lessons from Special Ed" by Kevin Curtin, Clinical Director, The Frost School at the U of A Graduate Education building

February 19: A Conference on Teaching and Learning through Arts and Literacy Integration, Springdale (*Contact David Jolliffe, Brown Chair in English Literacy at the University of Arkansas, at djollif@uark.edu for more information.*)

More information is available on the [OEP Calendar](#).

Final Thought

“If you are planning for a year, sow rice; if you are planning for a decade, plant trees; if you are planning for a lifetime, educate people.” – Chinese Proverb

Thanks for reading! See you next week!

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If you would like to be added or removed from this list, please send an e-mail to oepe@uark.edu.