



A VISION FOR REDESIGNED HIGH SCHOOLS

**Little Rock, Arkansas
November 7-9, 2007**

Wednesday, November 7, 2007

Crowne Plaza, Little Rock

201 Shackleford
Little Rock, Arkansas
Telephone: 501-223-3000
www.crowneplazalittlerock.com

6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Welcome Dinner, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Thomas Room
Guest Speaker: T. Kenneth James, Commissioner of Education,
Arkansas Department of Education

Thursday, November 8, 2007

7:00 – 8:30 a.m. Opening and Orientation
Breakfast buffet, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Thomas Room

8:30 a.m. Depart for Arkansas State Capitol

9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Legislative Briefing on Arkansas's Advanced Placement
Speakers: Senator Jim Argue, Chair, Senate Education Committee; Joyce Elliott, The College Board and former State Representative; and Jodie Mahony, Assistant to Speaker of the House for Education and former State Senator
Location: State Capitol, Room 171

10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Speakers: Senator Jim Argue, Senator Shane Broadway, and Representative David Rainey
Location: State Capitol, Room 171

11:00 – 12:45 p.m. Tour of State Capitol and Lunch

12:45 p.m. Board bus for site visit to Little Rock Central High School



Thursday, November 8, 2007 (cont.)

1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Visit to Little Rock Central High School

Location: 1500 Park Street, Little Rock, AR

Contact: Nancy Rousseau, Principal, 501-447-1402

Tiffany Hoffman, Little Rock School District, 501-447-1030

Little Rock Central High School, opened in 1927, was the focal point of an integration struggle in 1957 when nine black students, known as the "Little Rock Nine," were denied entrance to the school in defiance of the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court ruling ordering integration of public schools. The showdown that ensued between then Governor Orval Faubus and President Dwight Eisenhower was watched by the nation and the world as the first important test of the historic Brown v. Board of Education decision. Fifty years after the school was forcefully integrated, the student body of over 2,400 is approximately 55% African American. The school serves grades 9 – 12 and offers a wide array of programs and classes. In addition, Central High offers students an international studies magnet program and an extensive curriculum including 35 Advanced Placement (AP) courses as well as support services for minority students in AP classes.

3:00 – 4:00p.m. Peer-to-Peer Discussions (small group discussion)

Location: Little Rock Central High School, Library

4:00 p.m. Board bus for free time before dinner

5:30 – 8:00 p.m. Tour and Dinner Reception, Clinton Presidential Library and Museum

Hosted by the National Governors Association

Location: Room Café 42, 1200 President Clinton Ave., Little Rock, AR

Friday, November 9, 2007

7:30 – 8:30 a.m. Reflection and Discussion: What have you learned so far? What do you hope to hear about today? What are your unanswered questions?

Breakfast buffet, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Thomas Room

8:30 a.m. Depart for Arkansas Department of Education

9:00 - 10:45 a.m. Arkansas's Approach to Improving the Rigor and Relevance of High School Diploma

Briefing with Kathryn Hazelett, Governor's Education Policy Advisor; Steve Floyd, Interim Director, Arkansas Department of Higher Education; Luke Gordy, Executive Director, Arkansasans for Educational Reform; and Stacy Sells, Past Chair, Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce

Location: Arkansas Department of Education, Auditorium
4 Capitol Mall, Little Rock, AR



Friday, November 9, 2007 (cont.)

11:00 a.m. Board bus for site visit to Wilbur Mills University Study School

11:30 – 2:00 p.m. Visit to Wilbur Mills University Study School and Discussion about Professional Development

Location: 1205 East. Dixon Road, Little Rock, AR 72206

Contact: Janice Haynes, Assistant Principal, 501-490-5700

Lunch will be served

Wilbur D. Mills University Studies High School is one of six high schools in the Pulaski County Special School District. Mills opened in 1970 and currently serves almost 1,000 students in grades 9 through 12 from several surrounding communities. In addition to a traditional program, Mills High has a University Studies Scholars Program, which offers a comprehensive selection of Pre-Advanced Placement (PAP) and Advanced Placement (AP) courses that assist students in their preparation for college. During this visit, we will also learn about the Teaching AP Certificate program offered through the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and hear from Wilbur Mills faculty who serve as College Board consultants.

2:00 – 2:30 p.m. Debrief and Closing Discussion

1/2-hour final whole group closing debrief discussion

Location: Wilbur Mills University Study School

2:30 p.m. Adjourn

Board bus for return trip to airport