



November 18, 2014

TO: Legislative Members of the Joint Education Committee

FROM: Dr. Kenneth James, President, Arkansas AIMS

RE: AAIMS BACKGROUND AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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We appreciate the opportunity to present this Executive Summary and PowerPoint presentation, which highlights the success of the program since inception, as well as the 2014 results.

- AAIMS was initially funded with a \$13.2 million private grant from the National Math and Science Initiative, with major support from Exxon Mobil.
- AAIMS was created to carry out specific recommendations from the National Academy of Sciences on improving science and mathematics education in secondary schools in the 2007 report *Rising Above the Gathering Storm*.
- AAIMS is based on a model with a track record of success and replicates a proven model that has demonstrated tremendous success on urban, suburban and rural high schools across Arkansas.
- AAIMS' supporting partners are the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, and the Arkansas Department of Education.
- The goals are: to increase participation in AP math, science, and English; to improve the success rates on AP exams; to increase the number of students attending and graduating from college; and to strengthen the skills of AP and Pre-AP teachers.
- AAIMS will work with 46 schools in 2014-2015. Eight new schools joined Cohort 6 this fall: Bryant, ESTEM, Farmington, Fountain Lake, Lee County, Lighthouse Charter in Jacksonville, Pine Bluff, and Rogers Arts Academy. We will start our recruiting for Cohort 7 later this Fall.
- AAIMS sets numerical goals for qualifying AP exam scores for each AP teacher.

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- AAIMS has increased enrollment in AP Math, science and English in all schools.
- AAIMS has increased the enrollment of minority students in AP math, science and English across all of our schools.
- AAIMS has increased the number of African-American and Hispanic students enrolled in AP math and science in all of our schools.
- In the Spring of 2014, we initiated a pilot of the first ever online prep study sessions , and served over 34,000 students .
- AAIMS is working to produce students who are successful in college and who major in math and science.