

Arkansas Department of Education

Dr. Tom Kimbrell, commissioner

News Release

June 16, 2011

Contact:

Seth Blomeley

501-683-4788

seth.blomeley@arkansas.gov

MONTICELLO ADMINISTRATOR NAMED NEW ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

LITTLE ROCK — Arkansas Education Commissioner Dr. Tom Kimbrell today announced the hiring of John Hoy, a veteran school leader, as assistant commissioner for academic accountability.

Hoy has served as assistant superintendent of the Monticello district in Drew County since 2009. He has extensive administrative and teaching experience in Arkansas districts and in Atlanta, Ga.

He will start in his new role July 1.

"John comes to us with proven leadership skills," said Kimbrell. "He's right out of the gate with helping schools meet standards of accreditation and understands improving schools is the work of the entire department, not just a division. I'm excited to welcome his mindset and experience to the team."

The assistant commissioner for academic accountability is in charge of a variety of programs, including standards assurance, desegregation monitoring, and tracking districts under No Child Left Behind.

"I've been working to make an impact with students in my area of the state, the Delta," Hoy said. "I look forward toward taking that to a new level and doing what I can to help Dr. Kimbrell improve education throughout the state."

Hoy's resume includes being federal programs coordinator and accountability coordinator for the Lee County district and principal of Hughes High School in the Hughes district. He was also a teacher in the Forrest City district and in Atlanta public schools. He has bachelor's and master's degrees in education from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro.

Hoy will replace Dr. Charity Smith, who has served in that role since 2006. The ADE announced Wednesday that she is leaving the agency effective June 30 to work as a consultant.