From the OEP

This week, it’s been difficult to narrow down the education news. We’ve tried to hit the highlights here, but don’t forget you can always catch more K-12 news at our In the News section!

News from Around the Natural State

Conway’s Ray Simon Wraps Up Tenure in Washington
An Arkansan and chief proponent of the No Child Left Behind Act will leave his post come January, while hoping the controversial education reform law won’t leave with him.

Kenney Looks Back on State Education Reform
State Representative Mike Kenney, who served as a first-ever Republican chairman of the House Education Committee, did not seek re-election this year because of term limits. But he’s proud of helping to see the state through a rough period that resulted in significant education reforms.

Legislators Visit Springdale School Board
State funding for local schools is up in the air as the Arkansas General Assembly gets ready for its next session, starting in January.

Holcomb Elementary Teacher Celebrated with State Award
A Fayetteville school teacher has been named the Arkansas English Teacher of the Year by the Arkansas Council of Teachers of English Language Arts.

News from Around the Nation

U.S. Buying More Loans to Students
The government announced plans to expand purchases of the student loans it backs in an effort to head off a potential shortfall next year.
GreatSchools Awarded $20 Million to Enable Kids to Get to College
A bold new media initiative, designed to help low- and middle-income families guide their children to graduate from high school ready for college, has rallied the support of the nation’s leading education foundations.

Site Seeing
Read about how the [Walton Family Puts Stamp in Education Landscape](#) and how [Gates Revamp Its Strategy for Giving to Education](#).

You can also find a summary of the issues pertaining to [state-level education policies](#) of 15 states from the 2008 election.

Mark Your Calendar
On Wednesday, November 19th there will be an EAST Vision Building Workshop in Harrisburg.

At the State Capitol on Monday, November 24th:
10:00 ALC-JBC Education K-12, Room 272
1:30 Education Committee Meeting, Room 151

For more details about these events and others coming up in Arkansas, visit the [OEP calendar](#).

Final Thoughts

_I cannot teach anybody anything; I can only make them think._ – Socrates

Thanks for reading! See you next week!
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If you would like to be added or removed from this list, please send an e-mail to oep@uark.edu.