

A CADEMIES OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS



Overview Presentation

Academies of Central Arkansas

- Joint initiative of the **four** public school districts in Pulaski County: Jacksonville North Pulaski, Little Rock, North Little Rock, and Pulaski County Special. Cooperative agreement signed and ratified in June 2019
- Supported by business community through the five chambers of commerce: Little Rock, North Little Rock, Maumelle, Sherwood and Jacksonville
- Utilize Ford Next Generation Learning (NGL) model for high school transformation through career-themed academies
- Implementation began fall 2020



LITTLE ROCK
SCHOOL DISTRICT



FORD
NEXT GENERATION
LEARNING 

Community Connected Learning

Why Academies and Ford NGL?

- **All Means All** – Academies are for EVERY student
- **Success** – All students graduate college ready AND career ready AND prepared to be life-long learners
- **Custom Fit** – Small learning communities ensure every student is KNOWN and provided a tailor-made experience
- **Choices** – Students are prepared and given OPPORTUNITIES to choose a learning experience that interests them
- **Support** – Teachers are supported and given a VOICE through small learning communities and business partners
- **Student Experience** – Students still take all their core academics, as well as have the opportunity to take AP classes and PARTICIPATE in extracurricular activities
- **Relevance** – Businesses form LASTING PARTNERSHIPS with aligned schools for student success

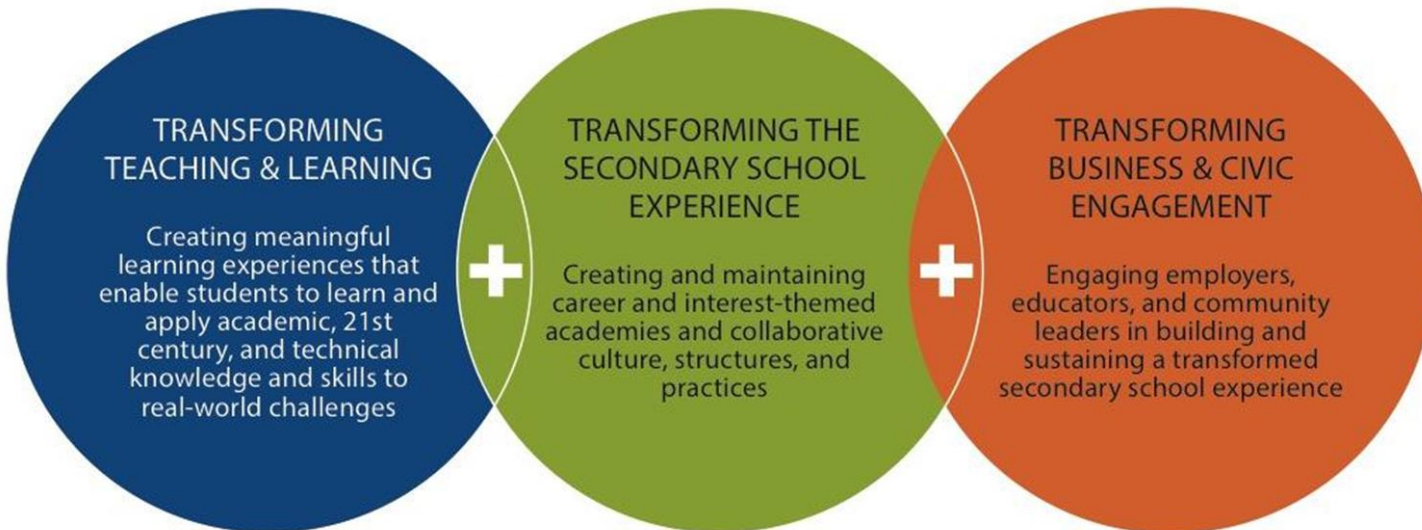
ACADEMY TEAM STRUCTURE



- ✓ Core curriculum is aligned to Career & Technical Education (CTE)
- ✓ Teacher have common planning
- ✓ Teams of teachers stay with student for three years
- ✓ Students are cohort scheduled
- ✓ ALL students graduate college AND career ready

Aligning Transformation

The FORD NGL FRAMEWORK



Proven Path to Success

THE FORD NGL ROADMAP

PHASE 5: GO FURTHER

1. Deepen and broaden the community-driven transformation and apply it to the entire education system.
2. Create and share innovations that will support the entire Ford NGL network, or "serve as models for creativity, innovation, and risk-taking as well as demonstrated competence."

05

PHASE 3: PLAN

1. Achieve community-wide consensus on and ownership of a vision for transformation and learn what it will take to implement the vision.
2. Create a community-wide three year master plan for achieving the vision that is aligned with the school district's plans.
3. Agree on a set of priorities for the first year of implementation.
4. Strengthen the systems, structures, processes, and competencies needed to implement the plan and guide continuous improvement.

03

04

PHASE 4: IMPLEMENT

1. Strengthen community-wide capacity to implement and continuously improve the master plan.
2. Implement the systems, structures, processes, and competencies to support and sustain continuous improvement, with all key individuals and groups engaged.
3. Inspire, share and contribute to the Ford NGL network.

02

PHASE 2: ENVISION

1. Deepen community-wide understanding of the benefits and features of transforming the secondary school experience using a community-driven approach.
2. Understand and develop the systems, structures, processes, and competencies needed to implement the plan and guide continuous improvement.
3. Deepen community-wide commitment to embrace the Ford NGL model for transformation.

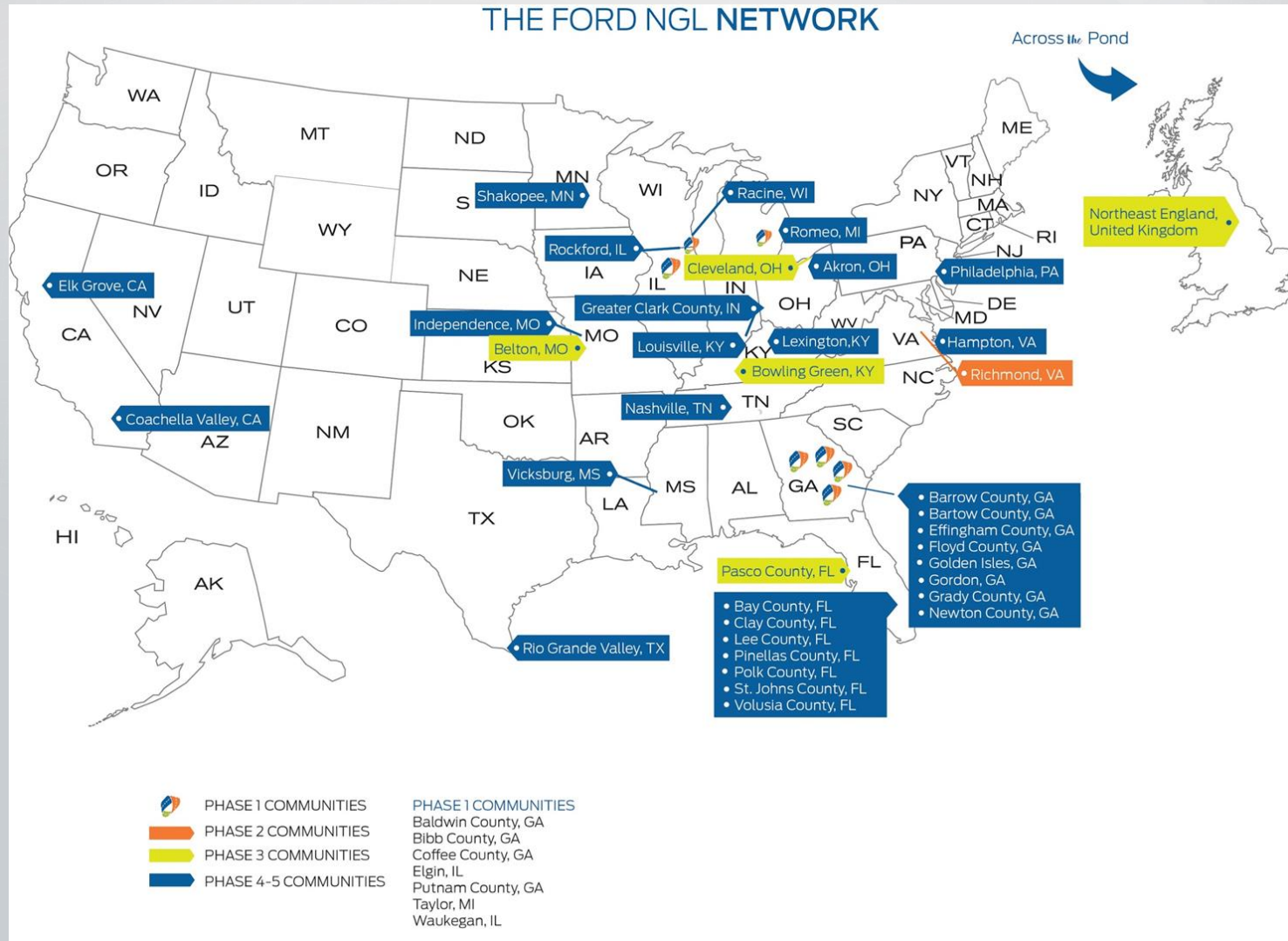
PHASE 1: EXPLORE

1. Understand the benefits and features of transforming the secondary school experience using the Ford NGL community-driven approach.
2. Readiness and commitment to embrace the Ford NGL transformation.

01

TIMELINE:
2 YEARS, 9 MONTHS -
3 YEARS, 6 MONTHS

National Network



Nashville, Tennessee

- Graduation Rate
 - 2006: 57.8%
 - 2020: 82.3%
- Attendance Rate
 - 2006: 87.8%
 - 2020: 91.15%
- Suspension Rate
 - 2006: 32%
 - 2020: 14.6%
- Industry Certifications
 - 2006: 1
 - 2020: 806
- Dual Credit
 - 2006: 203
 - 2020: 1,207
- Advance Placement
 - 2006: 2,063
 - 2020: 2,654

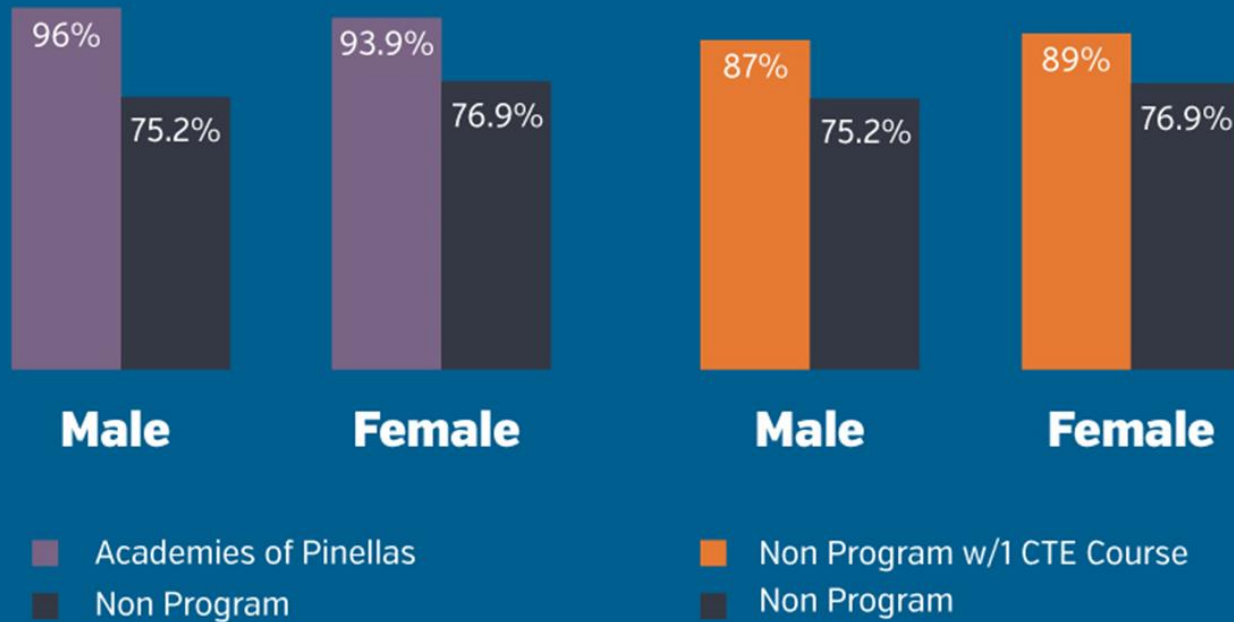
Economic Impact

16,222 AoN more graduates

\$9,620 per year

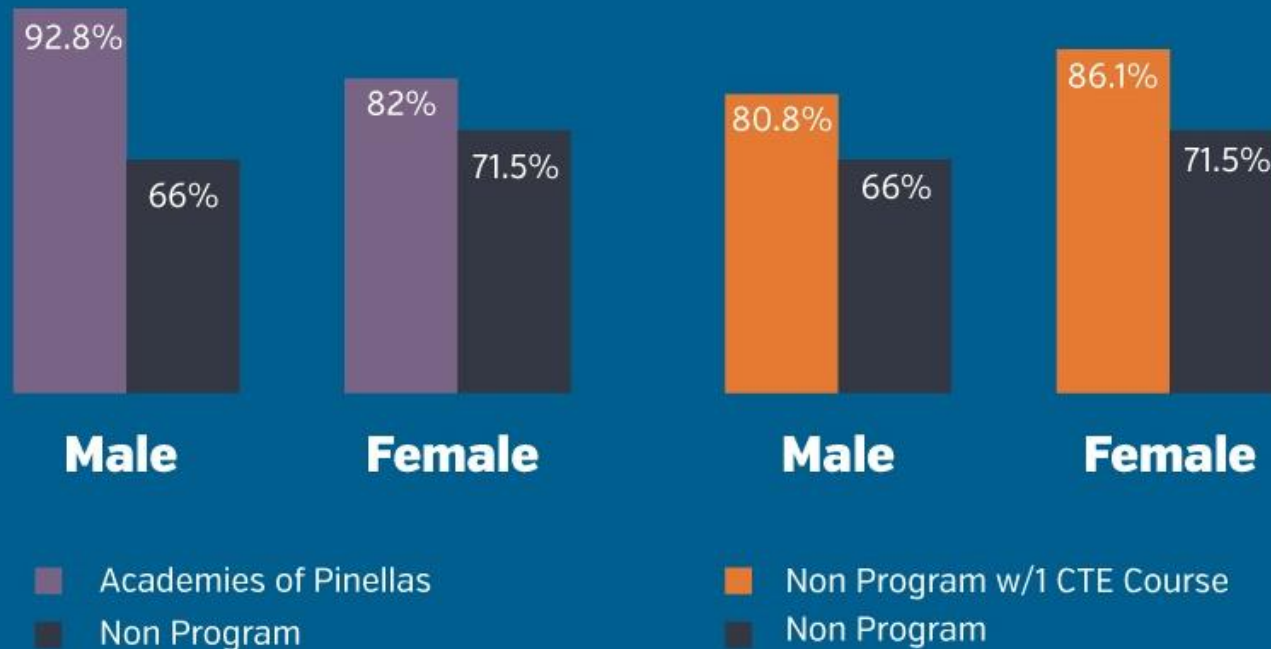
\$156,052,378

2014 Graduation Rate of Males & Females



Numbers are based on PCS' 17 high schools

2014 Graduation Rate of Black Males & Females



Numbers are based on PCS' 17 high schools



INDICATORS OF SUCCESS

FRESHMAN ACADEMY- 9TH GRADE BEHAVIOR

	2016-17	2017-18	DIFFERENCE
BSH: IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (SAFE)	872	645	-26%
BSH: OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION	169	92	-45%
TCH: IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (SAFE)	376	173	-54%
TCH: OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION	483	357	-26%



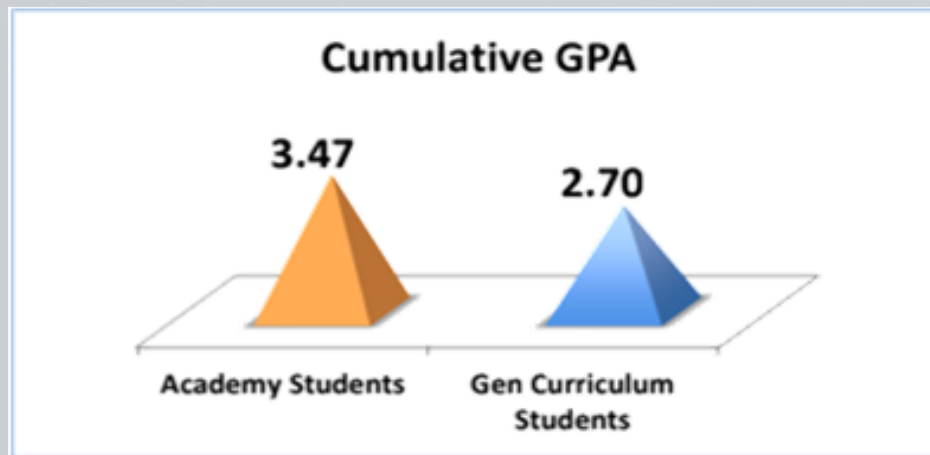
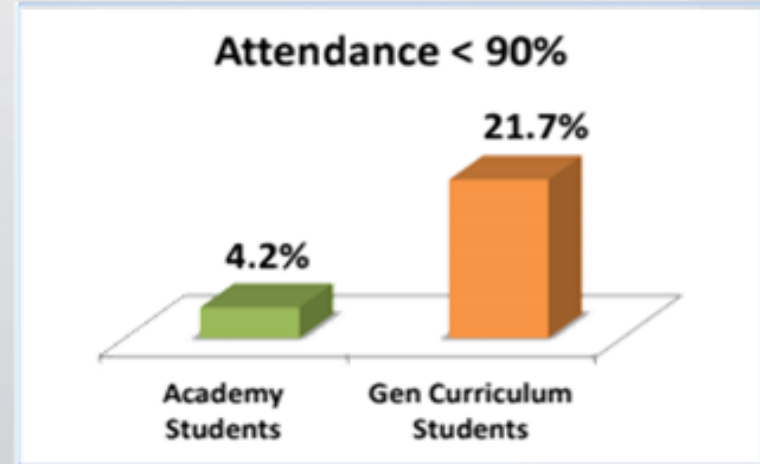
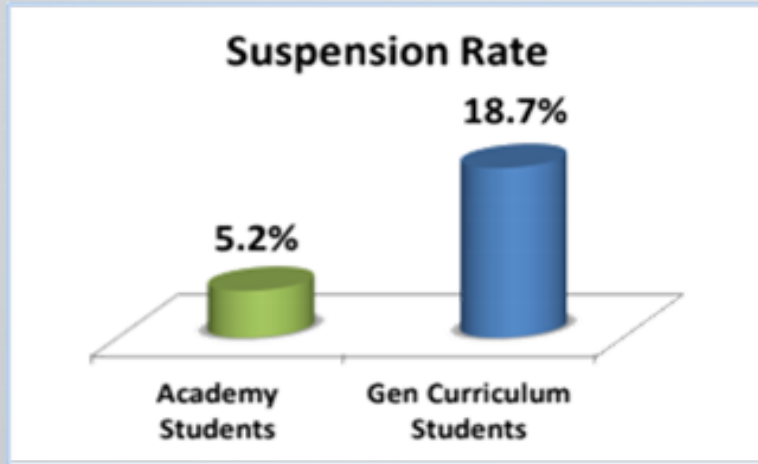
INDICATORS OF SUCCESS

FRESHMAN ACADEMY- 9TH GRADE ATTENDANCE

	2016-17	2017-18	DIFFERENCE
BSH TARDIES	3,828	2,692	-30%
BSH ABSENCES	6,003	3,315	-48%
TCH TARDIES	5,171	4,098	-21%
TCH ABSENCES	5,167	4,528	-12%

Hampton, Virginia

Key Academy Indicators: Baseline Data



Academy Business Partnerships

- **Preparing students** for after high school graduation, including further education and entry into high-wage, high-demand careers
- Build relationships between students and positive adult role models through **mentorship** and regular class interactions with industry professional
- **Improve graduation** rates by making school interesting and engaging to students



Academy Business Partnerships

- Guest Speakers
- Loaned Classroom Instructor
- Career Exploration Fair
- Career Mentors
- Teacher Externships
- Curriculum Development
- Job Shadowing
- Field Trips
- Mock Interviews
- Academy Advisory Board
- Student Internships
- Industry Certification Exam Tutors

Facility Improvements and Equipment for High Quality Lab Space

To be utilized by students during the day and community, employees, job seekers during the evenings/weekend/summer

Status of Implementation

- All 12 high schools teaching Freshman Seminar
- Jacksonville High School will have Academies for grades 9-12 beginning 2022-2023 school year
- Little Rock Southwest Magnet High School will have Academies for grades 9-11 beginning 2022-2023 school year
- PCSSD schools will begin sophomore-level pathways 2022-2023 school year
- North Little Rock High School beginning Freshman Academy 2022-2023 school year

Status of Implementation

- Schools have begun hosting open houses to recruit business partners
- First “named” Academy partnership to be announced August 19, 2022
- First in-person career expo for freshmen to be held November 2, 2022
- Pathway selection and curriculum advisement is underway at each high school
- Regional standard operating procedures are being developed around professional development, student Ambassadors, teacher onboarding and best practices for implementation

Critical Next Steps for Academies

- Establish the ongoing support organization
- Sustain and implement the regional master plan with fidelity
- Increase state funding for Career & Technical Education (CTE)
- Establish data tracking and performance metrics
- Secure “named” partner for each high school
- Build out laboratory spaces where needed
- Implement A/B block scheduling at PCSSD



PARTNERS:

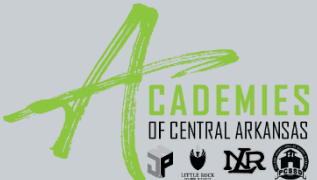
- Arkansas Children's
- Arvest Bank
- AT&T
- Baldwin & Shell Construction Company
- Baptist Health
- Central Arkansas Water
- Entergy Arkansas
- First National Bank
- Haas Factory Outlet
- Landers Toyota
- Mainstream Technologies
- McLarty Nissan
- MHP/Team SI
- Rose Law Firm
- Simmons Bank
- UAMS

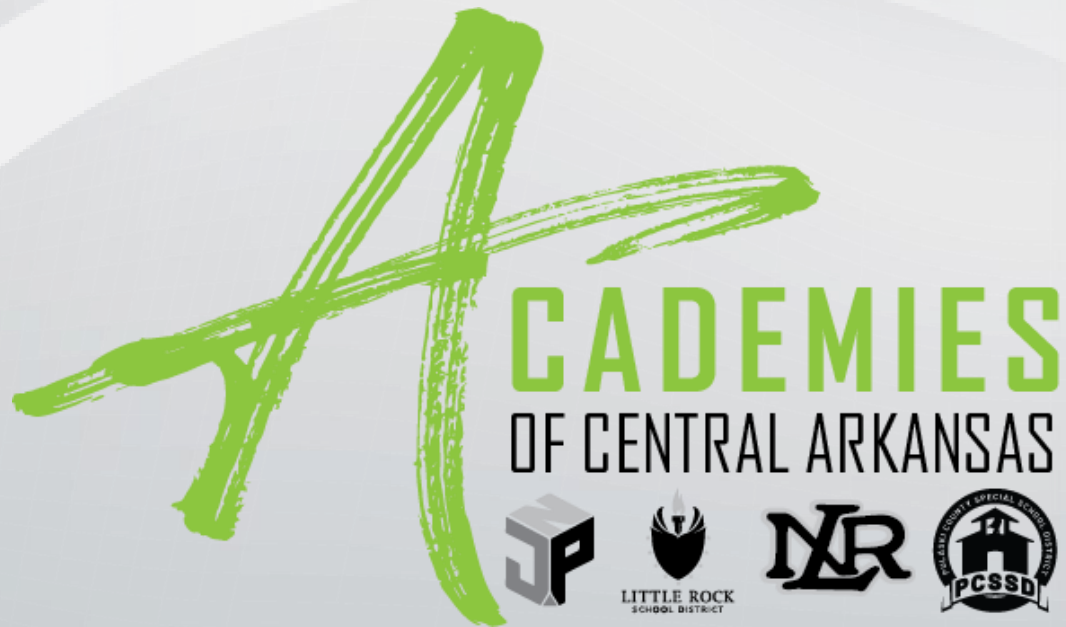


Learn more about our programs here!



Kristi Barr - 501.377.6017 | academiesofcentralarkansas.org





Markous Jewett

Vice President, Academies of Central Arkansas
Little Rock Regional Chamber
501-377-6006 | mjewett@littlerockchamber.com

Kristi Barr

Director, HR & Talent Initiatives
Little Rock Regional Chamber
501-377-6017 | kbarr@littlerockchamber.com