



GOV. MIKE BEEBE SPEAKS to members of ASBA and the Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators May 10.

Beebe sees end to Lakeview

Cites progress, but says work must continue

Recent progress in education should put an end to the Lakeview case, but the work of improving public schools must continue, Governor Mike Beebe told attendees of the 13th annual Joint Conference of the Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators and the Arkansas School Boards Association.

“If indeed the Supreme Court follows along the theme that the masters have exhibited in their report, then we’ll get out of that case,” Beebe said at the May 10 conference. “We’ll get out of the Supreme Court. We’ll get out of litigation. But if you think we’re through, you’re wrong. The next challenge for us will be being able to maintain and sustain the progress

[See BEEBE...page 2](#)

Background checks law revised

Can’t hire and wait for results, Gould says

School districts probably will be required to perform annual criminal background checks for all applicants for noncertified positions, and the checks will have to be completed before a staff member can be hired.

That’s how ASBA Staff Attorney Kristen Gould interprets Act 823 of 2007,

though she hopes a future attorney general’s opinion proves her wrong. Gould explained the law to attendees of the 13th annual Joint Conference of the Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators and the Arkansas School Boards Association May 10.

Previously, the law required criminal background checks only for noncertified employees who

Blume on Act 823 Page 7

[See CHECKS...page 3](#)

ALE programs reaching students

Districts that want to improve their overall test scores should focus on alternative learning environment programs that reach students who are uninspired by traditional teaching techniques.

That's according to Lori Lamb, Department of Education alternative learning coordinator. Lamb told administrators and ASBA members at their 13th annual joint conference May 10 that these students will thrive if taught in environments that – rather than being punitive – allow them to learn in their own way. Moreover, many of them will become leaders in the rapidly changing world of work.

“Our kids in ALE are going to be some of the creators of the solutions for what's going on because they don't look for the easy way out, and they stand strong and they stand firm,” she said. “Sometimes we don't like it,



DR. BENNY GOODEN, Fort Smith School District superintendent, introduces Lori Lamb, alternative learning coordinator at the Department of Education, center, and Ann Lewis, director of the Blytheville charter ALE program.

because they're standing right there insisting on being heard, but that's what molded America.”

Lamb said ALE programs require creative approaches and sufficient funding. They also require personnel willing to build relationships with students to show them the relevance of their schoolwork. Classes can be rigorous, but they also must include

training in job skills.

Ann Lewis, director of the ALE program in Blytheville, told attendees that building her program was difficult, but after eight years, it enjoys the enthusiastic support of administrators and the community. “You name it, we've got it,” she said. “If my teachers want it, they get it.”

Beebe

Continued from page 1

that's been made and build on it, and not rest on our laurels, not pat ourselves on the back, not backslide, and not saying just because the court's no longer involved, we don't have to continue to improve.”

Beebe said Arkansas has made great strides in certain areas, such as in requirements for advanced placement courses, and that one study group ranked the state 29th in education.

But he said the state must continue to improve in areas such

as access to preschool classes. He said kindergarten and first grade teachers say there is a significant difference between students who received early childhood instruction at home or in another environment, and those who didn't. Improving the state's preschool opportunities will benefit those children throughout their educational careers and will make our state's workforce more competitive, he said.

Beebe said public schools are the tie that binds communities together, and he called on Arkansans to work together to continue to improve them.

“When something goes well in

Fayetteville, it helps Crossett. When something happens good in El Dorado, it helps West Memphis,” he said. “Conversely, when they're hurting in Fort Smith, or when they're hurting in Helena, or when they're hurting in Little Rock or Texarkana or Jonesboro or any place else, then we all should hurt together. The ideas of rivalries and competitive jealousies need to end on the athletic fields. When it comes to sharing the wonderful bounty and opportunities by improving qualities in our schools, we should all take pride in one another's success, and we should all be concerned at one another's failures.”

Checks

Continued from page 1

worked more than 30 days for the district, and it allowed districts to employ personnel while the costly and lengthy background checks were being completed. Gould said those conditions probably no longer exist, and that districts now will be required to ensure substitute teachers and other personnel have clean backgrounds before working a single day.

Gould suggested in response to a question from the audience that districts may want to take advantage of online criminal background checks, which can be quicker. Still, she said, the new law will make it difficult for districts to find personnel. "I'm very worried about the practical application," she said. "On the one hand, it's very important that children be safe and secure in school. No one is arguing that there are acceptable risks to take with children's safety. On the other hand, I worry about staffing."

While Act 823 may be the most significant piece of legislation for administrators, other legislation passed by the General Assembly in 2007 will affect public schools. Act 992 specifies the treatment of students' parents who are Level 3 and Level 4 registered sex offenders — those who are considered more dangerous. These can come to ticketed events, to parent-teacher conferences, and to leave things at the office for their children. They must call and make arrangements for other visits on campus, and they must be escorted after they arrive.

Course requirements saw several



KRISTEN GOULD briefs administrators and ASBA members about new laws passed in 2007.

changes that will make districts' work a little easier. Sixty minutes of physical education are now required for grades K-6, rather than K-8. Also, districts that lose the only student taking one of the 38 required courses because of a transfer now will be given credit for having taught the course. And unlike in previous years, districts now will be given credit for reaching the 38-course threshold even if all students are taking the advanced placement version of the class.

The Legislature also passed several laws governing school choice student transfers. Previously, students could transfer to any district in their own county in which no district had a greater than 10 percent minority population. Beginning on July 31, 2007, transfers will be permitted within any two districts, neither of which has 10 percent or greater minority population, without regard to which has the greater minority population. For other transfers, school districts

should consult the annual school choice guidelines published by the Department of Education. Under other legislation, students who want to leave a school choice district can always return to their resident district. However, they must reapply before each transfer. Finally, under Act 1573, districts always must send transcripts to requesting schools. Previously, some districts have refused to do so for reasons such as a student owing the district money for fines.

Some of the new laws directly impact school board members. Gould said school board candidates now must file a political practices pledge under Acts 267 and 222. Under Act 1588, school boards must post on the district's website the date, time, and place of each regular meeting at least 10 days prior to it. Under other legislation, superintendents are now required to provide school board members the link to the Department of Education website providing school funding acts.

Administrators also are affected by the new laws. According to Gould, school personnel, including administrators, who are absent from campus for other than school functions must take personal leave, vacation, or leave without pay.

Under other legislation:

- Schools now can use qualifying five-year-old nonprofit organizations to take advantage of new charitable bingo laws;
- Under Act 159, parents must provide contact information to districts, and districts must make documented efforts to contact them if their children are suspended;
- Under Act 985, seniors who have graduated early are no longer required to attend school.



Callie Miller



Erin Davis



Nikki Allison

Super scholars

◆ School board members' kids get college help from the ASBA Education Foundation.

The Arkansas School Boards Association Education Foundation recently awarded \$650 scholarships to five students whose parents are Arkansas school board members and who will be attending Arkansas institutions of higher learning in the fall.

Winners were Callie Miller of DeQueen, Erin Davis of Shirley, Nikki Allison of White Hall, Zachary Taylor of Russellville, and Jessica Hill of Rector.

The awards are based on a student's academic record and leadership potential. One award was made in each of the four congressional districts, and one at-large. This is the 14th consecutive year for the awards.

Callie Miller

Callie Miller graduated with a

3.27 grade point average, ranking 19th in a class of 91 students from DeQueen High School. She plans to study speech communications at Ouachita Baptist University this fall, and she plans to further her education by earning a master's degree in speech pathology at the University of Arkansas.

Miller, an administrative assistant for the DeQueen Parks and Recreation Department, has been active in numerous extracurricular activities. She has been a tutor and mentor at the Mary and Martha Center, a Christian community outreach program for underprivileged children. She has been a youth leader at First Baptist Church of DeQueen, and she implemented the First Priority student-led Christian ministry at the high school. She is president of the 4-H Teen Leaders and has been active in many 4-H activities. She was a member of the 2004 and 2005 state champion track and field

teams, as well as the 2006 state runner-up team. She was a member of the 2005 state champion DeQueen Dolphins swim team and the 2006 state runner-up team, and she also serves as a coach and instructor. She earned all-district choir honors and was a member of the Future Farmers of America livestock team and parliamentary procedure team.

Miller is the daughter of Sandy Miller-Huntsberger, a member of the DeQueen School Board.

Erin Davis

Erin Davis graduated sixth in a class of 41 students from Shirley High School with a 3.7 grade point average and will study pre-law at Harding University this fall.

She has been active in numerous extracurricular activities. She helped found Operation Community Clean-Sweep, the school district's recycling program, and was editor of the yearbook.



Zachary Taylor

She was active in the Beta Club; Future Farmers of America; Future Business Leaders of America; and Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. She was chairperson of the Prom Committee her junior year, was a class officer her sophomore and junior years, and was a cheerleader. She attended Girls State and the Rotary Youth Leadership Award Camp.

Davis is the daughter of Mark Davis, a member of the Shirley School Board.

Nikki Allison

Nikki Allison graduated 16th in her class of 209 at White Hall High School with a 3.97 grade point average and will be studying economics and finance at Arkansas Tech University in the fall.

Allison has been active in numerous extracurricular activities. She earned All-State Choir honors in 2006 and was lead vocalist with Praiseband for Youth at Central Baptist Church. She was a member of the Arts and Science Center Student Advisory Board of Pine Bluff, and she was active in the Beta Club, Science Club, Future



Jessica Hill

Business Leaders of America, and Mu Alpha Theta. She was a church cell leader and participated in Love Luggage, a program for homeless children.

She is the daughter of Larry Allison, a member of the White Hall School Board.

Zachary Taylor

Zachary Taylor graduated second in his class of 96 at Pottsville High School with a 4.06 grade point average and will be studying pre-pharmacy at Arkansas Tech University in the fall.

He has been active in numerous extracurricular activities. As a member and president of the Beta Club, he coordinated a community Red Cross blood drive on the school campus, participated in the Military Mail program that sent letters and care packages to service personnel stationed in Iraq, and helped collect eyeglasses for vision-impaired children. He also was a member of the Student Council and was a Boys State delegate the summer before his senior year. He is a member of the Westside Church of Christ Youth

Group and has served as a counselor at the Camp Caudle Christian Camp since he was a junior high school student. He also played basketball and baseball for the Pottsville Apaches.

Taylor is the son of J. Tracy Taylor of Russellville, a member of the Pottsville School Board.

Jessica Hill

Jessica Hill graduated first in a class of 56 students at Rector High School with a 4.16 grade point average and plans to study psychology at Arkansas State University this fall.

She has been active in numerous extracurricular activities. She served as president of the Drama Club the previous three years and has acted in or directed numerous stage productions. She has attended theater festivals at the state, national, and international levels and trained at THEA workshops with actor Ted Danson and producer Harry Thomason. She was the school's representative at the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Conference and was president of her junior class and vice president of her senior class. She has been active in the National Senior Honor Society, Future Business Leaders of America, Science Club, Library Club, German Club, Pep Club, and Clay County Arts Council. She is chairperson of Trick or Treat so Kids Can Eat and is a member of Cougars for Christ. Active in the Rector First United Methodist Church, she is involved in services for senior citizens and children as well as a food pantry.

Hill is the daughter of Jim Speer, a member of the Rector School Board.


AMY DANIEL, ASBA PRESIDENT

Changes mean board members must be good students, too



I've been pondering school board service for almost two decades, and during that time, our jobs have gotten a lot more complex. There are so many issues we must address that it can sometimes seem daunting, but one thing I've learned during all these years is this: School boards that strive to excel in their service to children almost always do. It's often about keeping our focus and constantly learning what works and what doesn't.

The sheer list of issues we confront seems to multiply each year. In fact, many of them seem to have just appeared within recent

memory.

Data supports the idea that early childhood education can make a huge difference in a student's academic career. It may be one of the major factors in closing the achievement gap. It's reasonably new in Arkansas, but it's growing each year, and we are being recognized for our commitment to pre-K instruction. Ask any kindergarten teacher if there is a noticeable difference between children who have had early childhood learning experiences and those who have not, and you'll get a resounding "yes."

"English language learners" is

a phrase that was not necessarily common in most Arkansas schools just a few years ago. Now, we have thousands of children in our schools who must learn English as their second language before we can be successful teaching them everything else they need to know.

Our concerns also must include an awareness of graduation rates, dropout prevention, academic assessments, children's health and nutrition issues, school safety, and technology – to name but a few. As board members, we have to become our own learning

See Our Job...page 8


DAN FARLEY, ASBA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Productive session ends, but school boards' work continues

Another school year is over, along with another legislative session that proved to be fruitful for public schools. With effective leadership from both the Governor and the General Assembly, schools have been "adequately" funded for the coming biennium, and a new era of civility permeated a legislative session that ended earlier than any since 1991.

Issues of accountability continue to be a primary focus as we

continue forward with the many reforms enacted over the last several years. Thanks to some of them, we are beginning to see new trends emerging from Arkansas public schools. No longer are we at the bottom of the list. Instead, we are making significant strides and are seeing gains in student achievement at various levels. We certainly aren't where we want to be, but we can all take some comfort in knowing that progress is

being made. As Governor Beebe says so well, the education of our citizens is inextricably linked to the economic development of our state.

Roles of school boards have changed during the past few years. What remains, however, is that school boards in Arkansas are an arm of state government because they were created by an act of the Legislature. They do have an

See Leadership...page 9

REPORTER

Vol. 25, Number 4

June 2007

ISSN 0141-6757

Published by the Arkansas School Boards Association

Championing excellence in public education through training, advocacy, and service for local school boards.

Board of Directors

President

Amy Daniel, Benton

President-elect

Perry Newman, Lavaca

Vice President

Cathy Allen, Rogers

Secretary-Treasurer

Gene Boeckmann, Wynne

Past President

Kathy McFetridge, Springdale

Region 1

Earl Hunton, Lincoln

Region 2

Ron McNair, Alpena

Region 3

Richard Carvell, Nettleton

Region 4

Ruth McConnell, Greenwood

Region 5

Jerry Don Woods, Dardanelle

Region 6

Dr. Paul Hance, Batesville

Region 7

Jeffrey Richardson, Marion

Region 8

Carolyn Lewis, Conway

Region 9

Johnny Lockley, DeWitt

Region 10

Vonda West Cranford, Malvern

Region 11

Maxine Nelson, Watson Chapel

Region 12

Jim Kuykendall, Mineral Springs

Region 13

Wayne Gibson, El Dorado

Region 14

William Campbell, McGehee

Staff

Executive Director

Dan Farley

Executive Assistant & Member Services

Paulette Walker

Staff Attorney

Kristen Gould

Policy Service

Ron Harder

Advocacy

Mickey McFetridge

Study Circles

Heather Detherow

Diane Vibhakar

Special Projects

Ann Marshall

Finance Director

Deborah Newell

Technology

Jason Sylvester

Receptionist/Administrative Assistant

Marilyn Mansfield

Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant

Laura Peters

Risk Management Prog./ Workers' Comp. Program

Shannon Moore, Director

Krista Glover, Assistant Director

Angela Ellis

Amanda Mahar

General Counsel

W. Paul Blume

(501) 375-7922

Editor

Steve Brawner

PAUL BLUME, ASBA GENERAL COUNSEL

Background checks more than we bargained for

Well, we've been doing criminal background checks for certified and noncertified folks as a condition of initial employment for several years now, and we're okay with that. Right? If we hire someone, we do the criminal background check and find out whether the new employee falls into one of the categories which render his employment verboten under the statute. If he's okay, we keep him on. If not, we send him to the house. Simple, and it keeps convicted bad people out of our schools, at least in theory. (On the other hand, if they're bad people and haven't yet been convicted of anything on the list of bad things, we're, unfortunately, none the wiser).

It's worked out pretty well, so far. But now, along comes Act 823 of the 2007 legislative session that makes a change that might not have been intended. That change? It appears that every noncertified employee will have to have a background check, but not just at the time of initial employment. But every-one, every year.

The old law, Section 6-17-414 of the Arkansas Code, at subsection (a)(1)(A)(i), states in pertinent part:

"... the board of directors of a local school district or an educational service cooperative shall require *as a condition of initial employment* in a noncertified staff position any person making application to apply to the Identification Bureau of the Department of Arkansas State Police for statewide and nationwide criminal records checks, the latter to be conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation." (Emphasis supplied).

Okey dokey. Now, let's look at the new, improved law. Same statute number, just amended by Act 823. The equivalent subsection now reads as follows:

Contact ASBA

Arkansas School Boards Assoc.
808 Dr. Martin Luther King Dr.
Little Rock, AR 72202-3646
Telephone: (501) 372-1415

Toll Free: (800) 482-1212
Fax: (501) 375-2454
E-mail: arsba@arsba.org
www.arsba.org

See *Background...*page 8

Background

Continued from page 7

“No person, including without limitation noncertified persons who provide services as a substitute teacher, shall be eligible for employment, whether initial employment, re-employment, or continued employment, by a local school district or education service cooperative in a noncertified staff position if that person has pleaded guilty of any of the following offenses . . .” (Emphasis supplied).

As you recall, in the old law, you had to do background checks on substitute teachers only if they were going to work for 30 or more days within a school year. Under the new, improved, longer, lower and wider law, all substitutes will

have to have a background check, regardless of how many – or few – days they might work.

That business about “including without limitation noncertified persons who provide services as a substitute teacher . . .” is what make the statute so all-inclusive. The new law appears to use substitute teachers as an example of the application of the law, but the “without limitation” statement sucks in everyone like a tractor beam on *Star Trek*. “Without limitation” is pretty clear.

Of course, that means that all noncertified employees will need a background check, every year, both at the time of initial employment and at every renewal of their contracts. Can you say “time-consuming and expensive?” That goes for subs, too (working any-

where from one day to all year), as well as all part-time and full-time noncertified employees. Of course, the delay in getting results from background checks on your new hires can be substantial, as you well know. This probably will not streamline that process. Just a guess. Thankfully, there is no similar change in the law for certified personnel.

There might be room for an attorney general’s opinion to tell me that the law doesn’t really say what Kristen and I both think it says. If there’s any conflict in the language of the statute, the latest expression of the Legislature controls (that’s a basic rule of statutory construction), and the latest expression of the Legislature is Act 823 of 2007.

Happy background-checking!

Our Job

Continued from page 6

community so that we can make sound decisions on all of the issues I’ve mentioned, plus many more.

It’s very important for all of us to stay focused because school board service today is very different than it used to be. We simply cannot rely any more on our past conceptions because the rules have changed. If we think we can continue to operate the way we used to, we are sticking our heads in the sand. By doing so, we are shortchanging our children’s futures.

We need to look at the big picture, be adaptable, be willing to embrace change, and keep children first as we make decisions. And we must work together to forge consensus wherever we can. We need to play by the rules

and set an example in each of our communities as civic leaders, and we must do our homework.

There are lots of resources available to us. Of course, ASBA is one of those. NSBA is, too. NSBA’s Center for Public Education (CPE) is a beacon of accurate, reliable information on many issues facing school boards. It’s basically a “one-stop shop for clear, concise, and trusted information,” according to Patte Barth, the director of the CPE.

If you think you need a refresher course, delve into ASBA’s *Handbook for Arkansas School Boards*. It was revised about a year ago, and it’s essential reading for all school board members.

School elections will be held in September, and many candidates will not understand the intricacies and nuances of school board service. That’s one of the reasons

we put our handbook on our website so that it can be available to anyone who wants to know more about the duties and responsibilities of school boards and the way they are supposed to operate. It’s there for anyone who wants it.

Make sure candidates for school board election know it’s there. Having the knowledge before being elected can make a crucial difference in the effectiveness of your school board. And even if you, like I, have been around a long time, it’s still an important document to get to know.

It’s doubtful that our work is going to get easier, but it’s certain to be more rewarding when we know our decisions are based on accurate information and the shared belief that all the kids in all our schools can learn, and that each of them deserves the best education we can provide.

Student assessment costs rising

But ADE working to reduce testing workload

The cost of student assessments has increased from \$5 million to \$21.7 million since the 2000-2001 school year and will continue to rise, Arkansas Department of Education Commissioner Dr. Ken James told administrators and ASBA members at their 13th annual joint conference May 10.

However, the Department of Education is consolidating tests to reduce the amount of school time devoted to assessments.

James, who was part of a panel discussion, said the increasing testing requirements are a result of the federal No Child Left Behind Act. Before 1979, districts performed their own tests, and even the state had no role in assessing students.



James

compare them to other students nationally. Those tests in 2006-07 took up eight days of class time. The state Board of Education recently voted to create the Augmented Criterion-Referenced Test that will combine some exams in 2007-08 so that testing should be limited to five days.

During a spirited question and answer session, James was asked if average scores would be lower now that federal dollars can be used to

Students now undergo criterion-referenced tests to gauge their ability to meet state standards, and norm-referenced tests that

pay for ACT tests for low-income students. He responded by saying that other states have seen first-year dips followed by stable scores, and that the provision encourages more students to be engaged in a rigorous college-bound course of study. When one questioner urged attendees to call their congressmen asking for full funding for special education and Title I, James said that No Child Left Behind is currently underfunded by \$70 billion. Fort Smith Superintendent Dr. Benny Gooden said almost one in five of his students aren't primarily English speakers, but they are graded on the same curve as other students. James said he and other education chiefs have made that same point to the secretary of education but so far have been unable to effect a change in the regulations.

Leadership

Continued from page 6

important role to fill as the primary policy-making body that governs each local school district. They also play a pivotal part in the effort to advance student achievement. That means that school boards need to focus more on their academic and financial oversight responsibilities and less on those things that are rightly handled by their CEOs and their administrative staffs.

By working as a team, school boards and superintendents can provide the leadership needed to get a school district to good and then to great. That requires knowledge of what you're

supposed to do to meet the mandates placed on public schools by the General Assembly. It requires an understanding of curriculum and assessment. It requires that you establish policy and that you operate from it. It requires that you make prudent financial decisions and that you operate ethically within established law.

It also requires that you conduct yourselves in a way that assures your community that you are addressing your mission, which is to educate every child. You can't do that alone. It requires a staff of professional personnel who, with you, share a common vision. And it requires a community that understands and supports its

schools.

Your job as an elected school board member isn't an easy one, but it can be a rewarding one. It's certainly one that most of the public does not truly understand. For instance, many people don't realize that as an individual member of the school board, you can do nothing. Only working together as a team – as a board – can you fulfill your mission.

We at ASBA are here to help you in that mission. It is our hope that our shared road to educational improvement in Arkansas will continue and that with each mile we travel, we will be rewarded by how, as a state, we are all working together to make a positive and long-lasting difference.

ASBA Corporate Members, 2006-07

Serving schools and school boards throughout Arkansas.

A-Lert Roof Systems

P.O. Box 79
Erie, KS 66733
(800) 344-0609

All-Clean USA

P.O. Box 496
Jonesboro, AR 72403
(870) 972-1922

All-Storage Products, Inc.

P.O. Box 22266
Little Rock, AR 72221
(501) 666-8600

Arch Ford/TCPN

7145 West Tidwell
Houston, TX 77092
(888) 884-7695

Biz Supplies

5306 Trail Lake Drive
Fort Worth, TX 76133
(800) 344-0619

Brackett Krennerich Cooper

2434 E. Joyce Blvd, Suite 2
Fayetteville, AR 72703
(479) 444-0571

Brazil, Adlong & Winningham

1315 Main Street
Conway, AR 72032
(501) 327-4457

Capital Business Machines

924 Main Street
Little Rock, AR 72202
(501) 375-1111

Carrier Corporation

1805 Bond Ave.
Little Rock, AR 72206
(501) 945-6000, ext. 104

Central States Bus Sales

420 Lake Lane
North Little Rock, AR 72117
(501) 955-2577

Claridge Products & Equipment, Inc.

P.O. Box 910
Harrison, AR 72602
(870) 743-2200

Cobb and Suskie, Ltd.

650 South Shackelford, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72211
(501) 225-2133

Comark Building Systems

505 N. I-35 East
Desoto, TX 75115
(972) 230-6390

Commerce Bank

811 Main Street, 1st Floor
Kansas City, MO 64105
(816) 760-3120

Crafton, Tull, Sparks and Assoc.

901 N. 47th St., Suite 200
Rogers, AR 72756
(479) 636-4838

Crow Burlingame Co.

P.O. Box 111
Little Rock, AR 72203
(501) 375-1215

Daktronics, Inc.

7123 Interstate 30, Suite 30
Little Rock, AR 72209
(501) 565-4500

David H. Frieze Associates, Inc.

P.O. Box 8398
Hot Springs Village, AR 71910-8398
(501) 922-9704

Diamond State Bus Sales

P.O. Box 2587
Conway, AR 72033
(501) 329-9874

DLR Group

7290 West 133rd Street
Overland Park, KS 66213
(913) 897-7811

Educational Benefits, Inc.

320 W. Capitol, Suite 700
Little Rock, AR 72201
(800) 824-5022

Fibrebond Corporation

1300 Davenport Dr.
Minden, LA 71055
(318) 377-1030, Ext. 226

First Security

Beardsley Public Finance
521 President Clinton Ave.,
Suite 800
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 978-6392

Gulf South Infrsystems, LLC

62 Midtown Park East
Mobile, AL 36606
(251) 662-1390

Gym Masters Basketball Courts

121 Longleaf Drive
Searcy, AR 72143
(501) 279-3799

HeartBeeps Software by Kindle Publishing

1718 Humble Place Drive
Humble, TX 77338
(800) 937-8227

Jackson Brown King Architects

2228 Cottondale Ln., Suite 320
Little Rock, AR 72202
(501) 664-8700

Kids for Health

P.O. Box 326
Springdale, AR 72765
(479) 756-9551

KLC Custom Electronics

1111 Texas Boulevard
Texarkana, TX 75501
(903) 792-7262

Laidlaw Education Services

Metropolitan Bank
425 W. Capitol, Suite 1566
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 372-5343

LifeTrack Services, Inc.

1271 Port Drive
Clarkston, WA 99403
(800) 738-6466

Merl's Bus Sales, Inc.

2604 Industrial Park Road
Van Buren, AR 72957
(479) 474-3433

Metro Builders & Restoration Specialists, Inc.

P.O. Box 959
North Little Rock, AR 72115
(501) 758-2845

Meyer Roofing and Sheet Metal

636 Cannie Baker Road
Mountain Home, AR 72653
(870) 425-5182

Midwest Dairy Council

9 Bakers Spring Road
Russellville, AR 72802
(479) 880-8010

Midwest Risk Management Services, Inc.

5506 Walsh Lane, Suite 202
Rogers, AR 72758
(479) 271-7475

Missco Contract Sales

1601 Sammy Circle
Hope, AR 71801
(501) 851-6506

Moser Corporation

601 North 13th Street
Rogers, AR 72756
(479) 636-3481

Musco Sports Lighting, LLC

2107 Stewart Road
Muscatine, IA 52761
(800) 754-6025

Nabholz Construction Corp.

612 Garland
Conway, AR 72032
(501) 327-7781

National Bus Sales

8649 South Regency Dr.
Tulsa, OK 74131
(800) 475-1439

NEARK Adjustment Company

308 North 5th
Blytheville, AR 72316-0223
(870) 838-0097

NSBA/National Affiliates Program

3136 W. Holcomb/Bellaire Blvd.
Houston, TX 77025
(713) 668-5342

Pacheco Outdoor Equipment

11324 Arcade Dr., Suite 3
Little Rock, AR 72212
(501) 225-1218

Performance Surfaces, LLC

701 NW 63rd Street, Suite 502
Oklahoma City, OK 73116
(405) 463-0505

**Risk Management Resources,
Division of Ramsey, Krug,
Ferrell & Lensing**

P.O. Box 251770
Little Rock, AR 72225
(501) 614-1108

RJ Love Enterprises, Inc.

P.O. Box 2939
Little Rock, AR 72203
(501) 988-5474

Robert J. Bailey, Architect

P.O. Box 251756
Little Rock, AR 72225
(501) 224-7406

**Sage Software/
TKI Computer Center**

103 North East Street
Benton, AR 72015
(501) 778-4869

Seamless Systems, Inc.

5706 South 73rd Place
Fort Smith, AR 72903
(479) 648-0037

Service Plus Telecommunications

820 East 4th Street
Russellville, AR 72801
(479) 967-8888

Sign Systems, Inc.

301 Burke Avenue
Jonesboro, AR 72401
(870) 931-1761

Southern Bleacher Company

P.O. Box 1
Graham, TX 76450
(940) 549-0733

Sport Court

700 Minton Road
Benton, AR 72015
(501) 316-2255

Stephens Inc.

111 Center Street, Suite 2300
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 377-2306

Stevens-Dell & Associates

5312 West Markham
Little Rock, AR 72205
(501) 664-6587

TAPS

P.O. Box 1894
Mt. Pleasant, TX 75456
(866) 839-8477

Trane Arkansas

1501 Westpark Drive, Suite 9
Little Rock, AR 72204
(501) 661-0621

Tri-State Track, Inc.

4975 Malvern Avenue
Hot Springs, AR 71901
(501) 844-0245

USAbLe Life

320 W. Capitol Ave, Suite 1100
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 378-3362

Virco, Inc.

P.O. Box 5000
Conway, AR 72033-2090
(501) 920-9358

Wildcat Ventures, IPC

206 East Main Street
Kirbyville, TX 75956
(409) 423-1701

**Wittenberg, Delony &
Davidson Inc., Architects**

400 W. Capitol Ave., Suite 1800
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 376-6681

ASBA given Workers' Comp award

The Arkansas School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Trust has been awarded the Outstanding Performance Award for Public Group Self-Insurer in Arkansas by the state Workers' Compensation Commission.

The award was presented to Shannon Moore, director of ASBA's Risk Management Program, by Commissioner Philip Hood at the annual Workers' Compensation Educational Conference in April in Hot Springs. It was the seventh time ASBA has been so recognized since 1999.

Each year, the commission's Self-Insurance Division grades



ASBA AWARDED – ASBA's Shannon Moore, right, accepts the award from Philip Hood.

companies handling workers' compensation claims on the number of cases and the timeliness in reporting injuries and paying injured employees.

Southern Region Conference to be July 12-14

The 2007 National School Boards Association Southern Region Conference will be July 12-14 at the Hyatt Regency in San Antonio.

The conference is hosted by a different state each year and allows school board members from across 11 states to attend discussion sessions and meet their colleagues.

Fees are \$295 for school board members and superintendents, and \$220 for spouses or guests.

For more information about registration, e-mail the registrar at registrar@tasb.org or call 800-580-8272, extension 6142.

Arkansas School Boards Association REPORTER

808 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Little Rock, AR 72202-3646

Non-Profit
Organization

U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit No. 2340

Little Rock, AR