

APCA 2017 Conference Host: Arkansas Virtual Academy

Submitted by: Gina Moore, M.Ed. Parental Involvement Coordinator
Family Academic Support Team (FAST)

Arkansas Virtual Academy is a public, online, charter school that serves students in grades K-12 across the state. Students work from home under the direct supervision of a learning coach and receive online support from their teacher(s). We have families come to us for many reasons; students who are Olympic hopefuls, students with specialized medical or learning issues, etc. Despite the reasons for enrolling, many of our families are new to virtual learning and come to us with a myriad of questions. Because our families are sprinkled across the state, a localized Parent Center would not serve their needs



Conference Host



Message from President

“APCA strives to continue to build capacity in your knowledge of information and opportunities for parent, family, community, and school engagement.”

- Kaye Rainey

Continued on page 3



2016 Conference

In This Issue

- 2017 Conference Host
- Note from the President
- APCA Board
- Online Presence
- A New Education Law
- ESSA Highlights



Kaye Rainey, President and Dr. Geraldine Mallette, ADE

APCA Connections



The APCA website, onlineAPCA.com keeps you up to date on upcoming Parent Involvement Conferences.

APCA is also on Social Media connections. Follow us, Like us and Tweet about us!

Find us on 

Facebook.com/
Arkansas Parent Coordinator/
Facilitators' Association



@onlineAPCA



Online APCA

Instagram



OnlineAPCA@gmail.com

APCA members also have access to the listserve. The email listserve allows you to post a question or comment to the group. Simply send an email to: OnlineAPCA@gmail.com.

Online APCA Presence

Message from the President

Welcome 2017 APCA Conference participants!

APCA extends a special thank you to the conference host, Arkansas Virtual Academy, Dr. Scott Sides, Head of School; Gina Moore, Coordinator, Parent involvement; and the Arkansas Virtual Academy conference team. Additionally, we welcome and appreciate all conference presenters, both from within Arkansas as well as out-of-state.

APCA strives to provide members with information, resources and opportunities to increase parent, family, community, and school engagement. Therefore, your membership is valuable and we welcome you to register your email address for the APCA Online Presence email distribution. By signing up you will be able to share family, community, and school engagement best practices as well as receive pertinent information targeting professional development opportunities to share with cohorts within your school and district.

Again, WELCOME and THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING!

Kaye Rainey, President
APCA 2015-2017
arparentcoord@gmail.com
www.onlineapca.com

APCA Board

President:

Kaye Rainey
Little Rock School District

Vice President*:

Rose Smith
Pine Bluff School District

Interim Secretary:

Freddie Jolivet
Pine Bluff School District

Assistant Secretary:

Amanda Nelson
Little Rock School District

Treasurer:

Jeannie Grissom
Vilonia School District

Historian*:

Gina Moore
AR Virtual Academy

Parliamentarian*:

Lori Satterwhite
Southside School District

**Officers elected in each even numbered year.*

All other officers elected in each odd numbered year.

Committee Chairpersons

Membership:

Jeannie Grissom
Vilonia School District

Online Presence:

Lori Satterwhite
Southside School District

APCA Conference

2016 Host:

Freddie Jolivet
Pine Bluff School District

Host... Continued from page 1

effectively. Instead, we have a Family Academic Support Team to assist families in settling in to virtual learning. This team consists of Engagement Coaches who have served in the learning coach capacity with their own children, a Compliancy Liaison who works with families struggling with attendance issues, and a Resource Coordinator who, among other things, supports families in crisis and works to provide resources as needed.

New families are assigned an Engagement Coach who trains them on our technical platforms, how to access their online classes and syllabuses, assist with planning and scheduling, technical issues, and even how to keep their student socially engaged while learning from home. The Engagement Coach works with the new family for the first few weeks of school until the family is settled in. Then, if families or students struggle with motivation issues, scheduling or planning their day/week, etc., the Engagement Coach will return to their side to assist as needed until they get back on track.

In addition, the Family Academic Support Team plans and facilitates student outings across the state for students and families to come together in educational and social settings. We have enjoyed outings at State parks, museums, theatres, libraries, skating rinks, yearly state testing events, end-of-year parties, and many more. This year we are excited to celebrate our first year of high school graduates!

Dr. Geraldine Mallete, ADE



Kaye Rainey and Hope Allen



2016 Conference Highlights



2017 Conference Presenters



Dr. Geraldine Mallette has worked as an educator in the public school system and public service for her entire career. She received her Bachelors and Master's degrees from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, and received her PhD from Mississippi State University in Starkville, MS. She worked for the Little Rock school district for several years in the positions of teacher, Title I Specialist and Math Coach. For the past seven years, she has worked for the Arkansas Department of Education, in the Federal Programs Unit as a Public School Administrative Advisor. She is the Program Advisor for Parent and Family Engagement, and the Title V Rural Education Achievement Program, (REAP). She is a member of Canaan Missionary Baptist Church where she serves as Sunday School Teacher and several other capacities. She enjoys traveling and participating in the ministries at her church. She is married to Minister Neal Mallette and is the proud owner of a beautiful "big" puppy-dog, Sam.



Nick Monzi is a passionate entrepreneur who devotes time to pursuits in the arts, education, and athletics. At Learn Fresh, he has worked with NBA teams, large urban school districts, and national and regional after-school program providers to develop the NBA Math Hoops community program model. Since its launch in

Cleveland during the fall of 2013, the program has expanded to include initiatives in 35 focus cities across the United States.

He also continues to work as an active educator, serving as Staff and Educational Coordinator for the Madison Scouts Drum & Bugle Corps from Madison, WI, a consistent Drum Corps International Finalist ensemble. Nick also runs a visual design business servicing high school marching arts programs in California, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

Nick received a bachelor's degree in Entrepreneurship and Marketing Management from Syracuse University, and completed his master's degree at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, where he took an active role in

A
P
C
A

Continued from page 4

growing the presence of education innovation on Harvard's campus. Outside of his work, Nick loves travel and Italian food, and excels at non-sports such as darts and foosball.



Anthony A. Owen serves as Arkansas's State Director of Computer Science, a position created at the request of Governor Asa Hutchinson and housed within the Arkansas Department of Education. From 2011 until July 2015, he served as ADE's K-12 Mathematics and Computer Science Curriculum Specialist.

Anthony leads the development and implementation of Gov. Hutchinson's computer science initiative. In this role, Owen coordinates with multiple national and state entities including K-12 educators, representatives from higher education, and business and industry leaders to ensure Arkansas's efforts in computer science are relevant to the needs of the state and nation. At a national level, Anthony serves as a Board member for the National Computer Science Teachers Association, as a member of the Southern Regional Education Board's Commission on Computer Science, Information Technology and Related Career Fields, and served as a writer of the recently published K-12 Computer Science Framework. Anthony also works closely with Gov. Hutchinson's Computer Science Task Force, which identifies the state's computer science and technology needs.

Anthony received a Bachelors of Science in mathematics with a double minor in education and computer science and a M.S.E. in Educational Leadership both from Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. He received a Juris Doctorate from the U.A.L.R. Bowen School of Law in 2013 and was admitted to the Arkansas Bar in 2014



Jamie Morrison Ward is the founder and Training and Resource Officer for Curricula Concepts, Inc. Her primary focus is family engagement and she works in partnership with UA Early Care and Education Projects and Zero to Three to bring research-based curricula and programs to child care centers across the state. Jamie has experience as a classroom teacher and center director with both ABC and Head Start, served as the Administrator of the Arkansas

Better Chance Programs for AR Division of Child Care and Early Childhood

A
P
C
A

Continued from page 5

Education for several years, and has served on numerous committees and boards concerned with increasing quality and awareness around many issues in the early childhood field. She is currently the Past President of the Arkansas Early Childhood Association, a member of the State Parent Advisory Council, AR Professional Development Steering Committee, Equity Leaders Action Network Workgroup and serves as the President of the AR Association for Infant Mental Health.



Deborah Blackburn has worked in child care and the early education field for 18 years. She is the Program Development Coordinator for Curricula Concepts, Inc. where her focus is helping child care providers and families build strong relationships built on mutual respect and trust. Formerly, she worked in a developmental preschool as a Curriculum Coordinator and served in many roles during her work in the AR Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education.



Nancy L. Meyer (MAT) is the Education Director for Connect With Kids, an instructional media company focused on SEL, Social Emotional Learning, to improve the health and well-being of children and their families. Ms. Meyer served as the Instructional STEAM (STEM + Arts) Coach for Eagle Academy, a D.C. Public Charter School, training pre-K through grade 3 teachers integrate arts into their science, technology, engineering and

math curriculum; Master Teaching Artist from the Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts; and education director or associate of multiple arts organizations. A former middle and high school language arts/theatre arts/special education music teacher, Nancy believes that we all learn best when we become creative and critical thinkers who see patterns, solve problems, create, and collaborate. Nancy also sings and performs improvisational comedy professionally.

A
P
C
A

Compelling Stories

Do you or someone from your community have a compelling story? If so, consider sharing your story at the next Arkansas Parent Coordinator/Facilitators Association Conference.

If you would like to participate as a guest speaker during the 2018 APCA Conference, email your information to arparentcoord@gmail.com.

Best Practices

Do you have an idea, activity, or event that works in your area? Please share this information during the Best Practices portion of the conference. Together we can inspire and motivate each other to try new things in our own areas.

Favorite Resources

Do you have a favorite resource, website, or contact? Do you have a resource to receive FREE materials? If so, please share with the group. When we share all of our families benefit!

Do you use any of these websites?

- Arkansas Department of Education: <http://www.arkansased.gov/>
- Arkansas Department of Education: <http://www.arkansased.gov/im-looking-for/parents>
- US Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov/>
- Center for Effective Parenting: <http://parenting-ed.org/>
- Center for Disease Control: <http://www.cdc.gov/>
- Child Mind Institute: <http://childmind.org/>
- Arkansas Children's Hospital: <http://www.archildren.org/>

The logo for the Arkansas Parent Coordinator/Facilitators Association (APCA) is displayed vertically on a dark blue background. The letters 'A', 'P', 'C', and 'A' are stacked from top to bottom, each in a large, white, bold, sans-serif font with a subtle drop shadow.

A New Education Law

Excerpt from: ed.gov

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed by President Obama on December 10, 2015, and represents good news for our nation's schools. This bipartisan measure reauthorizes the 50-year-old Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), the nation's national education law and longstanding commitment to equal opportunity for all students.

The new law builds on key areas of progress in recent years, made possible by the efforts of educators, communities, parents, and students across the country. For example, today, high school graduation rates are at all-time highs. Dropout rates are at historic lows. And more students are going to college than ever before.

The previous version of the law, the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, was enacted in 2002. NCLB represented a significant step forward for our nation's children in many respects, particularly as it shined a light on where students were making progress and where they needed additional support, regardless of race, income, zip code, disability, home language, or background. The law was scheduled for revision in 2007, and, over time, NCLB's prescriptive requirements became increasingly unworkable for schools and educators. Recognizing this fact, in 2010, the Obama administration joined a call from educators and families to create a better law that focused on the clear goal of fully preparing all students for success in college and careers.

Congress has now responded to that call.

ESSA Highlights

Excerpt from: ed.gov

President Obama signs the Every Student Succeeds Act into law on December 10, 2015.

ESSA includes provisions that will help to ensure success for students and schools. Below are just a few. The law:

- Advances equity by upholding critical protections for America's disadvantaged and high-need students.
- Requires—for the first time—that all students in America be taught to high academic standards that will prepare them to succeed in college and careers.
- Ensures that vital information is provided to educators, families, students, and communities through annual statewide assessments that measure students' progress toward those high standards.
- Helps to support and grow local innovations—including evidence-based and place-based interventions developed by local leaders and educators—consistent with our Investing in Innovation and Promise Neighborhoods
- Sustains and expands this administration's historic investments in increasing access to high-quality preschool.
- Maintains an expectation that there will be accountability and action to effect positive change in our lowest-performing schools, where groups of students are not making progress, and where graduation rates are low over extended periods of time.

Become a Member

For more information contact:

Kaye Rainey, APCA
President

Parent Involvement
Specialist
Little Rock School District
3001 S Pulaski Street
Little Rock, AR 72206

(501) 447-3358

arparentcoord@gmail.com

Send membership
registration to:

Jeannie Grissom,
APCA Treasurer

Parent Center Coordinator
Vilonia School District
4 Bane Lane
Conway, AR 72032

Visit us on the web at
www.onlineAPCA.com