



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Johnny Key, Commissioner

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Owen Elected to Computer Science Teachers Association Board of Directors

LITTLE ROCK — Anthony Owen, the Arkansas Department of Education Computer Science Initiative coordinator, was recently elected to the Computer Science Teachers Association Board of Directors.

Elected by the association's membership, Owen will serve a two-year term as a state department representative. The association, which is comprised of more than 22,000 members from more than 130 countries, supports and promotes the teaching of computer science in grades kindergarten through 12. It provides resources, professional development and networking opportunities for teachers. Members include teachers and administrators from all grade levels, college and university faculty, parents, and representatives from industry, government, and non-profit organizations.

"As a result of Governor Hutchinson's vision for computer science, I, with the support of many partners, have been able to lead Arkansas' initiative to the forefront of computer science education," Owen said. "I am proud to have this opportunity to grow in my support for the Computer Science for All initiative. My tenure on this board over the next two years will be focused on furthering computer science education for all teachers and opportunities for students across the nation using the diverse skills and knowledge that I have gained through years of varied public service."

"I was pleased to learn that Anthony Owen was elected to serve on the Computer Science Teachers Association Board of Directors," Hutchinson said. "His expertise has been a valuable asset to me as I have worked to make good on my campaign promise to provide computer science education to all K-12 students in Arkansas. Anthony's wealth of knowledge from his time on the Southern Regional Education Board's Computer Science Commission and his leadership as coordinator of my computer science initiative at the Department of Education make him a perfect fit to serve on the CSTA Board of Directors. We are proud that Arkansas' innovative approach to computer science education is being recognized internationally, and we look forward to seeing Anthony Owen continue to work to advance computer science education worldwide."

Owen serves as the state lead for the development and implementation of Governor Asa Hutchinson's

Computer Science Initiative. In this role, he advises and coordinates with multiple national and state entities including serving as a member of the Southern Regional Education Board's Commission on Computer Science, Information Technology and Related Career Fields, as well as Gov. Hutchinson's Computer Science Task Force, which identifies the state's computer science and technology needs. Owen began working at ADE in 2011 as a K-12 math and computer science curriculum specialist and previously taught math and science at Sheridan, Gurdon, Arkadelphia and England.

Owen is licensed as a building level administrator Pre-K through grade 12, to teach math in grades seven through 12 and to teach computer science in grades four through 12. He has a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics with a minor in Education and Computer Science. He also has a Master of Science in Education in Educational Leadership, a Juris Doctorate and has been a member of the Arkansas Bar since April 2014.

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