

2022 Preliminary Report

SEPTEMBER 6, 2022



Supreme Court's *Lake View* Decision

The court held that:

- (1) An adequate education must be provided to all school children on a substantially equal basis with regard to curricula, facilities, and equipment, and
- (2) It is the state's responsibility to:
 - (a) define adequacy;
 - (b) assess, evaluate, and monitor the entire spectrum of public education to determine whether equal educational opportunity is being substantially afforded to Arkansas's school children; and
 - (c) know how state revenues are spent and whether true equality in education is being achieved.



Supreme Court's *Lake View* Decision

The court further noted that the General Assembly must exercise "constant vigilance" for constitutionality, recognizing that continual assessment is vital under Act 57. The court stated that the General Assembly has put into place the "framework for a much improved Arkansas public education system," the funds to support it, and the **"continuous financial and standards review" needed to ensure future success.**



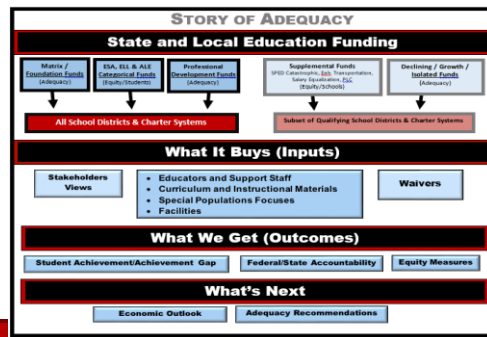
A.C.A. §
10-3-2102

A.C.A. §10-3-2102	Adequacy Tracking Sheet	Goal to be accomplished by:	Report mechanism
(1) Review, monitor, and monitor the extent (scope) of such education across the State of Arkansas to determine whether equal educational opportunity for an adequate education is being substantially afforded to the general student of the State of Arkansas and recommend any necessary changes.	Reviewing the Arkansas Academic Standards developed by the Department of Education	Revising a report produced by the Director of Cognitive Audit comparing all funding received by public schools for each program	Legislative Audit State-level Funding
(2) Review and continue to evaluate what variables an adequate education in the State of Arkansas and recommend any necessary changes.	Reviewing the Arkansas Educational Support and Accountability Act	Reviewing the Arkansas Academic Standards developed by the Department of Education	Legislative Accountability/Achievement/Assessment/SEA
(3) Review and continue to evaluate the method of providing quality of educational opportunity for the State of Arkansas and recommend any necessary changes.	Reviewing the Arkansas Educational Support and Accountability Act	Reviewing focus and facilities distress programs	Accountability
(4) Evaluate the effectiveness of any program implemented by a school or school district or education service cooperative, the Chief of Education, or the State Board of Education and recommend necessary changes.	Reviewing the state's standing under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 as reauthorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015	Comparing the average teacher salary in Arkansas with surrounding states and Southern Regional Education Board member states, including: • Comparing teacher salaries as adjusted by a cost-of-living index or a comparable wage rate • Reviewing the minimum teacher compensation salary schedule	Teacher Salary
(5) Review the average teacher salary in the State of Arkansas and recommend changes to the Southern Regional Education Board and make recommendations for any necessary changes to teacher salaries in the State of Arkansas established by law.	Reviewing the minimum teacher compensation salary schedule	Reviewing expenditures from federal special funding	Expenditures
(6) Review and continue to evaluate the costs of an adequate education for all students in the State of Arkansas, taking into account cost-of-living indexes, transportation of costs, transportation volatility, demographic, economic, disadvantaged or hard-to-educate students, and other factors as deemed relevant, and recommend any necessary changes.	Reviewing expenditures from federal special funding	Reviewing expenditures from federal special funding	Expenditures/SEA Expenditures/SEA Expenditures/SEA
(7) Review and continue to evaluate the amount of per-student expenditure necessary to provide an equal educational opportunity and the amount of state funds to be provided to school districts, based upon the cost of an adequate education and consider the opportunities and distribution of state funds and recommend any necessary changes.	Reviewing expenditures from special education funding	Reviewing expenditures from special education funding	Expenditures/SEA Expenditures/SEA
(8) Review and monitor the amount of funding provided by the State of Arkansas for an education system based on need and the amount necessary to provide an adequate educational system, set the amount of funding available, and make recommendations for funding for each tier/level.	Reviewing any related topics identified for further study by the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education	Using evidence-based research as the basis for recalibrating as necessary the state's system of funding public education Advising for the inflation or deflation of any appropriate component of the system Reviewing legislative trends or other policies related during the minimum covered by the study to determine the impact of the legislation and make an educational adequacy report public within one year	Funding/Expenditures/Programs/SEA ALL Economic Indices/SEA ALL Arkansas Education Long-Range Developmental

Evidence-based Study

4 KINDS OF EVIDENCE

- Analyses of Arkansas Data
- What Other States Do
- Literature Review/Best Practices
- Arkansas Educator Input via surveys/focus groups



MONTH	TOPIC - COMPLETED
Jan. 3	Introduction to Process / Legal Framework
Jan. 4	History / Starting Slate
Feb. 7	Funding
Feb. 8	Expenditures
Apr. 4	Expenditures (cont'd) / Facilities
Apr. 5	Teachers: Recruit & Retention / Salaries / Professional Devt.
May 2	Learning Expectations/ CTE / Waivers
May 3	ALE / ELL / ESA / SPED
June 6	Student Achievement
June 7	Accountability
Aug. 8	Equity



MONTH	TOPIC - UPCOMING
Sept. 6	Forecasts / Preliminary Report
Oct. —	Deliberations for Recommendations (Committees' Approval by Oct. 16)
Nov. 1	Report due to Governor, Senate President, and House Speaker



10-3-2104. Report

(e) The House Committee on Education or the Senate Committee on Education, separately or jointly, shall publish a draft of the report required under this section or any amendment or supplement to the report not less than **fourteen (14) days** before the report, amendment, or supplement is submitted to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.



Statewide Target Average Salary

Use a formula to distribute **\$15,000,000** in Enhanced Salary final year (actually distributed in FY22) funding to qualifying schools. April 1, 2021, Governor's Letter #17 states amendment to SB158 Section 1 item (25) for Teacher Salary Equalization **\$25,000,000**. Acts 679 and 680 of 2021 set a statewide target average annual salary of \$51,822 for the 2021-22 school year and said the "House Committee on education and the Senate Committee on Education shall set jointly the statewide target average annual salary for the 2023-2024 and the 2024-2025 school years, and each biennium thereafter, as part of the adequacy review process required under § 10-3-2102."

Questions

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