

Little Rock Area Little Rock Area Public Education Stakeholder Group

On April 14, 2016 Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Reith, that the Arkansas Department of Education will facilitate the engagement of a research facilitator to review the issues below, with the goal of producing non-binding recommendations that aid the board's decision-making, inform communication among all stakeholders, and identify opportunities for collaboration and coordination among charter schools and traditional schools. The recommendations should lay the groundwork for a multi-function model that can be adapted for use in other areas of the state.

Before selecting a facilitator, a small (5-7 person) stakeholder group of individuals that represent traditional public schools, open-enrollment charter schools, and the Little Rock community, as a whole shall be formed. The group shall be selected by the Chair of the State Board of Education and the Commissioner based upon recommendations from charter leaders in Pulaski County south of the river, superintendents of the Pulaski County school districts south of the river, State Board of Education members, members of the General Assembly representing Pulaski County south of the river, and city officials south of the river. The stakeholder group should 1) identify data questions; 2) define key terms; and 3) set measurement parameters that must be addressed by the research facilitator in addressing the issues below. The stakeholder group, in collaboration with ADE, should select the research group. The ADE should engage the Office of Innovation for Education to act as a liaison between the research facilitator and the stakeholder group to provide data-informed recommendations. The recommendations shall be non-binding.

The issues to be addressed by the research facilitators are the following:

- How every student can have access to a school that is achieving;
- How schools can best meet the educational needs of a student population markedly diverse in terms of income levels, achievement levels, English-language learners, and students with disabilities;
- How to be most cost effective and fiscally efficient in the delivery of education;
- How to respond to patterns that students with certain characteristics (in terms of achievement levels, demographics, etc.) are more likely, at present, to seek out open-enrollment charter options;
- How facilities should be modernized and spread across the area based on the current demographics of the area with an eye to future demographic patterns;
- How collaboration between traditional public schools and open-enrollment charter educational offerings can maximize the achievement of students and fiscal efficiency of the system of public education south of the river.

A quarterly report should be provided to the State Board regarding the status of the efforts outlined in this motion. The first quarterly report should reflect the

ADE and Office of Innovation for Education's recommendations on how to proceed with the study outlined above, including a projected timeline for completion.

Ms. Zook, Mr. Williams, and Ms. Dean voted no. The final vote was 5-3. The motion carried.

Little Rock Area Public Education Stakeholder Group Members

- Tommy Branch
- Tamika Edwards
- Ann Brown Marshall
- Jim McKenzie
- Antwan Phillips
- Leticia Reta
- Dianna Varady

Little Rock Area Public Education Stakeholder Group Meetings

- Meetings will be held in the ADE Auditorium, or other locations as determined by the Little Rock Area Public Education Stakeholder Group.
- Meetings will be open to the public.
- The meetings at ADE will be live streamed, recorded, and posted to the State Board Archive on the ADE website at <http://www.arkansased.gov/state-board/minutes>. Meetings held at locations other than ADE may be live streamed, if feasible.
- Public comment may be allowed by a majority vote of the members present at each meeting.
- ADE will staff the meetings, and minutes will be posted for approval.
- The Little Rock Area Public Education Stakeholder Group will prepare a written quarterly report and present to the State Board regarding the status of the efforts outlined in this motion.

Meeting Agendas

- The agendas will be posted on the State Board Agenda on the ADE website at <http://www.arkansased.gov/state-board/meeting-agenda>. Public comments will be accepted electronically once the agenda is posted.
- The Little Rock Area Public Education Stakeholder Group will outline the agenda for the next meeting before adjournment of the current meeting.

First Meeting of the Little Rock Area Public Education Stakeholder Group is scheduled for **Monday, June 6, 2016, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Arkansas Department of Education Auditorium**

1. The Little Rock Area Public Education Stakeholder Group will select a chair and vice-chair.
2. The Little Rock Area Public Education Stakeholder Group will select meeting dates and times, including start and end times.

3. Little Rock Area Public Education Stakeholder Group will outline a timeline of events that include:
 - a. identifying data questions;
 - b. defining key terms;
 - c. setting measurement parameters that must be addressed by the research facilitator in addressing the issues; and
 - d. collaborating with ADE to select the research group.
4. The Little Rock Area Public Education Stakeholder Group will set the agenda for its next meeting.