

Sarah Clark McKenzie

EDUCATION

- Ph.D.** Educational Statistics and Research Methods August 2009
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR.
- M.A.** Emphasizing Early Childhood Education and May 1994
Multiple Subject Teaching Credential
Program Valedictorian
Mills College, Oakland, CA.
- B.A.** cum laude in Literature May 1992
Claremont McKenna College, Claremont, CA.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Department of Education Reform
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR. Summer 2019 – Current
Research Assistant Professor
Support graduate students in designing, conducting and reporting research.
Develop and conduct grant-funded projects.

Office for Education Policy
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR. Winter 2014 – Current
Executive Director
Conduct analysis of varied educational data to inform policy decisions.
Oversee broad research agenda and grant funded projects. Write policy briefs, educational reports and weekly blogs about educational issues. Create data visualizations using Tableau. Supervise and support graduate student research. Conduct evaluations of educational initiatives and support school district improvement.

Southwest Regional Education Laboratory Winter 2017 – Current
Member, Governing Board
Provide input on the educational needs, in research, policy, and practice, in Arkansas and review and provide input on annual work plan to support the use of research and evidence to help SEAs and LEAs improve their education programs and ultimately student performance for NM, TX, AR, LA, and OK.

National Task Force on Assessment Literacy Winter 2015 – Spring 2018
Member
Work with members of the task force to develop definition of Assessment Literacy for Teachers, Students, Parents and Policymakers. Develop policy guidance associated with ESSA implementation.

Curriculum Management Systems, Inc, Johnston, IA. Fall 2010 – Current
Certified Curriculum Auditor

Participate in curriculum audits of public school systems, including classroom walkthroughs, interviews with stakeholders, trend data analysis, and writing of the audit. Audits completed include: Boston Public Schools, Fort Worth Independent School District, Tucson Unified School District, Little Rock School District, Lewisville Independent School District, East St. Louis School District, Leander Independent School District, Klein Independent School District, Pendergast Elementary School District, Aldine Independent School District, McAllen Independent School District.

Fayetteville Public Schools, Fayetteville, AR. Fall 2009 – Winter 2014
Director, Assessment, Research and Accountability

Conducted data analysis and interpretation for FPS. Presented information to stakeholder groups. Oversaw all district assessment. Developed Board Policies related to Curriculum and Instruction, Budgeting as well as the FPS curriculum management plan. Conducted evaluations of programs and interventions. Provided professional development to staff.

National Office for Research on Measurement and Evaluation Systems (NORMES)

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR. Fall 2003 – Spring 2007
Project / Program Specialist

Oversaw projects and evaluations undertaken by NORMES. Lead statistical programmer in computation of Arkansas' Adequate Yearly Progress Calculations. Created, maintained and utilized student-level achievement datasets for the state of Arkansas. Worked with the Arkansas Department of Education to develop and implement effective accountability models. Facilitated staff cooperation and collaboration. Directed and assisted graduate assistants in managing databases, statistical programming, summary report writing, grant writing, reviewing literature and researching.

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR.

Co-Instructor

IDEAS Seminar in Educational Assessment Summer 2006

Developed and implemented 60 hour seminar designed for principals, program directors, curriculum supervisors, and teacher leaders interested in building their professional knowledge in the field of educational assessment. Topics included: basic statistics, measurement theory, and current policy in education.

EDFD 5393- Educational Assessment Summer 2005

Developed and implemented 5000-level course in Educational Assessment. Topics included: Basic Statistics, measurement theory, and current policy in education.

**National Office for Rural Measurement and Evaluation Systems/
Office of Research, Measurement and Evaluation** Spring 2002 - Fall 2003
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR.

Senior Graduate Researcher

Primary student member of the Community Cares funded ACES project in Springdale, AR. Collect and clean data collected from teachers. Write programs in SAS to analyze data and interpret the results. Present results to teachers, principals, school district administrators and funding agency.

Central's Center for Children Fayetteville, AR. Fall 2000 - Fall 2001

Lead Preschool Teacher

Developed and implemented curriculum for children two- and four-years old. Created assessments and conducted parent conferences.

Tassajara Hills Elementary School Danville, CA. Fall 1997 - Spring 1999

San Ramon Valley Unified School District
Third Grade Teacher

Greenbrook Elementary School Danville, CA. Fall 1994 - Spring 1997

San Ramon Valley Unified School District
Second and Third Grade Teacher

SELECTED INVITED CONSULTING AND PRESENTATIONS

United States Department of Education. Served as the Subject Matter Expert for USDOE Community of Practice for State Report Cards. 10 Participating States: 5 Virtual Meetings.
Fall / Winter 2019

McKenzie, S. (September, 2019). *Learning Gaps Between Student Groups*. Arkansas Association of Federal Program Coordinators Annual Meeting. Hot Springs, AR.

McKenzie, S. (September, 2019). *AP in Arkansas*. Oklahoma Legislative Panel. Oklahoma City, OK.

McKenzie, S. (September, 2019). *ARteachers.org*. Office for Innovation conference attendees. Hot Springs, AR.

McKenzie, S., Ritter, G., McKenzie, R. (2019) Equity Gaps in Advanced Placement Enrollment, Assessment, and Success. Presented at AEPF Annual Meeting, March, 2019

McKenzie, S., Ritter, G., McKenzie, R. (2019) Analysis of School-level Equity Gaps in Advanced Placement Enrollment, Assessment, and Success. Presented at AERA Annual Meeting, April, 2019

United States Department of Education. Served as the Subject Matter Expert for USDOE Community of Practice for State Report Cards. 12 Participating States: 6 Virtual Meetings.
Fall / Winter 2018

Arkansas State Board of Education Summit. Arkansas School Discipline, 2018. September, 2018. Little Rock, AR.

Arkansas Task Force on Digital Learning. Digital Learning in Arkansas-Completion Analysis. October, 2018. Little Rock, AR.

Little Rock Preparatory School Board. Little Rock Preparatory Academy Growth Analysis. October, 2018. Little Rock, AR.

NWA 529 Coalition. Longer-Term Outcomes for Students from Rogers, Springdale, and Fayetteville. October, 2018. Springdale, AR.

Southern Education Foundation 2018 Issues Forum. Invited Panel: Making Schools Work for All Children. November, 2018. Little Rock, AR.

Arkansas School Board Association annual conference. *More Than a Letter Grade.* December, 2018. Little Rock, AR.

Independence County Education Summit. Presented regional and district-specific academic and financial data to a variety of educational stakeholders. Summer 2017 Batesville, AR.

Little Rock Educational Stakeholders Meeting. Presented information about assessment impact of Little Rock Area charter schools on racial and economic segregation in the public school system. Fall 2016 Little Rock, AR.

Arkansas Federal Program Coordinators Conference. Presented information about assessment data and growth models. Fall 2016 Springdale, AR.

Fayetteville City Council. Presented information about local assessment data and performance of benchmark cities. Summer 2016 Fayetteville, AR.

Arkansas Rural Education Association. Presented review of state assessment data, achievement gaps and resource alignment. Fall 2015 Little Rock, AR.

Arkansas Public School Research Center Conference Presented information about importance of mid-year assessment and growth models. Fall 2013 Hot Springs, AR.

Governor's Council on Common Core Review Presented results of a survey of Arkansas teachers. Spring 2015 Little Rock, AR.

Humble ISD Technology Plan Development. Worked with district personnel to develop technology plan. Summer 2014- Spring 2015 Humble, TX.

Northwest Evaluation Association Fusion Conference Presented information about importance of mid-year assessment and growth models. Summer 2013 Portland, OR.

EVALUATIONS

Assisted grantees in developing measureable evaluation goals and collecting data. Conducted appropriate statistical analyses and communicated outcomes back to grantees/grantors.

Hope Academy Evaluation (Dean's grant) 2019-present

Northwest Arkansas Education Services Cooperative
Transparency in GT Identification 2019-present

Pea Ridge PREP Evaluation 2019-present

Arkansas Activities Association 2018-present

Walton Family Foundation
School Quality Matrix 2015-present
Arkansas A+ 2015-2017

Springdale Public Schools

ELL student Analysis

2007-2015

Care Foundation (Formerly CommunityCare Foundation):

All Children Excel in School (ACES) 2001-2005

Lee Jumpstart 2003-2006

Westwood Clubs 2003-2006

New Arrival Center (NAC) 2005-2006

Spanish Class 2005-2006

Paso a Paso 2006-2007

Springdale High School 2006-2007

NASA Center for Math and Science Education:

Space Camp 101 2006-2007

Earth Systems Science 2005 2005-2006

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Ritter, G., & **McKenzie, S.** (2019). Making Progress? Education Reform in Arkansas. In *Readings in Arkansas Politics and Government, 2nd edition (pp. 387-404)*. Fayetteville, AR: University of Arkansas Press.

Jordan, E. ¹, **McKenzie, S.**, & Ritter, G.W. (2018, October). *Long Term Outcomes of Low- Achieving Third Graders* (Arkansas Education Report 16 (3)), Fayetteville, Arkansas: Office for Education Policy.

Foreman, L.M.², **McKenzie, S.**, & Ritter, G.W. (2018, August). *Arkansas Teacher Supply* (Arkansas Education Report 16 (1)), Fayetteville, Arkansas: Office for Education Policy.

McKenzie, S. & Ritter, G. W. (2018, June) The El Dorado Promise: Impacts on Postsecondary Enrollment and Completion (Arkansas Policy Brief 15 (2)), Fayetteville, Arkansas: Office for Education Policy.

Kopotic, K. ², **McKenzie, S.**, & Ritter, G. W. (2017) Comprehensive Analysis of Arkansas Teacher Salaries: State, Region, and District (Arkansas Education Report 16 (3)), Fayetteville, Arkansas: Office for Education Policy.

Swanson, E. ², **McKenzie, S.**, & Ritter, G. W. (2016, December) Integration in Little Rock, Part 2: Racial and Socioeconomic Integration in Little Rock Metro Area Public Schools. (Arkansas Education Report 13 (3)), Fayetteville, Arkansas: Office for Education Policy.

Swanson, E.², **McKenzie, S.**, & Ritter, G. W. (2016, November) Integration in Little Rock, Part 1: Patterns of Enrollment and characteristics of Student Movers.

(Arkansas Education Report 13 (2)), Fayetteville, Arkansas: Office for Education Policy.

McKenzie, S. & Ritter, G. W. (2016, April) Advanced Placement in Arkansas: Increasing Equity (Arkansas Policy Brief 13 (2)), Fayetteville, Arkansas: Office for Education Policy.

¹ – Undergraduate student co-author.

² – Graduate student co-author.

Recent Policy Briefs

Available at: <http://www.officeforeducationpolicy.org/category/oep-publications/policy-briefs/>

Weekly Blog Posting:

<https://officeforedpolicy.com/>

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Mulvenon, S., Stegman, C., Newgent, R, Daniel, A., McKenzie, S., Lee, S, Ogle N, & Featherston, L. (2008). All Children Excel in School (ACES): Evaluation of Comprehensive Counseling Interventions to Address No Child Left Behind Legislation. *Educational Research and Policy Studies Journal (ERPS)*.

Mulvenon, S., Wang, K., McKenzie, S. & Airola, D. (2006). A Case Study: Using Geographic Information Systems for Education Policy Analyses. *Educational Research Quarterly*. V30, pg. 44-54.

Mulvenon, S., McKenzie, S., Thorn, T. & Williams, T., (2004). Teacher's Attitudes Towards the Use of Standardized Testing: Implications for Practice. *The Arkansas Educational Research and Policy Studies Journal*, v3, pg. 61-80.

SYNERGISTIC ACTIVITIES:

- Serve as Subject Matter Expert for US Department of Education Communities of Practice on State Education Report Cards and Report Card Communication.
- Created ARteachers.org as a common application process for teachers.
- Taught students at levels ranging from pre-kindergarten to the university level.
- Provide training and consulting to public school districts.
- Present nationally and internationally on educational statistics and educational policy.
- Provide expert testimony for Oklahoma and Arkansas legislators on various topics including education funding, Advanced Placement, teacher shortage, curriculum standards, and school discipline disparities