

Arkansas Commission on Closing the Academic Achievement Gap

The Commission on Closing the Academic Achievement Gap was established by the Arkansas State Legislature, under Act 33 during the Second Extraordinary Session of 2003.

Minutes
March 20, 2014

Members in Attendance: Dr. Dawn Simpson, Rev. Charles Killion, Ms. Kathy Powers, Dr. Luis Restrepo, Sen. Jack Crumbly, Ms. Lillian Williams, Dr. Jesse Hargrove

Absent: Mr. Jon Fulkerson, Dr. Vera Lang Brown

Meeting location: Board Room (201-A), Arkansas Department of Education, Four State Capitol Mall, Little Rock, Arkansas

Welcome/ Call to Order:

Dr. Dawn Simpson, chair, opened the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Minutes of February 20, 2014:

Sen. Crumbly made a motion to accept the minutes, and Ms. Powers seconded the motion.

Symposium Updates:

Dr. Restrepo discussed the plans and outline for the June Symposium. The flyer had been created with the date of the symposium as June 16th at the Jones Center in Springdale, AR. He discussed the objectives and outline of sessions for the symposium.

Committee Work:

Ms. Powers shared her recent trip to Washington D.C. attending a conference on Common Core. She shared her experiences in the class room teaching Common Core State Standards and best practices, noting that socio-economic deficient students are supported by Common Core State Standards. She was quoted as saying "I teach my students to read like detectives and write like reporters". Ms. Powers then answered questions from the commissioners involving CCSS and parents.

Update on Upcoming Presentations:

Senator Crumbly had the date, May 12th for the Commission to present their report to the Education Joint Legislative Commission at 10 a.m. in room 171.

Sen. Crumbly said that another session would be on Thursday April 17th if the commission would like to come early and watch that session before they present in May.

Future Meeting Dates:

April 17, 2014

May 13, 2014

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Recorded by Connie Storey