

"Best Practices" Interim Study Proposal

Presentation to the Joint Education Committee

Monday, September 8th, 2014

Dr. Gary Ritter

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Presentation Agenda

- Introduction of OEP
- Study Requested
- Outline of National Study
- Outline of Arkansas Specific Study
- Conclusion, Contact Information, and Questions

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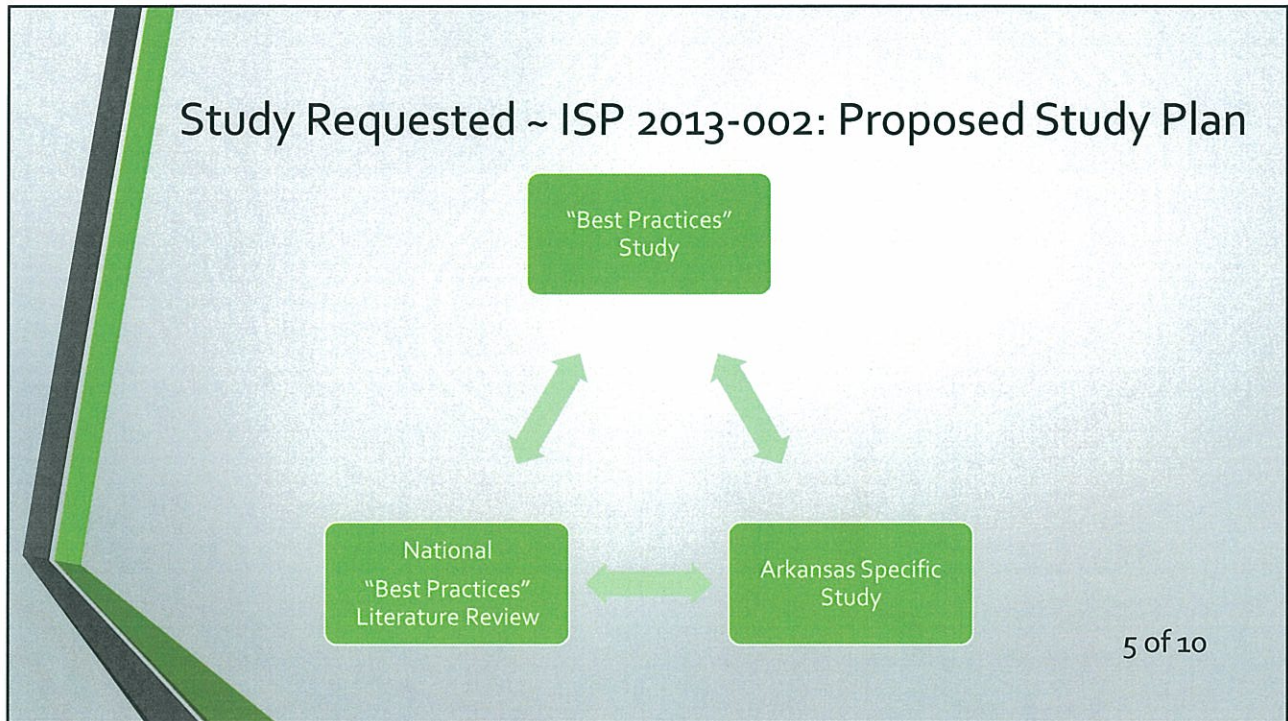
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The Office for Education Policy (OEP) provides current national, state, and regional education research to support state lawmakers and educators in thoughtful decision-making in PK-12 education in the State of Arkansas

Study Requested ~ Interim Study Proposal 2013-002

A study was requested by Rep. Charles Armstrong that would consider strategies that would:

- Improve student learning for all students;
- Increase learning opportunities for low-achieving students;
- Encourage innovative teaching methods;
- Create professional opportunities for teachers;
- Expand educational choice; and
- Increase parental engagement in and the responsibility for the education of their children.



- ## Outline of National Study
- One important portion of this study will consider and report on previous studies that have been performed across the nation on "Best Practices" within charter schools
 - These studies and related research have been performed by state agencies and academics, alike, including:
 - California
 - Colorado
 - Massachusetts
 - North Carolina
 - The Broad Foundation
 - Harvard Economists
 - National Charter School Resource Center
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Outline of Arkansas Specific Study

- The Arkansas specific portion of the study will answer the requested components in these ways:
 1. Where are Charter Schools Located and Who do They Serve?
 - Waitlist vs. Without
 - Lottery Analysis
 2. Where in Arkansas do Students have Choice?
 - Geographic Analysis
 - Competition Index

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Outline of Arkansas Specific Study (Continued)

- Arkansas Outline (Continued):
 3. How are Charters Unique?
 - What Waivers do Charters Claim?
 - Do Teachers have Expanded Leadership Opportunities?
 - How do Charters Involve Parents?
 - Do Charters Pursue Different Curricular Methods?
 - What Types of Targeted Programs do Charters Offer Their Students?
 4. Are Charter Schools Working?
 - Academic Achievement
 - Parental Involvement/Satisfaction

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Projected Study Timeline

- September 2014 – Study Approved
- October 2014 – National “Best Practices” Literature Review Finished
- November 2014 – Survey of Arkansas Charter Leaders
- January 2015 – Arkansas Study Completed
- January 2015 – Presentation and Publication

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Conclusion, Contact Information, and Questions

- In forming this study, we continue to look for additional/different items as proposed by the ADE and SBE, which will be folded into this study to fully and thoroughly answer the questions that have been proposed
- Questions or Comments?
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