

Adequacy Testimony Recap

April 10, 2012

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Positive Impact



Positive Impact



- Adequacy Committee constantly reviews education policy.
- Funding based off of need instead of what is left over after the pie has been split.
- Quality Counts Reports ranks Arkansas fifth in the nation for overall quality of education!!!

Cost of Living Adjustment



Cost of Living Adjustment



- A COLA applied to each year of the FY 13 and FY 14 Budget
- A COLA should also be applied to all categorical funds for personnel cost.
- This is just the cost of maintaining our current system of education

Broadband



Broadband



- Superintendents and Co-op Directors Surveyed -- 226 surveys returned for 89% return rate.
- 170 or 75.6% indicated their district had experienced problems with bandwidth the past year.
- 45.5% have experienced problems (computers locking up, etc.) when submitting required ADE reports.

Broadband



Broadband



- 156 districts or 70.9% indicated there are technology initiatives they would like to implement but can't due to bandwidth limitations.
- 74.9% have restricted use of educationally relevant internet sites due to lack of bandwidth.
- 62.8% have purchased additional bandwidth.

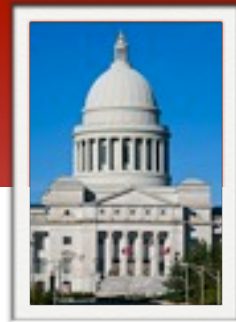
Educational Excellence Trust Fund



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Educational Excellence Trust Fund



- Penalizes School Districts with growing enrollment but a dropping local assessment.
- EETF is not a separate fund but rather part of foundation funds.
- Springdale's situation would be considered an unfunded mandate. (\$121 increase in foundation but \$54 EETF - \$702 required to be added to base)

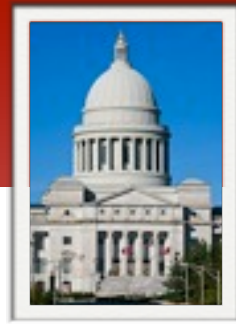
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Educational Excellence Trust Fund



- The current rules actually widen the salary disparities between school districts in many cases.
- The law should be changed to allow districts to count the EETF as part of the salary increments, or just eliminate the requirements all together since it is part of foundation funding.

Fund Balances



Fund Balances



- Districts need to maintain a balance due to unforeseen circumstances and they receive no state revenue during July and most of August.
- ASR Report reflects a state fund balance increase of approximately 11% and shows one district's fund balance increased \$67 million dollars when there was an actual decline of \$7 million. The total increase in school fund balances was less than 2%.

Fund Balances



Fund Balances

- AAEA recommended to the ADE that additional training on coding and fund balances should be included in the Tier 1 training this summer.



High Cost Transportation



High Cost Transportation



- Adequacy Committee reviewed transportation funding and determined there was a fairness issue.
- There needs to be funding for high cost transportation outside of the traditional matrix funding.

Teacher and Admin Evaluation



Teacher and Admin Evaluation



- Applaud the efforts in establishing an authentic evaluation system.
- We like for administrators to be in the classrooms working collaboratively with teachers.
- Question - Who will manage the school?
- The success of TESS will depend on adding administrative positions to conduct authentic evaluations.

Professional Development



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Professional Development

Districts should focus on:

- Common Core
- Teacher Evaluation Training
- Individual Needs



Professional Development



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Professional Development

State Required Professional Development

- Technology
- Arkansas History
- Parental Involvement
- Data Disaggregation
- Instructional Leadership



Professional Development



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Professional Development

State Required Professional Development

- Lottery
- Concussion, dehydration, etc.
- Teen suicide awareness
- Child maltreatment
- Anti-bullying



What can we do to improve K-12 education?



What the Research Shows

- Marzano and MCREL estimates that 15,465 hours of instruction are required to teach the learning standards in most states K-12.
- This equates to 1190 hours per year or 71,400 minutes of instruction time.
- At 178 days and 360 minutes per day Arkansas students only have 64,080 minutes to accomplish mastery of the standards.



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What the Research Shows



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What the Research Shows

- Before we begin, our students and teachers are 10% behind according to research.



5th Grade Example of Instruction Time Lost

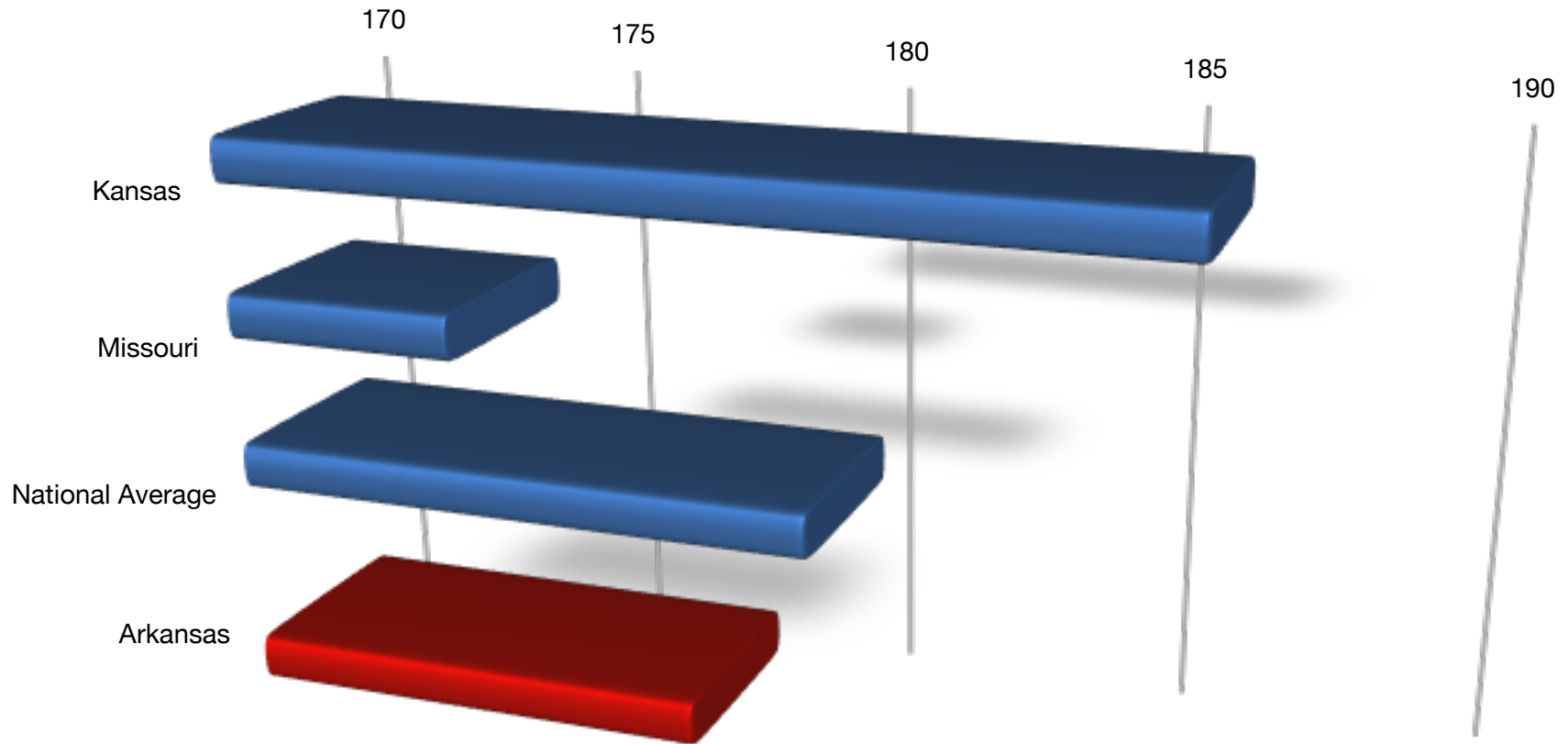


5th Grade Example of Instruction Time Lost

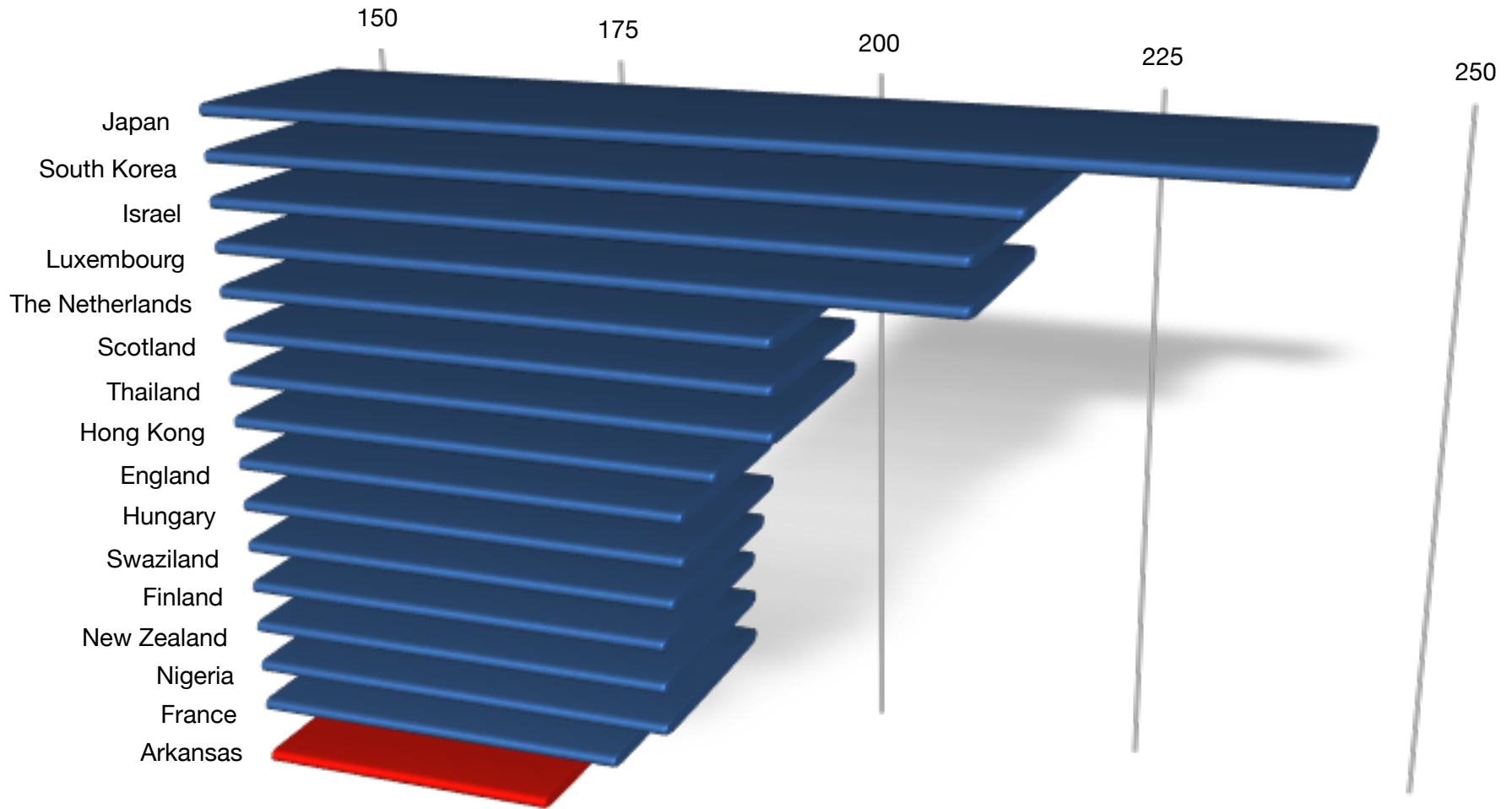
- **52,858** minutes of Actual Instructional Time Left
- $52,858/360$ gives **146.8** days of instruction to cover material estimated to take $71,400/360$ or **198** days of instruction time to cover



National Comparison # of Days



International Comparison # of Days



Key Points



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- COLA Including Categorical Funds
- Broadband
- Educational Excellence Trust Fund
- High Cost Transportation
- Revisit Standards for Accreditation, Length of Year, Professional Development Requirements, etc.

Questions

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