

**The Arkansas
Department of
Education**
Presents the

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**Arkansas
Charter School
Conference**

April 15-16, 2002

**Peabody Little Rock
and Statehouse
Convention Center**

Three Statehouse Plaza,

Markham and Louisiana

Little Rock, AR 72201

Who's attending

Teachers and Administrators;
Parents and Students;
School Development Teams;
New School Founders;
Board Members; Legislators;
Charter School Sponsors;
State and National Department
of Education Staff; Business
and Community Leaders;
Anyone interested in charter
schools and education reform.

Conference Committee

Randall Greenway, ADE
Charter School Liaison

Kathleen Helms – Greenland
School District

Gary Davidson – Greenland
School District

Dr. Caroline Proctor –
Academics' Plus Charter
School

Ann Lewis – Blytheville Charter
School

Carolyn Scott – Grace Hill
Elementary Charter School

Allen Lachut – West Woods
Elementary Charter School

Maxie Carpenter – Benton
County School of the Arts

Contact information

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[http://arkedu.state.ar.us/schools/
charterschools.html](http://arkedu.state.ar.us/schools/charterschools.html)

Conference Hotel Information



Location and Directions

From Little Rock National Airport – exit to the right of the airport parking lot and go to I-440 East. Take I-440 West to I-30 East (Downtown exit). Take I-30 North to Exit 141A (Markham / Cantrell). It will loop underneath the interstate. You will then take the Convention Center Exit to the right and go 3 blocks to Main Street. Turn right on Main Street and Proceed 1 block to Markham. The Hotel will be on your left. If you choose to utilize our valet service, enter the Hotel driveway and park. A doorman will greet you, at which time you may request valet parking.

Guest Room Reservations

Reservations may be made by calling 1-800-Peabody or 1-501-906-4000. Please tell reservations agent you will be attending the AR Department of Education Charter School Conference to receive the special rate.

Rates

AR Department of Education – Charter School Conference rate is \$119.00 for single, double, triple and quad occupancy. All rates are subject to applicable taxes, currently 10.625% per night.

Parking

Valet parking is currently \$11 per day for overnight service. Self-parking is available at many downtown locations.

Check-in / Check-out

The Peabody Little Rock check-in is 3:00pm and check-out is 12:00 Noon. Full rate is charged for guests departing after 6:00pm.

Monday, April 15, 2002

**7:30 – 9:00 Registration & Continental Breakfast –
Foyer Salon A, Peabody Hotel**

9:00 Opening Session – Salon A, Peabody Hotel

- Honorable Mike Huckabee, Governor of Arkansas
 - Raymond Simon, Director – Arkansas Department of Education
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9:45 – 11:00 Breakout Session 1

Charter School Applications – Fulton

A step-by-step overview of the application process and insight for completing the charter school application – *Randall Greenway, ADE Charter School Liaison*

An Overview of Services Offered by State Associations – Caraway

- Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators – *Chuck Knox*
- Arkansas School Boards Association – *Dan Farley*
- Arkansas Education Association – *Richard Hutchinson*
- Arkansas State Teachers' Association – *Tracy Bailey*

Federal Programs – Pope

- An overview of Title I programs which support educational improvement efforts for economically disadvantaged students. Schools qualify for Title I funding based on the number of students eligible for free or reduced meals. – *Janine Riggs, Assistant Director – ADE School Improvement and Instructional Support*
- A description of how to access Title VI funds for support of activities linked to school improvement planning including the use of technology and acquiring instructional materials. – *Glenda Peyton, ADE Title VI*
- A discussion on the requirements of the federal school lunch program and how to implement a school lunch program in a charter school. – *Nancy Gage, ADE Child Nutrition*

11:10 – 12:20 Breakout Session 2

Fearless Math– Harriet Ball – Fulton

- Rebuilding the mathematics learning foundation for all students through multi-sensory, mnemonic teaching strategies that reach and teach students in their strongest learning mode. Learn long-term memory strategies to use in your classroom that are practical, results-driven, and proven effective.

Federal Compliance Issues – Miller

- An overview of equity compliance and federal civil rights issues and the responsibilities of charter schools. – *Oliver Dillingham, ADE Equity Assistance Center*

- English Language Learners - The enrollment of students who come from homes where a language other than English is spoken continues to increase in our state. The instructional services required by federal and state civil rights law for this student population will be discussed, as well as the components schools must have in place in order to adequately provide these services. – *Dr. Andre Guerrero, ADE Language Minority Students*

Teacher Advancement Program – Caraway

- Learn about a bold new strategy for reforming the education system to stem the growing shortage of quality teachers in America's schools. The TAP model outlines reforms in five areas: performance-based accountability; ongoing, applied professional growth; an expanded supply of high quality teachers; market-driven compensation; and multiple career paths. – *Gary Stark, Executive Director Arkansas TAP*

Presentations – Arkansas Charter Schools – Pope

- Academics Plus Charter School and Benton County School of the Arts – *staff*
Starting a Charter School: What does that first year look like? A perspective on first-year experiences that may help you with vision, preparation, planning, financial resources, educational resources, communication, and more importantly, patience and perseverance.

Standards for Accreditation Compliance and Requesting Waivers – Izard

- An overview of the Standards for Accreditation and the standards review process. – *Annette Barnes, ADE Standards Assurance*
- A discussion on exemptions from state statutes and rules and regulations and how to request a waiver. – *Randall Greenway, ADE Charter School Liaison*

12:30 – 1:45 Luncheon – Salon B, Peabody Hotel

Charter School Legislation – Panel of Arkansas Legislators

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| • Senator John Brown | • Representative Shane Broadway |
| • Senator John Riggs | • Representative Calvin Johnson |
| • Senator Jim Argue | • Representative Jeremy Hutchinson |
| | • Representative Dean Elliott |

2:00 – 3:10 Breakout Session 3

Fearless Learning (language arts and social studies) – Harriet Ball – Fulton

- Rebuild the learning foundation for all students through multi-sensory, mnemonic teaching strategies that reach and teach students in their strongest learning mode. Learn long-term memory strategies to use in your classroom that are practical, results-driven, and proven effective.

Act 1599 and Arkansas Freedom of Information Act – Miller

- An overview of Act 1599, which establishes certain ethical guidelines and prohibitions for educational administrators, employees, and board members and a discussion of the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act. – *Scott Smith, ADE Attorney and Dr. Bobbie Davis, Assistant Director – ADE Internal Administration*

Teacher Advancement Program, continued – Caraway

Presentations – Arkansas Charter Schools – Pope

- Blytheville Charter School – *staff*
- West Woods Elementary – *staff*

The West Woods Charter School will present an overview of the school's program in action. Learn how a school district can address needs unique or specific to your district through a conversion charter school. Learn about the unique professional opportunities provided to teachers in a charter environment. Topics of discussion will include looping, mental health and social services.

Panel Discussion – Developing Policies and Procedures – Izard

- A discussion on the importance of developing policies and procedures for boards, employees, and students. – *Kathleen Helms, Greenland School District and Carolyn Scott, Rogers School District*

3:20 – 4:30 Breakout Session 4

Fearless Learning – Harriet Ball, continued – Fulton

Administrative Issues – Miller

- An overview of charter school funding and budgeting for a charter school. – *Patricia Martin, Assistant Director and Richard McDowell – ADE Public School Finance and Administrative Support*
- A discussion of the laws concerning school facilities that must be met by charter school applicants. – *Dave Floyd, Coordinator – ADE School Plant Services*

Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment, and Accountability Program – Izard

- A detailed look at the requirements of ACTAAP. – *Janine Riggs, Assistant Director – ADE School Improvement and Instructional Support*

Presentations – Arkansas Charter Schools – Pope

- Grace Hill Elementary – *staff*

An update on the progress of Grace Hill in its second year as a conversion charter school. How utilizing the state's Smart Start initiative have enabled teachers to 'weed' and consolidate their curriculums to better meet the Proficiency and Advanced levels of the Benchmark exams. Moving onward and upward to meet our students where they are and move them forward to where they can be.

Grant Opportunities – Caraway

- Brazier Watts, Susan Underwood, and Dee Cox – *ADE School Improvement and Instructional Support*

4:45 Hospitality and Planning Session – Development of the Arkansas Charter School Resource Center – Salon & Ballroom, Peabody Hotel

- Gary Davidson, Greenland School District
- Dr. Caroline Proctor, Academics' Plus Charter School
- Sammi Strickland, Educational Consultant

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

7:00 – 8:00 Continental Breakfast – Salon A Foyer, Peabody Hotel

8:00 – 9:10 Breakout Session 5

Knowledge is Power Program (KIPP) – Salon A, Peabody Hotel

- KIPP is dedicated to providing educationally underserved students with the knowledge, skills and character needed to succeed in top-quality high schools, colleges and the competitive world beyond. Based on the overwhelming success of KIPP schools in the Bronx and Houston, KIPP is now a nation-wide effort that helps start and manage exemplary K-12 school. Our national staff generates support for new community schools, recruits and trains school leaders to open their own public schools, and provides extensive support services to KIPP Network Schools once they are launched. – *Brooks Flemister, Regional Director of Development – KIPP Foundation*

Technology Issues – Miller

- Arkansas Public School Computer Network (APSCN) – *Danita Hyrkas, ADE APSCN*
- E-Rate – *Dana Hyrkas, ADE Information and Technology*

Arkansas Leadership Academy – Izard

- Learn what the Arkansas Leadership Academy can do for your charter school.
– *Dr. Beverly Elliott, Director*

Gifted & Talented, Teacher Mentoring, and Workforce Education – Pope

- Gifted and Talented – *Ann Biggers, ADE School Improvement and Instructional Support*
 - Teacher Mentoring – *Dr. Melanie Kennon, ADE School Improvement and Instructional Support*
 - Workforce Education – *Tanny Harper, AR Dept. of Workforce Education*
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9:20 – 10:30 Breakout Session 6

Knowledge is Power Program (KIPP) – continued – Salon A, Peabody Hotel

Arkansas Consolidated School Improvement Plan (ACSIP) – Miller

- A description of the Arkansas Consolidated School Improvement Planning (ACSIP) process, including comments regarding the conceptual basis for the model. The overview will refer to current law, state initiatives, curriculum mapping, data analysis, plan design, and strategy implementation. Internal and external evaluations will also be discussed. – *Dr. David Westmoreland, ADE School Improvement and Instructional Support*

Teacher Retirement, Employee Insurance and Student Health Issues – Izard

- A description of how to establish administrative services in a new charter school. – *Dr. Bobbie Davis, Assistant Director – ADE Internal Administration*

Panel Discussion – Public and Media Relations – Pope

- Using the media is one of the most effective ways of raising public awareness. A media kit containing sample press releases, media advisories, checklists, and tips for managing a public relations campaign will be presented. – *Gary Davidson, Greenland School District*
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10:40 – 11:50 Breakout Session 7

Curriculum Development and Alignment – Miller

- An overview of curriculum development and alignment with the state curriculum frameworks. The presentation will address the development of the charter school application, developing a written description of a curriculum, and describing how it will align with the state frameworks. – *Gary Parish, ADE School Improvement and Instructional Support*

Special Education – Salon A, Peabody Hotel

- *Dr. Marcia Harding and Dr. Mike Crowley, ADE Special Education*

Panel Discussion – Open-Enrollment Charter School Facilities Financing – Izard

- A discussion on the challenges of accessing funds to purchase, construct, renovate, or lease facilities for a new charter school. – *Dr. Caroline Proctor, Academics' Plus Charter School and Cindy Chaney, ADE Public School Finance and Administrative Support*

Grant Writing Strategies – Pope

- *Brazier Watts, Susan Underwood, and Dee Cox, ADE School Improvement*
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12:00 – 12:45 Closing Session – Salon A, Peabody Hotel

U.S. Department of Education Public Charter School Office

- An summary of national charter school issues – *Leslie Hankerson, Program Analyst U.S. Department of Education Public Charter School Program*

Arkansas' Educational Service Cooperatives

- An overview of services provided by the Arkansas Educational Service Cooperatives – *Rick Saunders, Chairperson for the State Educational Service Cooperatives*

Conference Evaluation and Closing Comments

- *Randall Greenway, ADE Charter School Liaison*
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12:45

Dismiss