

Supplement to the Final Report on the Legislative Hearings for the 2016 Adequacy Study

1. Change the definition of adequacy.

The definition the General Assembly uses for educational adequacy should be amended to include the following underlined language:

1. The standards included in the state's curriculum frameworks, which define what all Arkansas students are to be taught, including specific grade level curriculum, a mandatory thirty-eight (38) Carnegie units defined by the Arkansas Standards of Accreditation to be taught at the high school level, and opportunities for students to develop career readiness skills;
2. The standards included in the state's testing system. The goal is to have all, or all but the most severely disabled, students perform at or above proficiency on these tests; and
3. Sufficient funding to provide adequate resources as identified by the General Assembly.

2. Provide additional funding for the Academic Facilities Partnership Program.

The General Assembly should provide up to \$100 million in new state funding for the Academic Facilities Partnership Program for the biennium. This funding should be in addition to the proposed \$41.8 million in General Revenue for the Partnership Program each year of the biennium and in addition to any transferred savings the Partnership Program receives from the Bonded Debt Assistance program.

3. Set aside a portion of the Professional Development funding for professional learning communities.

Increase the Professional Development state categorical funding rate from \$32.40 per student to \$41 per student in FY18 and \$50 per student in FY19, and set aside the increased amount to be used exclusively for professional learning communities.