

The Arkansas Department of Education

Presents the

2003 Arkansas Charter Schools Conference

February 20-21, 2003

Embassy Suites

11301 Financial Centre Parkway

Little Rock, AR 72211

(501) 312-9000

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 Planning Committee

Sally Bennett
Academic Center of Excellence

Dana Chadwick
North Little Rock School District

Judy Warren
Imboden Area Charter School

Allen Lachut
West Woods Elementary Charter School

Ann Lewis
Blytheville Charter School

Lynn Nash
North Little Rock School District

Caroline Proctor
Academics Plus Charter School

Carolyn Scott
Grace Hill Elementary Charter School

Scott Shirey
KIPP: Delta College Preparatory School

Tommy Stokes
Benton County School of the Arts

Michael T. Scoles, ACSRC, Director

Contact Information

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EMBASSY SUITES
HOTEL®

Location and Directions - 11301 Financial Centre Parkway

Embassy Suites Hotel and Conference Center is located in west Little Rock's financial business district. From the airport go west on I-630, continue straight on Financial Centre Parkway. From I-430 South, take Exit 6 - Shackleford Road, left on Shackleford Road, right on Financial Centre Parkway. From I-430 North, take Exit 6 (the "Shackleford, Markham Street, Kanis Road" loop) then straight on Financial Centre Parkway.

For guest room rates, reservations, and other hotel information, please call 501-312-9000. Please tell the reservations agent you will be attending the Arkansas Department of Education Charter School Conference to receive a special rate.



Thursday, February 20, 2003

7:30 – 9:00 Registration & Visit Exhibitors

9:00 Opening Session

- *Charter School Liaison - Arkansas Department of Education*
- *Governor Mike Huckabee*
- *Raymond Simon, Director - Arkansas Department of Education*
- *Dean Kern, Director - Public Charter School Program -U. S. Department of Education*
- *Michael T. Scoles, Director - Arkansas Charter School Resource Center – Univ. of Central Arkansas*

9:45 – 10:45 Breakout Session 1

- *Charter School Applications*
A step-by-step overview of the application process and insight for completing the charter school application
- *Grant Writing Strategies and Opportunities*

11:00 – 12:00 Breakout Session 2

- *Charter School Applications – Continued*
- *National Overview Of State Charter School Statutes*
The Center for Education Reform

12:00 – 12:15 Visit Exhibitors

12:15 – 1:30 Luncheon – Legislative Panel

1:30 – 1:45 Visit Exhibitors

1:45 – 2:35 Breakout Session 3

- *An Overview of State and Federal Programs – ADE Staff*
- *Charter School Tools - Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory*
An overview of resources developed by the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory to assist charter school developers and operators

2:45 – 3:35 Breakout Session 4

- *An Overview of State and Federal Programs – ADE Staff – continued*
- *K12 – Paul Thallner*
K12 is building a dynamic, Internet-based elementary and secondary school program with a rigorous and comprehensive curriculum. Led by prominent educators, K12 is fusing time-tested methods of learning and traditional academic content with powerful state-of-the-art technology to deliver a personalized educational experience. K12 integrates proven methods of instruction, a first-class curriculum, and innovative technologies to teach, tutor, and guide children in a unique and unprecedented learning and assessment program.

3:45 – 4:45 Breakout Session 5

- *Panel Discussion – Lessons Learned – Open-Enrollment Charter Schools*
A discussion on lessons learned applicable to creating an open-enrollment charter school
Topics will include completing the charter application, planning and development, implementation of the educational program, building community support, policy development, governance structure, public relations, and daily operation of an open-enrollment charter school
- *Panel Discussion – Lessons Learned – Conversion Charter Schools*
A discussion on lessons learned applicable to creating a district operated charter school
Topics will include informing the community, building board support, building faculty support, working with the administration, recruiting students, and the challenge to be innovative

5:00 – 6:00 Hospitality – Embassy Suites Atrium

Sponsored by the Arkansas Charter School Resource Center
Meet the new ACSRC Director and new ADE Charter School Liaison

Friday, February 21, 2003

7:00 – 8:00 Registration and visit Exhibitors

8:00 – 9:00 General Session – Charter Schools: What's Happening at the National Level?

- *Michael T. Scoles, Director – Arkansas Charter School Resource Center – Univ. of Central Arkansas*
 - *Dean Kern, U.S. Department of Education*
 - *Jon Schroeder, National Charter School Alliance*
- A discussion on the national charter school movement that will include information on the status of the USDE Title V charter school grant program, No Child Left Behind, facilities financing, and general information on the development of charter schools nationally*

9:15 – 10:15 Breakout Session 6

- *Charter School Evaluation and Charter Renewal*
A presentation on the evaluation process and results of the 2001-2002 evaluations and the charter renewal process – Clay Conner, NWREL and Charter School Liaison, ADE
- *Arkansas Charter School Resource Center – University of Central Arkansas*
An overview of the services to be provided by the newly established Arkansas Charter School Resource Center

10:30 – 11:30 Breakout Session 7

- *Board Governance Structures and Policies*
- *University of Arkansas – Monticello*
Dr. Rhonda Richards, Dean, College of Education
Dr. Richards will discuss the University of Arkansas – Monticello's plan to create a charter school program within the University's College of Education

11:45 – 1:00 General Session – Luncheon – Keynote Speaker: Dr. Chester E. Finn, Jr.

- *Closing Comments – Charter School Liaison – Arkansas Department of Education*

1:00 Dismiss