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**LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the Arkansas Advanced Initiative for Math and Science (AAIMS) e-newsletter. We look forward to providing you regular updates on the AAIMS program, along with profiles of some of our phenomenal AP teachers and students.

The 2010-2011 school year started off strong, with Governor Mike Beebe visiting some of our outstanding schools to recognize the students and teachers that have already achieved incredible success in our program (see below).

As of the start of the school year, we had 31 schools in 29 school districts enrolled in AAIMS along with 8,404 MSE students enrolled and 234 AP MSE teachers.

As an important partner in our work, we hope that you will feel ownership in our efforts to foster increased enrollment and achievement among our AP students and to strengthen the teaching of AP mathematics, science, and English courses. These goals are both ambitious and achievable, in large part because of your support.

I invite you to contact me at any time with thoughts or questions and hope that you will enjoy receiving these updates.

Sincerely,

Tommie Sue Anthony  
President, AAIMS

**GOVERNOR BEEBE RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS OF AAIMS STUDENTS**

This fall, Governor Beebe joined representatives from the Arkansas Advanced Initiative for Math and Science at Fort Smith Northside High School and Hamburg High School to announce AP test scores from the previous year.

**AAIMS TEACHER SELECTED TO BE FILMED BY EXXON MOBIL...**

Marianna Hendrycy, AP Biology teacher at Har-Ber High school and AP Lead Science teacher for Springdale schools, was selected by Exxon Mobil for filming in January. Exxon Mobil hosted Marianna and her family during the weekend of January 15 in Dallas. Marianna shared her perception of what AP can do for students. AAIMS is very proud of Marianna. She was one of three teachers selected from the six National Math and Science initiative states to be filmed.

**AAIMS STUDENTS INTERVIEWED BY EXXON MOBIL FILM CREW IN DEC...**

Several students from Fort Smith Northside, Springdale Har-Ber, Rogers High, and Rogers Heritage were interviewed by an Exxon Mobil film crew at Har-Ber High school in December. Exxon Mobil was seeking students who had performed well on AP math and science exams and who had compelling stories about what AP had done for them. These interviews may become advertisements for Exxon Mobil.

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Thanks to the many generous supporters and partners of AAIMS:

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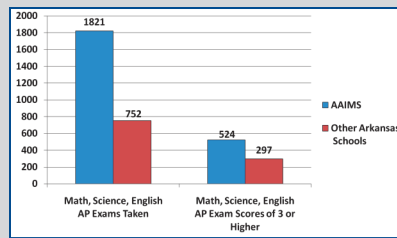
## AAIMS COHORT I AND COHORT II SCHOOLS PUSH ARKANSAS TO THE TOP IN ONE YEAR PERCENT GROWTH IN AP MATH AND SCIENCE SCORES...

AAIMS students performed well on AP exams in the spring of 2010. The 24 AAIMS schools comprised only eight percent of public high schools reporting AP scores of 3 or higher on math, science, and English exams in the state of Arkansas, yet they accounted for:

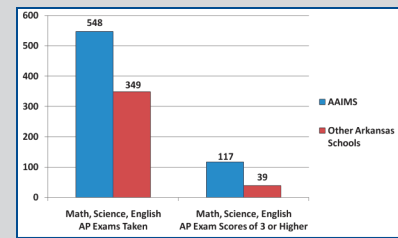
- 71% of the state's increase for students taking AP math, science, and English exams and 64% of the state's increase in scores of 3 or higher for 2009-10.
- 61% of the state's increase for minority students taking AP math, science, and English exams and 75% of the state's increase in scores of 3 or higher for 2009 - 2010.

2009-2010 AAIMS and Arkansas AP math, science, English Increases:

- All Students' Results:



- Minority Students' Results:



Because of the AAIMS program schools, the state of Arkansas ranks #1 in the United States in 1 year % increases of scores of 3 or higher on:

- AP math and science exams from 2009 to 2010 for ALL STUDENTS.
- AP math, science, and English exams from 2009 to 2010 for MINORITY STUDENTS.

## AAIMS STUDENTS ACCOUNT FOR MAJORITY OF ARKANSAS STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN AP...

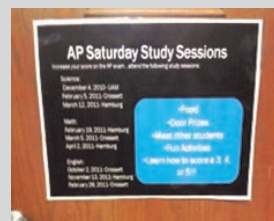
The 24 AAIMS high schools during the 2009-10 school year comprised 8% of the public high schools in Arkansas and accounted for 71% of Arkansas's increase for students taking AP math, science, and English exams and 64% of the state's increase in scores of 3 or higher for 2009-10.

## AAIMS AP STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN SATURDAY STUDY SESSION THROUGHOUT THE STATE...

Student from all 31 AAIMS schools participated in at least three AP Saturday study sessions during first semester. The study sessions are six hours in length and provide extended study on AP topics. Students heard out of state consultants, university professors and AP teachers from other sections of the state. Several of the study sessions were held on University campuses.



AP English Saturday Study Session Schedule



Becky Cox—  
NW Arkansas Saturday Study Session

