

***Helping More Arkansas Students Achieve College and Career Readiness:  
What's Next?***

**A NCEA Symposium and Just for the Kids Awards Event**

January 27, 2010

William J. Clinton Presidential Center

Little Rock, Arkansas

- 8:30 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome and Introductions  
**Dr. Jim Purcell**, Director, Arkansas Department of Higher Education
- 9:20 a.m. NCEA's Focus on College and Career Readiness: Where We've Been, Where We Are, and What's Next  
**Dr. Wesley Boykin**, Director of Research, NCEA  
**Mr. Efrain Mercado**, Director of Outreach, NCEA
- 10:15 a.m. Superintendent Perspectives: Why Is College and Career Readiness Important?  
Panel of superintendents from NCEA study districts and/or districts with Just for the Kids Higher Performing Schools
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 12:00 p.m. Luncheon Speaker  
**Dr. Tom Kimbrell**, Commissioner, Arkansas Department of Education
- 1:00 p.m. The NCEA Core Practice Framework: An Organizing Guide for Sustained School Improvement  
**Dr. Jimmy Neitzel**, Principal Project Manager, NCEA
- 1:45 p.m. Principal Perspectives: What Makes a Higher Performing School?  
Panel of principals from NCEA study schools and/or Just for the Kids Higher Performing Schools
- 2:45 p.m. Closing Remarks and Introduction of Awards Event  
**Mr. Eddie Drilling**, President, AT&T, and Vice Chairman, Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce
- 3:00 p.m. Presentation of Awards to Just for the Kids Higher Performing Schools/Press Conference  
**Governor Mike Beebe**