

## **Little Rock School District Community Advisory Board**

### **Pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated § 6-15-430**

**(2) (A)** If the state board determines that sufficient progress has been made by a public school or school district in academic distress toward correcting all issues that caused the classification of academic distress, but the public school or school district has not yet resolved all issues that caused the classification of academic distress, the commissioner, with the approval of the state board, may appoint a community advisory board of either five (5) or seven (7) members to serve under the supervision and direction of the commissioner.

**(B)** The members of the community advisory board shall be residents of the school district and shall serve on a voluntary basis without compensation.

**(C)** The department shall cause to be provided to the community advisory board technical assistance and training in, at a minimum, the areas required in § 6-13-629.

**(D)** The duties of a community advisory board include without limitation:

**(i)** Meeting monthly during a regularly scheduled public meeting with the state-appointed administrator regarding the progress of the public school or school district toward correcting all issues that caused the classification of academic distress;

**(ii)** Seeking community input from the residents of the school district regarding the progress of the public school or school district toward correcting all issues that caused the classification of academic distress;

**(iii)** Conducting hearings and making recommendations to the commissioner regarding personnel and student discipline matters under the appropriate district policies;

**(iv)** Working to build community capacity for the continued support of the school district; and

**(v)** Submitting quarterly reports to the commissioner and the state board regarding the progress of the public school or school district toward correcting all issues that caused the classification of academic distress.

**(E)** The members of the community advisory board shall serve at the pleasure of the commissioner until:

**(i)** The school district is returned to local control and a permanent board of directors is elected and qualified; or

(ii) The state board annexes, consolidates, or reconstitutes the school district under this section or under another provision of law.

**LRSD Schools Identified in Academic Distress on April 14, 2016**

Source:

[http://www.arkansased.gov/public/userfiles/Public\\_School\\_Accountability/School\\_Performance/Classified\\_Academic\\_Distress\\_Schools\\_041420161.pdf](http://www.arkansased.gov/public/userfiles/Public_School_Accountability/School_Performance/Classified_Academic_Distress_Schools_041420161.pdf)

<b>School Name</b>	<b>2013-2015 Percent Proficient All Students Math and ELA</b>
Cloverdale Aerospace Tech Charter	42.905
Hall High School	41.006
Henderson Middle School	46.459
J.A. Fair High School	48.335
McClellan Magnet High School	46.989

**Academic Distress Identification and Classification**

Source:

[http://www.arkansased.gov/public/userfiles/rules/Current/2016/ACTAAP\\_ER\\_March\\_2016.pdf](http://www.arkansased.gov/public/userfiles/rules/Current/2016/ACTAAP_ER_March_2016.pdf)

Pursuant to Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment and Accountability Program (ACTAAP) and the Academic Distress Program:

10.04 Academic Distress – Procedures for Identification, Classification and Appeal of Public School and Public School Districts in Academic Distress

10.04.1 A public school or public school district which meets the definition of “Academic Distress” set forth in Section 3.02 of these rules shall be designated in Academic Distress.

10.04.2 Within thirty calendar days (30) after the release of the state assessment results by the Department or upon making a determination that a school district has a Needs Improvement –Priority school within the school district that has not made the progress required under the school’s Priority Improvement Plan (PIP), the Department shall identify all public schools and public school districts in Academic Distress and shall notify in writing each school district superintendent and board president of the public school and public school districts via certified mail, return receipt requested.

10.04.3 Any school district identified or in which a public school is identified in academic distress may appeal to the State Board by filing a written appeal with the Commissioner of Education via certified mail, return receipt

requested, within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the written notice of academic distress status from the Department.

10.04.4 The State Board shall hear the appeal of the school district within sixty (60) days of receipt of the written appeal in the Commissioner's office.

10.04.5 The State Board's determination shall be final, except that a school district may appeal to Pulaski County Circuit Court under the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-201, et seq.

10.04.6 A school district or public school identified by the Department as being in academic distress shall be classified as a school district or public school in academic distress upon final determination by the State Board.

#### 10.05 Time Limitation of Academic Distress Status

10.05.1 Except as otherwise set forth in these Rules and Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-429 and § 6-15-430, a public school or public school district identified as in academic distress shall have no more than five (5) consecutive school years from the date of classification of academic distress status to be removed from academic distress status.

10.05.2 The State Board may at any time take enforcement action on any school district in academic distress status including without limitation, annexation, consolidation, or reconstitution of a school district pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-13-1401 et seq. and the authority of Title 6, Chapter 15, Subchapter 4 of the Arkansas Code.

10.05.3 The State Board may take enforcement action at any time on a public school in academic distress under these Rules and Title 6, Chapter 15, Subchapter 4 of the Arkansas Code.

10.05.4 Except as otherwise set forth in these Rules and Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-429 and §6-15-430(d), a public school or school district shall not be allowed to remain in academic distress status for a time period greater than five (5) consecutive school years from the date of the classification of academic distress status.

10.05.5 The State Board may grant additional time for a public school or school district to remove itself from academic distress by issuing a written finding supported by a majority of the State Board explaining in detail that the public school or school district could not remove itself from academic distress during the relevant time period due to impossibility caused by external forces beyond the control of the public school or school district.

10.05.6 If a public school or school district classified as being in academic distress fails to be removed from academic distress status within the allowed five-year time period and has not been granted additional time under these Rules or Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-429, the State Board shall annex, consolidate, or reconstitute the public school or school district before July 1 of the next school year.

**History of LRSD Schools in Academic Distress**

On July 10, 2014, the following schools were classified as being in academic distress:

<b>School Name</b>	<b>2011-2013 Percent Proficient All Students Math and ELA</b>
Cloverdale Aerospace Tech Charter	41.470
Hall High School	40.642
Henderson Middle School	46.049
J.A. Fair High School	43.304
McClellan Magnet High School	40.748
Baseline Elementary School	48.251

On February 12, 2015, the following schools were, again, classified as being in academic distress:

<b>School Name</b>	<b>2012-2014 Percent Proficient All Students Math and ELA</b>
Cloverdale Aerospace Tech Charter	41.360
Hall High School	39.255
Henderson Middle School	46.041
J.A. Fair High School	44.420
McClellan Magnet High School	43.697
Baseline Elementary School	46.208

On March 10, 2016, the following school was removed from academic distress:

<b>School Name</b>	<b>2013-2015 Percent Proficient All Students Math and ELA</b>
Baseline Elementary School	50.144

On April 14, 2016, the following schools were, again, classified as being in academic distress:

<b>School Name</b>	<b>2013-2015 Percent Proficient All Students Math and ELA</b>
Cloverdale Aerospace Tech Charter	42.905
Hall High School	41.006
Henderson Middle School	46.459
J.A. Fair High School	48.335
McClellan Magnet High School	46.989

### **State Takeover of the Little Rock School District**

On January 28, 2015, Ms. Saviers moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated Section 6-15-430, to remove all of the current board of directors of the Little Rock School District, effective immediately; and in the absence of the board of directors, that the Commissioner of Education assume all authority of the board of directors as may be necessary for the day-to-day governance of the school district; and that the current superintendent of the Little Rock School District remain in place on an interim basis and that he continue to work under the authority and supervision of the Commissioner of Education; and that a formal body of parents, students, community and business leaders, reflective of the Little Rock community and philanthropic organizations serve as a Civic Advisory Committee to aid in improving the performance of students in all schools. Ms. Newton, Ms. Zook, Ms. Saviers, Mr. Davis, and Mr. Ledbetter voted for the motion. Ms. Mahony, Dr. Barth, Mr. Black, and Ms. Reith voted against the motion. The final vote was 5-4. Motion carried.

### **LRSD Community Advisory Board Process for Appointment**

Any resident of the Little Rock School District may complete an application for the LRSD Community Advisory Board. The application is available now online at <https://adedata.arkansas.gov/cabas/>. The application deadline for submission is **June 17, 2016**.

Local legislators have been asked to submit nominations by May 31, 2016. Anyone nominated will be asked to submit an online application. The application is available now online at <https://adedata.arkansas.gov/cabas/>. The application deadline for submission is **June 17, 2016**.

The State Board of Education will hold a special meeting so the public may hear from each candidate on **Monday, June 27, 2016, at 5:00 p.m. in the Arkansas Department of Education Auditorium**. The meeting will be live streamed, recorded, and posted on the ADE website. The meeting is open to the public.

The Commissioner will review the applications and select members by zones. The Commissioner will present the LRSD Community Advisory Board Membership at the July 14 State Board meeting.

### **LRSD Community Advisory Board Required Training**

Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-13-629 the following training and instruction is provided to Community Advisory Board Members:

**(2) (A)** The training and instruction required under this section shall include topics relevant to school laws, school operations, and the powers, duties, and responsibilities of the members of the board of directors, including without limitation:

**(i)** Legal requirements, including without limitation:

**(a)** The items listed or required by the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee under § 6-1-101; and

**(b)** Other financial laws or regulations designated by the Department of Education;

**(ii)** Role differentiation;

**(iii)** Financial management, including without limitation how to read and interpret an audit report; and

**(iv)** Improving student achievement.

**(B)** The training or instruction on how to read and interpret an audit report...