



# ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Dr. Tom W. Kimbrell  
Commissioner

June 20, 2011

State Board  
of Education

Mr. Willie Williams, Superintendent  
Helena-West Helena School District  
305 Valley Drive  
Helena-West Helena, AR 72342

Dr. Naccaman Williams  
Springdale  
Chair

Dr. Ben Mays  
Clinton  
Vice Chair

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

Sherry Burrow  
Jonesboro

Dear Superintendent Williams:

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

Alice Mahony  
El Dorado

I am writing to advise you that, pursuant to the authority contained in Ark. Code Ann. § 6-20-1909, I hereby require you to relinquish all administrative authority with respect to the Helena-West Helena School District. This decision is effective immediately.

Toyce Newton  
Crossett

Vicki Saviers  
Little Rock

Sincerely,

Tom W. Kimbrell, Ed.D  
Commissioner

cc: The Honorable Jack Crumbly, Arkansas Senate  
The Honorable Stephanie Flowers, Arkansas Senate  
The Honorable Clark Hall, Arkansas House of Representatives  
Members of the Arkansas State Board of Education  
Members of the Helena-West Helena School Board  
Mr. Tony Wood, Deputy Commissioner of Education  
Mr. Bill Goff, Assistant Commissioner, Fiscal and Administrative Services  
Mr. Jeremy C. Lasiter, General Counsel

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