

51ST ANNUAL AAEA SUMMER CONFERENCE

2026

RETIREE

RECOGNITION

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JULY 27-29, 2026



**ARKANSAS ASSOCIATION OF
EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATORS**



Congratulations, retiring administrators!
Thank you for your service and dedication
to the education of Arkansas children. The
AAEA staff and I sincerely hope that you
enjoy your retirement to the fullest.

- Dr. Megan Duncan
AAEA Executive Director

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Retirees at a Glance

Brett Bunch

Superintendent
Lonoke School District

Michael E. Lyons

Principal
Emerson-Taylor-Bradley School District

Nona Comer

Division Manager
Arkansas Department of Education

LaDonna Morrison

Business Manager
Woodlawn School District

Janice M. Cowart

Assistant Director of Special Services
Fayetteville Public Schools

Melissa Parks

Federal Programs/Curriculum/Compliance
Administrator
Lead Hill School District

Rhonda Daniel

LEA Supervisor
Southeast Arkansas Education Service
Cooperative

Karm Prock

Director of Gifted Education and Advanced
Placement
Fayetteville Public Schools

Dr. Vivian Murry-Evans

Principal
Dumas Public School District

Tami L. Richey

Superintendent
Lead Hill School District

Amy L. Evans

Program Coordinator
Greenbrier Public Schools

Shawn Rose

Principal
Hillcrest School District

Steven Martin Freeman

Assistant Principal
Fountain Lake School District

Virginia Scallion

Administrative Assistant
Woodlawn School District

Alisa Gray

Director of Leadership and School Support
Sheridan School District

Kerry Schneider, Ed.D.

Superintendent
Cedarville Public Schools

Clare Haozous

Principal
Eureka Springs School District

Kim B. Simco

Principal
Springdale School District

Hugh Inman

Deputy Superintendent
Marion School District

Dr. Marcia Smith

Deputy Superintendent
Springdale School District

Anita Ellen Rogers Lowe

Director of Special Programs/Federal
Programs Coordinator
Junction City School District

Dr. Mary Ann Spears

Superintendent
Lincoln Consolidated School District

Retirees at a Glance

Dean Stanley

Assistant Superintendent
Searcy School District

Dr. Karla Tarkington

HR and Federal Programs Director
Beebe School District

Gaylon Taylor

Superintendent
Buffalo Island Central Schools

Dr. Lewis Villines

Assistant Superintendent
Harrison Public Schools

Charles Edward Webster

Director of Special Services
Osceola School District

Julia Thurman Williams

Principal
Farmington Public Schools



Arkansas Association of
Educational Administrators

2026
*Retiring
Administrators*

Brett Bunch
Superintendent
Lonoke School District
18 Years of Service to Education



Education:

- Education Specialist in Educational Leadership, Arkansas State University, 2018
- Master of Arts, Arkansas State University, 2016
- Bachelor of Arts, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 1988

Professional Career:

- AP U.S. History Teacher/U.S. History Teacher/Football, Softball, and Track Coach, Quitman Public Schools, 2009–2013
- High School Principal, Quitman Public Schools, 2013–2016
- Superintendent, Magazine School District, 2016–2019
- Superintendent, Newport School District, 2019–2022
- Superintendent, Brookland Public Schools, 2022–2025
- Superintendent, Lonoke School District, 2025–2026

Nona Comer
Division Manager of Arkansas Public School
Computer Network (APSCN) Financial
Management System
Arkansas Department of Education
41 Years of Service to Education



Education:

- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a Minor in Economics, Arkansas Tech University, 1983

Professional Career:

- Intermittent Accountant, Employment Security Division, 1984–1985
- Accountant, Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, 1985–1987
- Retirement Benefits Counselor, Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, 1987–1994
- Accounting Supervisor, Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, 1994–2007
- APSCN FMS Applications Manager, Arkansas Department of Education–APSCN FMS, 2007–2016
- APSCN FMS Manager, Arkansas Department of Education–APSCN FMS, 2016–2022
- APSCN FMS Division Manager, Arkansas Department of Education–APSCN FMS, 2022–2026

Janice M. Cowart
Assistant Director of Special Services
Fayetteville Public Schools
39 Years of Service to Education



Education:

- Master of Education in Special Education, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 1997
- Master of Education, University of Arkansas, 1991
- Bachelor of Arts in Education, University of Arkansas, 1986

Professional Career:

- Kindergarten Teacher, Siloam Springs School District, 1986–1989
- Kindergarten & 4th Grade Teacher, Fayetteville Public Schools, 1990–1995
- Special Education Vision Teacher, Fayetteville Public Schools, 1995–2007
- Special Education Designee, Fayetteville Public Schools, 2007–2012
- Special Education Coordinator & 504 Coordinator, Fayetteville Public Schools, 2012–2014
- Assistant Director of Special Services, Fayetteville Public Schools, 2014–2026

Rhonda Daniel
LEA Supervisor at Warren, Woodlawn, and
Hermitage School Districts
Southeast Arkansas Education Service
Cooperative
34 Years of Service to Education



Education:

- Curriculum Specialist in Special Education, Henderson State University, 2008
- Master of Education in Educational Leadership, University of Arkansas at Monticello, 2006
- Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education, University of Arkansas at Monticello, 1992

Professional Career:

- Elementary Special Education Teacher, Warren School District, 1991–2008
- LEA Supervisor, Warren, Woodlawn, Hermitage, and Hampton School Districts, 2008–2012
- LEA Supervisor, Warren, Woodlawn, and Hermitage School Districts, 2012–2026

Dr. Vivian Murry-Evans
Principal at Reed Elementary School
Dumas Public School District
35.5 Years of Service to Education



Education:

- Doctor of Education in Urban Higher Education, Jackson State University, 2012
- Education Specialist in Educational Administration, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 2004
- Master of Education, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, 1999
- Bachelor of Science, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, 1992

Professional Career:

- Vocational Education Teacher, Pine Bluff Youth Services Center (DHS), 1991–1993
- High School Math Teacher, Gould School District, 1993–2001
- Elementary Teacher, Pine Bluff School District, 2001–2012
- Curriculum Specialist, Little Rock School District, 2012–2020
- Principal, Dumas School District, 2020–2026

Amy L. Evans
Program Coordinator
Greenbrier Public Schools
29 Years of Service to Education



Education:

- Master of Educational Leadership, Arkansas State University, 2022
- Bachelor of Science in Mathematics Education, University of Central Arkansas, 1997

Professional Career:

- 7th Grade Math Teacher, Greenbrier Public Schools, 1997–2022
- Assistant Principal, Greenbrier Public Schools, 2022–2023
- Junior High Principal, Greenbrier Public Schools, 2023–2025
- Program Coordinator, Greenbrier Public Schools, 2025–2026

Steven Martin Freeman

Assistant Principal at Fountain Lake Middle
School

Fountain Lake School District
38 Years of Service to Education



Education:

- Master of Education in Educational Administration, Louisiana State University, 1989
- Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, Louisiana Tech University, 1987

Professional Career:

- 2nd & 3rd Grade Teacher, East Baton Rouge Parish School District, 1988–1992
- 6th Grade Teacher, Fountain Lake School District, 1992–1998
- Elementary Assistant Principal/Principal, Fountain Lake School District, 1998–2020
- Middle School Assistant Principal, Fountain Lake School District, 2021–2026

Alisa Gray

Director of Leadership and School Support

Sheridan School District
38 Years of Service to Education



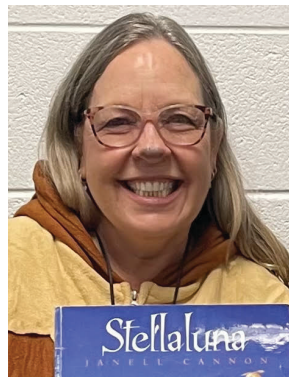
Education:

- Master of Science in Education in School Leadership, Henderson State University, 2017
- Bachelor of Science in Education, Arkansas State University, 1988

Professional Career:

- Special Education Teacher, East Poinsett County School District, 1988–1989
- 1st Grade Teacher, Little Rock School District, 1989–1994
- 1st Grade Teacher, Sheridan School District, 1994–2006
- Math Instructional Coach, Sheridan School District, 2006–2014
- Dean of Students, Sheridan School District, 2014–2017
- Junior High Assistant Principal, Sheridan School District, 2017–2018
- Junior High Principal, Sheridan School District, 2018–2019
- Director, Sheridan School District, 2019–2026

Clare Haozous
Principal at Eureka Springs Elementary
Eureka Springs School District
30 Years of Service to Education



Education:

- Master of Science, University of Central Arkansas, 2006
- Bachelor of Arts, Texas State University, 1989

Professional Career:

- Fifth Grade Teacher, Austin Independent School District, 1996–1998
- Fourth Grade Teacher, Harrison Public Schools, 1999–2005
- Instructional Facilitator, Harrison Public Schools, 2005–2008
- Elementary Principal, Eureka Springs School District, 2008–2026

Hugh Inman
Deputy Superintendent
Marion School District
30 Years of Service to Education



Education:

- Education Specialist in Educational Administration, Arkansas State University, 2002
- Master of Science in Educational Administration, Arkansas State University, 1999
- Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, University of the Ozarks, 1996

Professional Career:

- Secondary Math Teacher/Head Baseball Coach, Cave City School District, 1996–1998
- Secondary Math Teacher/Head Baseball Coach, Southside School District, 1998–2005
- Assistant Middle School Principal, Bald Knob Public Schools, 2005–2007
- High School Principal, Carlisle School District, 2007–2008
- High School Principal, Marion School District, 2008–2011
- Director of Secondary Education, Marion School District, 2011–2017
- Assistant Superintendent, Marion School District, 2017–2020
- Deputy Superintendent, Marion School District, 2020–2026

Anita Ellen Rogers Lowe

**Director of Special Programs/Federal Programs
Coordinator at Junction City Elementary and
High School
Junction City School District
38 Years of Service to Education**



Education:

- Master of Arts in Counseling and Guidance, Louisiana Tech University, 1993
- Bachelor of Science in Business Education, Louisiana Tech University, 1988

Professional Career:

- Business Education Teacher, Junction City School District, 1988–1992
- High School Guidance Counselor, Junction City School District, 1992–2020
- Director of Special Programs/Federal Programs Coordinator, Junction City School District, 2020–2026

Michael E. Lyons

**Principal at Bradley High School
Emerson-Taylor-Bradley School District
28 Years of Service to Education**



Education:

- Master of Education in Educational Administration, Southern Arkansas University, 2004
- Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education, Southern Arkansas University, 1998

Professional Career:

- Teacher, Agricultural Education, Waldo School District, 1998–2002
- Teacher, Agricultural Education, Fouke School District, 2002–2004
- Teacher, Agricultural Education, Emerson-Taylor School District, 2004–2005
- High School Principal, Emerson-Taylor School District, 2005–2014
- High School Principal, Emerson-Taylor-Bradley School District, 2014–2026

LaDonna Morrison
Business Manager
Woodlawn School District
39 Years of Service to Education



Education:

- Associate of Applied Science in Data Processing, University of Arkansas at Monticello, 1987

Professional Career:

- Registrar, Monticello School District, 1987–1993
- Business Manager, Woodlawn School District, 1993–2026

Melissa Parks
Federal Programs/Curriculum/Compliance
Administrator
Lead Hill School District
36 Years of Service to Education



Education:

- Education Specialist in Educational Leadership, University of Arkansas, 2015
- Master of Science in Education in School Counseling, Arkansas Tech University, 2002
- Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, Arkansas State University, 1988

Professional Career:

- 4th Grade Teacher, East Poinsett County School District, 1990–2000
- K–12 Counselor, Ozark Mountain School District (Formerly St. Joe), 2000–2002
- K–12 Counselor, Omaha School District, 2002–2004
- Elementary and Alternative Learning Environment (ALE) Counselor, Harrison School District, 2004–2012
- Curriculum and Testing Administrator, Jasper School District, 2012–2019
- K–12 Principal, Lead Hill School District, 2019–2021
- 7–12 Principal, Lead Hill School District, 2021–2023
- Curriculum/Federal Programs/Compliance Administrator, Lead Hill School District, 2023–2026

Karm Prock

**Director of Gifted Education and Advanced
Placement**

**Fayetteville Public Schools
40 Years of Service to Education**



Education:

- Master of Education, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 1995
- Bachelor of Arts, Harding University, 1980

Professional Career:

- Elementary Librarian, Des Arc School District, 1981–1983
- English Teacher/Art Teacher/Basketball Coach, Aldine Independent School District (Houston, TX), 1983–1986
- Elementary Art Teacher, Greater Atlanta Christian School, 1989–1991
- Elementary Art Teacher, Hawley Independent School District, 1991–1993
- Gifted & Talented (G/T) Coordinator, Beebe School District, 1993–1998
- Gifted & Talented Specialist, Wilbur D. Mills Education Service Cooperative, 1998–2013
- Gifted & Talented Coordinator, Searcy School District, 2013–2017
- Gifted Education Director, Fayetteville Public Schools, 2017–2026

Tami L. Richey

Superintendent

**Lead Hill School District
38 Years of Service to Education**



Education:

- Education Specialist in Educational Leadership, Arkansas State University, 2019
- Master of Science in Education, Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar, Missouri, 2000
- Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, School of the Ozarks, Point Lookout, Missouri, 1988
- Associate of Arts in Elementary Education, North Arkansas College, 1986

Professional Career:

- Elementary Teacher, Lead Hill School District, 1988–2001
- K–12 Counselor, Lead Hill School District, 2001–2002
- Elementary Counselor, Bergman School District, 2002–2011
- High School Volleyball Coach, Bergman School District, 2007–2013
- District Curriculum, Instruction and Testing Coordinator, Bergman School District, 2011–2015
- High School Principal, Bergman School District, 2015–2019
- Superintendent, Lead Hill School District, 2019–2026

Shawn Rose

Principal at Hillcrest Elementary School
Hillcrest School District
28 Years of Service to Education



Education:

- Education Specialist in Superintendent, Arkansas State University, 2020
- Master of Education, William Woods University, 2009
- Bachelor of Science in Physical Education, Arkansas State University, 1998

Professional Career:

- Physical Education Teacher/Driver's Education/Basketball & Baseball Coach, River Valley School District, 1998–2004
- Physical Education Teacher/Basketball & Softball Coach, Hillcrest School District, 2004–2008
- Elementary Principal, Hillcrest School District, 2008–2026

Dedicated service on the AAESP Board of Directors from 2018–2025, culminating in service as AAESP President during the 2023–2024 term.

Virginia Scallion

Administrative Assistant
Woodlawn School District
20 Years of Service to Education

Professional Career:

- Elementary Paraprofessional, Woodlawn School District, 2007–2013
- Administrative Assistant, Woodlawn School District, 2013–2026

Kerry Schneider, Ed.D.

**Superintendent
Cedarville Public Schools
43 Years of Service to Education**



Education:

- Doctor of Education in P-20 Leadership, Harding University, 2017
- Master of Science in Education, University of Central Arkansas, 1990
- Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, Arkansas Tech University, 1983

Professional Career:

- Mathematics Teacher, Scranton School District, 1983–1990
- Principal, Pleasant View School District, 1990–2001
- Superintendent, Pleasant View School District, 2001–2005
- Superintendent, Mulberry–Pleasant View Bi-County School District, 2005–2011
- Deputy Superintendent, Van Buren School District, 2011–2016
- Superintendent, Cedarville School District, 2016–2026

Kim B. Simco

**Principal at Thurman G. Smith Elementary
Springdale School District
32 Years of Service to Education**



Education:

- Master of Education in Educational Leadership, University of Arkansas, August 2004
- Bachelor of Science in Education, University of Arkansas, December 1993

Professional Career:

- Kindergarten and First Grade Teacher, Springdale School District (Thurman G. Smith Elementary School), 1995–2002
- Assistant Principal, Springdale School District (Harp Elementary School), 2003–2007
- Principal, Springdale School District (Thurman G. Smith Elementary School), 2008–2026

Dr. Marcia Smith
Deputy Superintendent
Springdale School District
36.25 Years of Service to Education



Education:

- Doctor of Philosophy in Curriculum and Instruction, University of Arkansas, 2013
- Education Specialist in Educational Administration, University of Arkansas, 2010
- Master of Education in Secondary Curriculum (Emphasis in Mathematics), University of Arkansas, 1995
- Bachelor of Science in Mathematics Education, John Brown University, 1991

Professional Career:

- Math Teacher/Department Chair, Springdale School District, 1990–2006
- Assistant Principal, Springdale School District, 2007–2014
- Principal, Springdale School District, 2014–2014
- Assistant Superintendent, Springdale School District, 2014–2019
- Associate Superintendent, Springdale School District, 2019–2023
- Deputy Superintendent, Springdale School District, 2023–2026

Dr. Mary Ann Spears
Superintendent
Lincoln Consolidated School District
33 Years of Service to Education



Education:

- Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership, Arkansas Tech University, 2017
- Education Specialist in Educational Leadership, Arkansas Tech University, 2013
- Master of Education in Educational Leadership, University of Arkansas, 2004
- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (Marketing), University of Arkansas, 1986

Professional Career:

- Math Teacher, Fayetteville School District, 1993–1994
- Math and Business Education Teacher, Farmington School District, 1994–2006
- Assistant Principal/Principal/Superintendent, Lincoln School District, 2006–2026

Dean Stanley
Assistant Superintendent
Searcy School District
41 Years of Service to Education



Education:

- Master of Arts in Educational Leadership, Harding University, 1994
- Bachelor of Arts in Kinesiology, Harding University, 1981
- Associate of Arts in Fine Arts, Ohio Valley College, 1978

Professional Career:

- High School Biology Teacher/Basketball Coach, White County Central School District, 1981–1987
- Men's Basketball Coach/Instructor, Ohio Valley College, 1987–1989
- Biology Teacher/Basketball Coach, White County Central School District, 1989–1994
- High School Principal/Basketball Coach, McRae School District, 1994–1996
- Middle School Principal, White County Central School District, 1996–2008
- Superintendent, Midland School District, 2008–2014
- Superintendent, White County Central School District, 2017–2022
- Assistant Superintendent, Searcy School District, 2022–2026

Dr. Karla Tarkington
HR and Federal Programs Director
Beebe School District
26 Years of Service to Education



Education:

- Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership, Arkansas State University, 2021
- Education Specialist in Educational Leadership (Superintendent), Arkansas State University, 2014
- Master of Education in Gifted and Talented Education, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 2005
- Bachelor of Arts in Communications, Ouachita Baptist University, 1985

Professional Career:

- English Language Arts Teacher, Cabot Public Schools, 2000–2002
- Gifted & Talented/AP Teacher/Facilitator, Beebe Public Schools, 2002–2008
- Elementary Principal, Beebe School District, 2008–2017
- High School Principal, Beebe School District, 2017–2023
- Director of Human Resources & Federal Programs, Beebe School District, 2023–2026

Gaylon Taylor
Superintendent
Buffalo Island Central Schools
42 Years of Service to Education



Education:

- Master of Education in Educational Administration, Arkansas State University, 2006
- Bachelor of Science in Education, Arkansas State University, 1982

Professional Career:

- Boys Basketball Coach (7–12), Monette High School, 1982–1993
- 8th Grade American History Teacher, Valley View School District, 1995–1998
- Dean of Students, Valley View School District, 1998–2000
- Junior High Principal, Valley View School District, 2000–2002
- High School Principal, Valley View School District, 2002–2004
- Assistant Superintendent, Valley View School District, 2004–2012
- Superintendent, Buffalo Island Central School District, 2013–2026

Dr. Lewis Villines
Assistant Superintendent
Harrison Public Schools
32.5 Years of Service to Education



Education:

- Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership, Harding University, 2017
- Master of Science in School Leadership, Management, and Administration, University of Central Arkansas, 2006
- Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education, University of Arkansas, 1993

Professional Career:

- Agriculture Teacher, Flippin Public Schools, 1994–2006
- Agriculture Teacher, Mountain Home Public Schools, 2006–2008
- Elementary Principal, Flippin Public Schools, 2008–2012
- High School Principal, Huntsville Public Schools, 2012–2013
- Assistant Principal, Rogers Public Schools, 2013–2016
- High School Principal, Rogers Public Schools, 2016–2022
- Assistant Superintendent, Harrison Public Schools, 2022–2026

Charles Edward Webster

**Director of Special Services
Osceola School District
45 Years of Service to Education**



Education:

- Master of Science in Education, Arkansas State University, 1991
- Bachelor of Science in Education, University of Arkansas at Monticello, 1981

Professional Career:

- Math Teacher, Helena-West Helena School District, 1981–1991
- Elementary Principal, Marvell School District, 1991–1992
- High School Principal, Humphrey School District, 1992–1998
- High School Principal, Elaine School District, 1998–2005
- High School Principal, Parkin School District, 2005–2006
- High School Principal, Turrell School District, 2006–2010
- District Facilitator, Marvell School District, 2011–2014
- Director of Alternative Learning Environment (ALE)/Student Support Services, Osceola School District, 2014–2023
- Interim Superintendent, Osceola School District, 2023–2025
- Director of Support Services, Osceola School District, 2025–2026

Julia Thurman Williams

**Principal at Randall G. Lynch Middle School
Farmington Public Schools
27.75 Years of Service to Education**



Education:

- Education Specialist in Educational Leadership, Arkansas State University, 2016
- Master of Education, Harding University, 2008
- Bachelor of Science in Education, University of Arkansas, 1991

Professional Career:

- Kindergarten Classroom Teacher, Berryville School District, 1992–1993
- Elementary Classroom Teacher (K, 2, 5), Lincoln Consolidated School District, 1993–1997
- Kindergarten Classroom Teacher, Farmington School District, 2004–2007
- Assistant Principal, Jerry Pop Williams Elementary School, Farmington School District, 2007–2008
- Principal, Ledbetter Intermediate School, Farmington School District, 2008–2018
- Principal, Randall G. Lynch Middle School, Farmington School District, 2018–2026

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR RETIREES!

2026

RETIREE
RECOGNITION

