



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Dr. Tom W. Kimbrell
Commissioner

June 20, 2011

State Board
of Education

Mr. Vandell Bland, Sr.
306 North Forrest
Forrest City, AR 72336

Dr. Naccaman Williams
Springdale
Chair

**Re: Fiscal Distress Status of the Helena-West Helena School District
VIA CERTIFIED MAIL, REGULAR MAIL AND HAND
DELIVERY**

Dr. Ben Mays
Clinton
Vice Chair

Sherry Burrow
Jonesboro

Dear Mr. Bland:

Jim Cooper
Melbourne

As you are aware, the Arkansas Department of Education identified the Helena-West Helena School District as being in fiscal distress on July 20, 2010. On September 13, 2010, the Arkansas State Board of Education classified the Helena-West Helena School District as being in fiscal distress.

Brenda Gullett
Fayetteville

Sam Ledbetter
Little Rock

I am writing to advise you that, on this date, pursuant to the authority contained in Ark. Code Ann. § 6-20-1909, I relieved Superintendent Willie Williams and the Helena-West Helena School Board of any and all authority they possessed over the Helena-West Helena School District.

Alice Mahony
El Dorado

Toyce Newton
Crossett

Vicki Saviers
Little Rock

Because you are the attorney for the Helena-West Helena School District, I respectfully request that you provide me with a copy of any and all legal files pertaining to the district. This request includes, without limitation, copies of files pertaining to the non-renewal, partial non-renewal, reassignments or termination of employees of the Helena West-Helena School District.

Should you have any questions pertaining to this request, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Jeremy Lasiter or Mr. Mark White at (501) 682-4227.

Sincerely,

Tom W. Kimbrell, Ed.D
Commissioner

Four Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR
72201-1019
(501) 682-4475
ArkansasEd.org

cc: Mr. Jeremy C. Lasiter, General Counsel