



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

**Education Renewal Zone
Advisory Board Meeting Notes
February 12, 2012
10:30 am - 12:30pm
Arkansas Union 509-510**

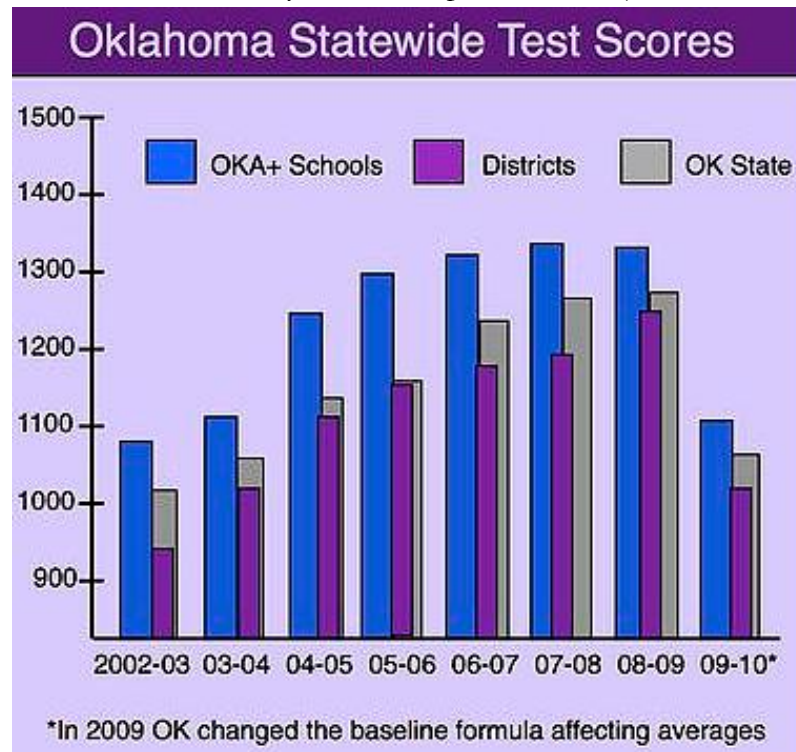
Update on ERZ Activities

- Adopt-A-Classroom
 - 16 UA faculty and 16 partner school teachers are participating
 - Held a training for UA faculty on 1/9 and Welcome Reception on 1/31 for UA and partner school faculty to meet and plan for the semester
 - UA faculty should observe class once then teach at least once in February, March, April (and May if possible)
 - UA faculty will have monthly cohort meetings to discuss what is working
 - Adopt-A-Classroom participants and partner school principals and administrators will be invited to the **Celebration Reception on May 9th at 4:30pm**. Please plan to attend to support your participating teachers, if you are able.

- P-20 Task Force (in conjunction with the Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative)
 - Marcia Sanders, Teacher Center Coordinator at NWAESC, spoke about the first meeting of the Task Force on November 12, 2012.
 - Representatives from all 16 school districts and 5 institutions of higher education on the Task Force
 - At first meeting, identified transitions students face at every level and started creating a shared vision for P-20 education in NWA
 - Next meeting is February 27th at 10am at NWAESC

- Arts Integration through Arkansas A+ Schools
 - UA faculty and UA and UAFS ERZ leadership recently visited Arkansas A+ Schools in Little Rock.
 - Arkansas A+ Schools is a research-based whole school network with a mission of nurturing creativity in every learner through an arts-integrated school network.
 - Visit website for videos and more information: www.aplusar.org

- A+ Model is used at 11 schools in Arkansas, 40 schools in North Carolina, and 70 schools in Oklahoma
- Planning to host Paul Leopoulos, Executive Director of Arkansas A+ Schools, this spring for presentation to interested UA faculty and public school partners. If you are interested, contact [Elizabeth](#).
- An independent research organization in Oklahoma determined that A+ schools outperformed the state average and district averages on state benchmark tests each year since implementation (see chart below).



- Also discussed current partnerships for arts programming in schools including the AWE Institute at the Walton Arts Center each summer.

Discussion of ERZ Goal 1 & 1a: Comprehensive professional development & changes to pre-service education

- Suggested changes to our pre-service teacher education:
 - Help pre-service teachers learn about Teacher Excellence and Support System (TESS) in college so they are prepared for what they will face as teachers.
 - UA Office of Field Placement will work with NWAESC to plan a TESS training for all teacher education faculty

- What should UA faculty/staff know about CCSS?
 - o Planning training for UA faculty/staff to inform them about CCSS and how it will impact their work
 - o Focus on how it should improve remediation rates and adequately prepare students for college
 - o Show them the big instructional shifts

- CCSS Model Lessons Institute
 - o April 27th at UA campus
 - o Model lessons for K-8, all subject areas, presented by local teachers and UA faculty
 - o Call for proposals will go out to schools in the next couple of weeks. Please send on to your teachers so they can present if they are interested.
 - o Registration for this event will be available late March

UA Resources Available for Local Schools

- Office for Education Policy, Dr. Gary Ritter (garyr@uark.edu)
 - o <http://www.uark.edu/ua/oep/>
 - o Dr. Ritter showed us how to access databases relating to student performance, school finance, and demographics on the Office for Education policy website.

- Center for Math and Sciences Education, Lynne Hehr (lhehr@uark.edu)
 - o <http://cmase.uark.edu/>
 - o Ms. Hehr modeled a science lesson and informed us that CMASE is available to partner with schools in many ways including model lessons, supplies, and professional development.