

Arkansas Department of Education

Dr. Tom Kimbrell, Commissioner

News Release

June 3, 2011

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TRUSTED DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATOR TO RETIRE

LITTLE ROCK — Arkansas Education Commissioner Dr. Tom Kimbrell today announced that Beverly Williams, assistant commissioner for human resources and teacher licensure, is retiring after 38 years of dedicated service to education in the state.



Williams, of Sherwood, has worked for the department since 2005.

Prior to that, she held various key positions in each of the three districts in Pulaski County: as senior director of human resources for the Little Rock district; as director of certified personnel and as mathematics coordinator for the Pulaski County Special School District; and as a math teacher at Ole Main High School in North Little Rock.

"I've thought about it for a while," Williams said. "My husband has been wanting me to retire. But I love this job. I love my staff. I'm going to miss them and the great work they do for education across the state. But ADE employees put in a lot of hours. I want to spend more time with my family."

Williams' resume includes stints as an instructor with the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, with the University of Central Arkansas, and with the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She has a bachelor's degree from Hendrix College and a master's degree in education from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

Kimbrell said he'll miss Williams and is already working hard to find a replacement that matches the standard she's set. "Beverly cares about her work," Kimbrell said. "She's enthusiastic, fun to be around, and extremely competent. She's long offered me and others in the ADE valuable insight from years of institutional knowledge — not only on personnel matters but on all education issues."

Williams' retirement is effective June 30. Down the line, she'd like to stay involved in education in some capacity. For now, she looks forward to sleeping a little later, taking more golf lessons, and lounging on a Hawaiian beach with her husband, Bill, as they celebrate their 40th anniversary.