From the OEP

The highlights of the education news this week include a review of the research on the Knowledge is Power Program (one such KIPP school is located in Northeast Arkansas and has received some very positive reviews) and the release of the education plan from the Governor’s office. And if you can’t get enough education news, you can always catch more K-12 news at our In the News section!

Next week, the OWL will be taking a break to enjoy some turkey. Ironic, isn't it? We hope you enjoy your Thanksgiving holiday and will be back with us in two weeks for more news from the OEP!

News from Around the Natural State

Beebe Releases Education Plan
Legislators struggled to get their arms around Governor Mike Beebe’s proposed $2.68 billion Public School Fund budget as details were released for the first time. The Governor is recommending a $53 million, or 2 percent, increase from 2009 to 2010 in state and local foundation funding. Local property taxes would provide $39. 6 million and the state would fund $3.4 million. The source of the remaining $14 million is causing some concern and debate.

Lawmakers Question Scholarship Surplus
As Arkansas lawmakers prepare to hammer out enabling legislation for a lottery to fund college scholarships, some are questioning why the state’s scholarship fund is already running at a surplus.

Arkansas Education Matters: Volume 1, Number 3
The November edition of Arkansas Education Matters from the Arkansas Department of Education includes a message from the commissioner, Milken educator awards, the new House Education Committee members, and information on the Arkansas Greater Graduation Project.

News from Around the Nation

School Districts Caught in a Squeeze
School superintendents nationwide say the struggling economy threatens to reverse progress they have made in closing historic achievement gaps as schools face trimmed budgets now – and possibly even worse ones next fall.

**KIPP Success Cited, with Caveats**
A review of research on the high-profile KIPP network finds promising academic results compared with traditional public schools.

**Site Seeing**
Read about how [A School Chief takes on Tenure, Stirring a Fight](#).

**Mark Your Calendar**
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**

*Our progress as a nation can be no swifter than our progress in education. The human mind is our fundamental resource.* – John F. Kennedy

**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.