November 30, 2021

Dear Principal Wall-Whitfield,

Congratulations! **Arkansas Consolidated High –Harrisburg, Demott, and Alexander** have been recognized by the [Office for Education Policy (OEP)](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furldefense.com%2Fv3%2F__http%3A%2F%2Fwww.officeforeducationpolicy.org%2F__%3B!!K-COPLUWVWg!TjUR2OV7yyONmVsnifMVwbIKI63Gcz2dmyOHFWsY8JkwXyXelLI4uxzXFe1WMcElrS-Sg2xi%24&data=04%7C01%7CAlicia.H.Davis%40dhs.arkansas.gov%7Ccf4b0bbe8f0447791a1e08d9b4457b87%7C5ec1d8f0cb624000b3278e63b0547048%7C1%7C0%7C637739032783023909%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=g5XUMxc%2FckVX9e9aiGAQNyaQaN6Hum5ga4QlmCbsfjk%3D&reserved=0) at the University of Arkansas as schools that are Beating the Odds, because students demonstrated high growth on the ACT Aspire even though the schools serve a high percentage of students who participate in Free and Reduced Lunch! As you may know, the OEP creates an annual report entitled the **O**utstanding **E**ducational **P**erformance Awards, recognizing schools with high student growth. We think growth is the best indicator of the positive impact that your schools are having on students.

In our [Beating the Odds](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furldefense.com%2Fv3%2F__http%3A%2F%2Fwww.officeforeducationpolicy.org%2Fdownloads%2F2021%2F11%2F2021-oep-awards_beating-the-odds.pdf__%3B!!K-COPLUWVWg!TjUR2OV7yyONmVsnifMVwbIKI63Gcz2dmyOHFWsY8JkwXyXelLI4uxzXFe1WMcElrSBrkA1T%24&data=04%7C01%7CAlicia.H.Davis%40dhs.arkansas.gov%7Ccf4b0bbe8f0447791a1e08d9b4457b87%7C5ec1d8f0cb624000b3278e63b0547048%7C1%7C0%7C637739032783033867%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=XMHXUUf4EK7UPzmUdWU63unv1ZBk7f8SvgfVvJ9KFUo%3D&reserved=0) report to be released tomorrow,

Arkansas Consolidated High –Harrisburg received the following **"Beating the Odds"** awards:

**Statewide Overall Growth: High School Level**

**Statewide Math Growth: High School Level**

**Statewide ELA Growth: High School Level**

**High Math Growth: High School Level (Central Region)**

**High ELA Growth: High School Level (Central Region)**

Arkansas Consolidated High –Dermott  received the following **"Beating the Odds"** awards:

**Statewide Overall Growth: High School Level**

**Statewide Math Growth: High School Level**

**High Math Growth: High School Level (Central Region)**

Arkansas Consolidated High –Alexander  received the following **"Beating the Odds"** awards:

**Statewide Math Growth: High School Level**

**High Math Growth: High School Level (Central Region)**

We provide badges for placement on your school’s website (attached), and personalized paper awards will be sent to the district later this school year.

Awards are based on the 2021 content growth score calculated by the Arkansas Department of Education. These growth scores reflect how much students at the school improved from 2019 compared to how much they were expected to grow considering prior achievement. We recognize schools based on Overall growth, as well as for growth in Math and English Language Arts separately. To learn more about how we determined the OEP award winners and to see the full list of award recipients, you can view the report [here](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furldefense.com%2Fv3%2F__http%3A%2F%2Fwww.officeforeducationpolicy.org%2Fdownloads%2F2021%2F11%2F2021-oep-awards_beating-the-odds.pdf__%3B!!K-COPLUWVWg!TjUR2OV7yyONmVsnifMVwbIKI63Gcz2dmyOHFWsY8JkwXyXelLI4uxzXFe1WMcElrSBrkA1T%24&data=04%7C01%7CAlicia.H.Davis%40dhs.arkansas.gov%7Ccf4b0bbe8f0447791a1e08d9b4457b87%7C5ec1d8f0cb624000b3278e63b0547048%7C1%7C0%7C637739032783033867%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=XMHXUUf4EK7UPzmUdWU63unv1ZBk7f8SvgfVvJ9KFUo%3D&reserved=0).

We congratulate you on this accomplishment and hope that you will share this good news with teachers, students, and others who contributed to your school’s success.

**This year’s full list of OEP awards can be found**[**here**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furldefense.com%2Fv3%2F__http%3A%2F%2Fwww.officeforeducationpolicy.org%2Fcategory%2Foep-publications%2Farkansas-education-reports%2F__%3B!!K-COPLUWVWg!TjUR2OV7yyONmVsnifMVwbIKI63Gcz2dmyOHFWsY8JkwXyXelLI4uxzXFe1WMcElrW8VSvlW%24&data=04%7C01%7CAlicia.H.Davis%40dhs.arkansas.gov%7Ccf4b0bbe8f0447791a1e08d9b4457b87%7C5ec1d8f0cb624000b3278e63b0547048%7C1%7C0%7C637739032783043823%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=yZHnSen5fzjkVo%2Bb2ZYslFZxqIQr3if%2By4mulNEX6gA%3D&reserved=0)**.**

For updates and insights, follow our blog at [www.officeforedpolicy.com](file:///C:\Users\scmcken\Music\www.officeforedpolicy.com), and to be added to our weekly updates and roundup of education news, send an email to [oep@uark.edu](mailto:oep@uark.edu) with the subject line “Sign me up!”

Congratulations again on “Beating the Odds”!

Sincerely,

Text, letter

Description automatically generated

Sarah McKenzie, Ph.D., Executive Director

Office for Education Policy

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