



August 18, 2014

Tony Wood, Commissioner
Arkansas Department of Education
Four Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: Statement of Intentions: Philanthropic Partnership to Enhance Educational Achievement in Arkansas

Dear Mr. Wood:

This statement of intentions (Statement of Intent) establishes the philanthropic partnership with the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) and the Winthrop Rockefeller (WRF) and Walton Family (WFF) foundations to work together to enhance educational achievement in Arkansas. As presented during the July 2014 meeting of the Arkansas State Board of Education, WRF and WFF will use their resources to develop a comprehensive approach to improve P-16 education in Arkansas in concert with ADE. The approach will include specific recommendations for moving forward our academically distressed schools and districts. We anticipate the development of this approach to begin in August 2014 and end upon receipt of all agreed upon deliverables by July 2015.

Andrew Ford, Interim Senior Associate for Education and Community Change at WRF, and Kathy Smith, Senior Program Officer for Arkansas Education Reform Initiative at WFF, will be the persons to contact regarding the management of this agreement.

Description of Work and Products

WRF and WFF will use their resources to do the following:

- Identify and hire consultant(s) to facilitate planning processes, conduct research, and develop and produce reports
- Organize and convene meetings to support a strategic planning process
- Produce an objective report on the state of education in Arkansas to create a case for action with an anticipated delivery date of Fall 2014

M A K I N G A D I F F E R E N C E I N A R K A N S A S

- Produce a comprehensive plan to enhance educational achievement in Arkansas that will include specific recommendations for academically distressed schools and districts

ADE will use its resources to do the following:

- Provide staff to aid in the development of the strategic plan and review of deliverables
- Provide access to data according to FERPA mandates
- Coordinate with schools and school districts

Costs

WRF and WFF will incur costs associated with the process of developing the comprehensive strategic plan for P-16 education and the related deliverables described in the Description of Work and Products. WRF and WFF do not anticipate making any monetary funding requests to ADE nor are any monetary payments to ADE implied or promised as part of this Statement of Intent.

Reporting

WRF and WFF agree to report quarterly to the Arkansas State Board of Education on progress of the development of the comprehensive plan for P-16 education and related deliverables.

I hope you find the terms of this Statement of Intent acceptable. Please indicate this by signing below and returning the completed Statement of Intent to WRF's office.

On behalf of the Winthrop Rockefeller and Walton Family foundations, we look forward to a productive relationship.

Sherece Y. West-Scantlebury, Ph.D., President and Chief Executive Officer
Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation

Kathy Smith, Senior Program Officer, Arkansas Education Reform Initiative
Walton Family Foundation

Accepted by: Arkansas Department of Education

Signature: _____
Tony Wood, Commissioner, Arkansas Department of Education

Copy: Sam Ledbetter, Chair, Arkansas State Board of Education
Toyce Newton, Chair, Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation
Buddy Philpot, Executive Director, Walton Family Foundation

E-Signed : 08/18/2014 10:06 AM CDT
Sherece Y. West-Scantlebury
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IP: 166.137.121.112 **Sertifi Electronic Signature**

E-Signed : 08/18/2014 10:31 AM CDT
Kathy Smith
ksmith@wffmail.com
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E-Signed : 08/19/2014 08:18 AM CDT
Tony Wood
tony.wood@arkansas.gov
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