

Annual Report

Northwest Arkansas

Education Service

Cooperative

2017-2018



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents	2
Note from the Director	4
Mission Statement and State Map of Cooperatives	6
Northwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Organizational Chart	7
Northwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Board of Directors	8
Northwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Teacher Center Committee	9
ESC Annual Report	10
Program Summaries.....	21
Early Childhood.....	22
Teacher Center.....	25
APSCN Student Applications.....	28
ADE/APSCN Financial Management.....	30
Educational Services for the Visually Impaired (ESVI).....	31
Tobacco Prevention and Other School Health Issues.....	32
Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Other School Health Issues.....	36
Behavioral Support Services.....	41
Career and Technical Education.....	43
Computer Science.....	44
Technology.....	47
Arkansas Transition Services.....	49
Gifted and Talented Program.....	53
STEM (K-5 Math & Science).....	57
Science.....	59
TALENTS (Novice Teacher).....	61
Literacy, Grades 6-8.....	64
Literacy, Grades 9-12.....	66

Literacy, Grades K-5.....	68
Dyslexia.....	74
Mathematics.....	76
Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI), Years 1-3.....	78
Extending Children’s Mathematics (ECM), Years 1-3.....	79
English Learner Support Program / ESOL.....	80
Special Projects.....	88
Professional Development Activities.....	96



Dr. Charles Cudney
Director

Mrs. Missy Hixson
Assistant Director/TC Coordinator

Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative
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Farmington, AR 72730
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TO: Arkansas Educators

FROM: Charles J. Cudney Ed.D., Director

SUBJECT: 2017-2018 Annual Evaluation Report

The Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative continued progressive growth through 2017-2018. Under the leadership of Director Charles Cudney and Assistant Director/Teacher Center Coordinator Missy Hixson, Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative offered programs that the co-op has always provided while adjusting some of those programs to meet the ever changing needs of the 16 public school districts and 5 public charter schools we serve. NWAESC will continue to evolve and grow programs that are necessary to provide quality services to our school districts in an ever-changing environment. We have begun the daunting task of delivering support for the implementation of the Arkansas Curriculum Frameworks, ACT Aspire, and providing leadership in growing Career and Technical (CTE) in Northwest Arkansas and beyond. Our Board members are actively involved in their service to the cooperative and have provided a very sound shared vision.

The 2017-2018 annual report prepared by the staff of Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative reflects information on the programs and grants conducted through the co-op for our schools and collaborative partners. The Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative has 70 employees total, 9 of these employees are housed in schools or preschools, and we run 3 state programs. The Arkansas Department of Education Base Funding to the co-op is \$408,618.00 and the total budget is approximately \$6,212,568.00.

One of the main purposes of the co-op is to be effective and efficient in the administration of programs for the schools. As a result, our 16 school districts, or a portion of these school districts, often share joint programs. Listed below are examples of these shared programs:

- *APSCN Field Support
- *Computer Science Education
- *Early Childhood Special Education
- *Gifted and Talented Education
- *Science Support Services

- *Medicaid billing services
- *School Health Nurse Services
- *Technology Support Services
- *ESVI Services
- *English Language Services

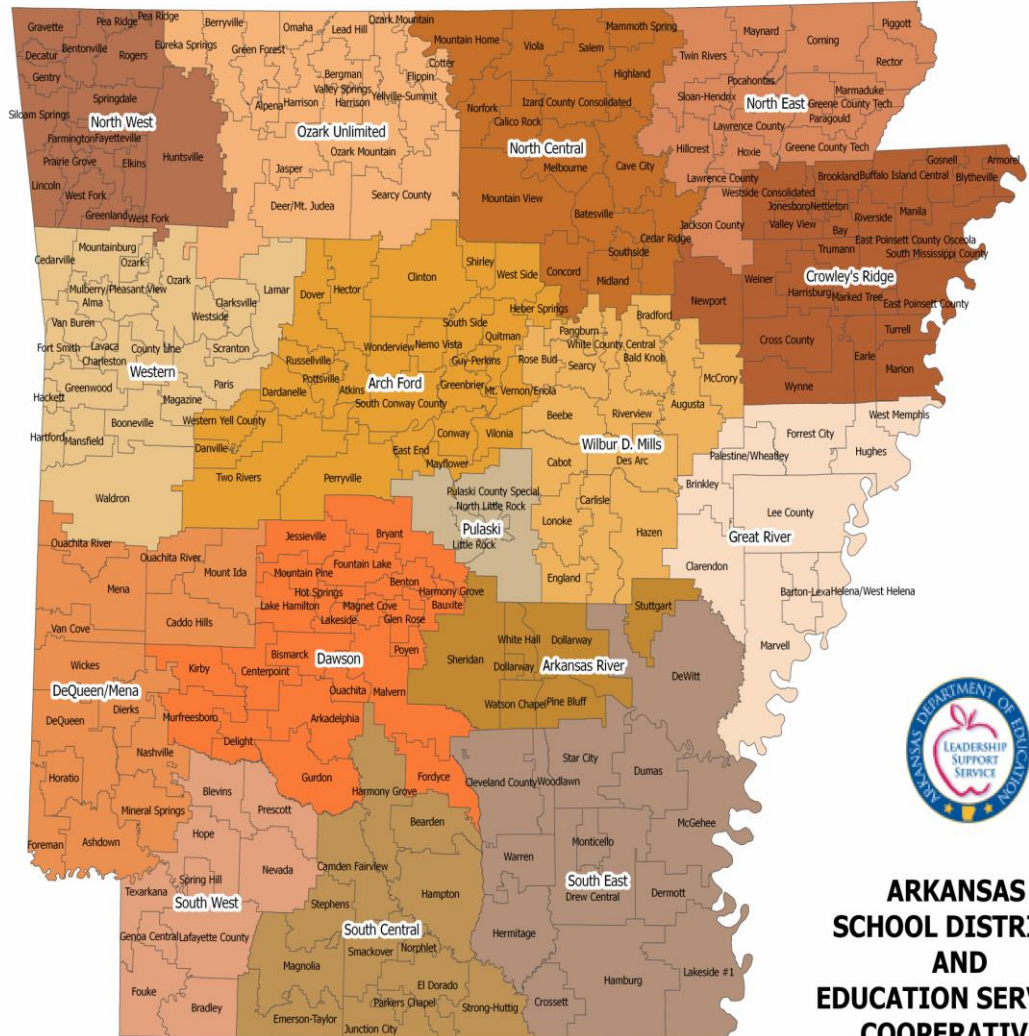
- *Teacher Center services
- *Career and Technical Education
- *Literacy Support Services

- * Behavior Intervention Services
- *Math Support Services
- *Professional Development

The co-ops of Arkansas have served as the implementation support agents for new state initiatives by providing extensive professional development and capacity building necessary to implement the undertaking of our state to improve student achievement. We plan to continue to effectively provide support for the Arkansas State Standards and the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) as we move forward in a new era of teaching and learning. The mission of Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative is to support and serve our school districts as they strive to provide a high quality education. Our staff looks forward to the challenges of the upcoming year.

“Serving the Schools, Serving the Children”

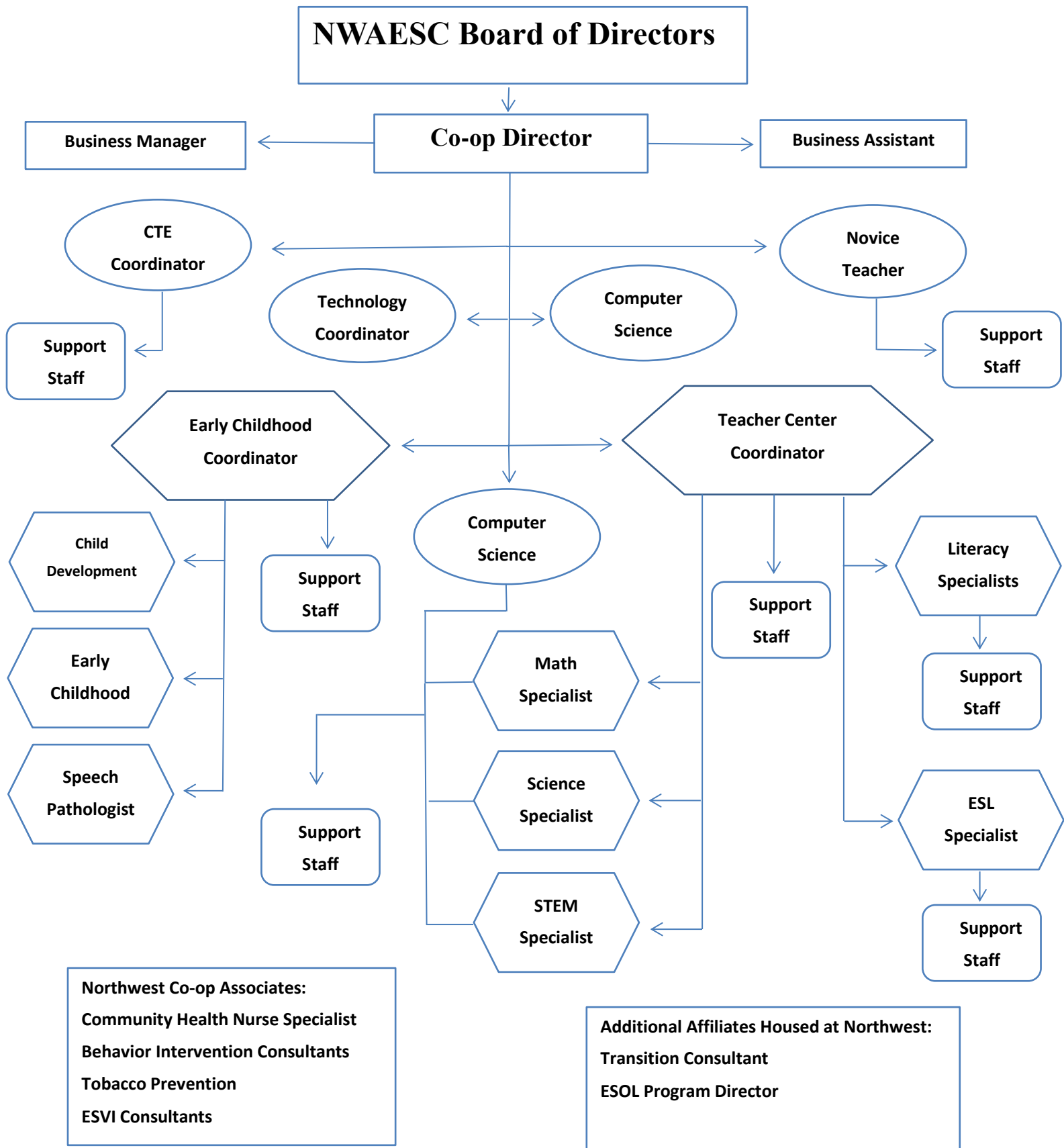
Northwest Arkansas Education Services Cooperative



Mission Statement: The mission of the Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative is to promote high expectations for positive leadership in order to effect desired change for educators and students in this region. We further seek to foster public and private sector educational partnerships as we seek to continuously enhance and expand the quality of programs and services for the schools we serve.

Northwest Arkansas Education Cooperative proudly serves Benton, Washington, and Madison Counties.

Northwest ESC Organizational Chart



Northwest Education Service Cooperative

Public School Districts served in Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative:

Bentonville, Decatur, Elkins, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Huntsville, Lincoln, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Rogers, Siloam Springs, Springdale, and West Fork

Charter Schools served in Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative:

Arkansas Arts Academy, Arkansas Connections Academy, Haas Hall, Northwest Arkansas Classical Academy, and Ozark Montessori

Officers of the Board

Name	Position	School District
Mr. Dan Jordan	President	Elkins
Dr. Mary Ann Spears	Vice-President	Lincoln
Dr. Charles Cudney	Director/Ex-officio	NWAESC
Dr. Andrea Martin	Secretary	Greenland

Members of the Board

Name	Position	School District
Dr. Debbie Jones	Board Member	Bentonville
Mr. Jeff Gravette	Board Member	Decatur
Mr. Dan Jordan	Board Member	Elkins
Mr. Bryan Law	Board Member	Farmington
Dr. John L. Colbert	Board Member	Fayetteville
Ms. Terrie Metz	Board Member	Gentry
Dr. Richard Page	Board Member	Gravette
Dr. Andrea Martin	Board Member	Greenland
Dr. Clint Jones	Board Member	Huntsville
Dr. Mary Ann Spears	Board Member	Lincoln
Mr. Rick Neal	Board Member	Pea Ridge
Dr. Allen Williams	Board Member	Prairie Grove
Dr. Marlin Berry	Board Member	Rogers
Mr. Ken Ramey	Board Member	Siloam Springs
Dr. Jim Rollins	Board Member	Springdale
Mr. John Karnes	Board Member	West Fork

**Northwest Arkansas Education Cooperative 2017-18 Teacher Center
Committee**

Committee Member	District	Position	Expires
Ms. Amy Ford	Bentonville	Elementary Teacher	2020
Mr. John Unger	Decatur	Middle School Principal	2020
Mr. Steve Denzer	Elkins	Middle School Principal	2020
Ms. Julia Williams	Farmington	Elementary Principal	2018
Ms. Mallory Alderson	Fayetteville	Elementary Teacher	2020
Ms. Christie Toland	Gentry	Curriculum/PD	2020
Ms. Allison Schaffer	Gravette	High School Teacher	2018
Ms. Paula Bonner	Greenland	High School Teacher	2019
Ms. Betty Jo Smith	Huntsville	Middle School Teacher	2018
Ms. Lindsay Bounds	Lincoln	Middle School Teacher	2018
Ms. Leslie Moline	Pea Ridge	Middle School Principal	2019
Ms. Reba Holmes	Prairie Grove	Middle School Principal	2020
Ms. Francie Weaver	Rogers	Middle School Teacher	2018
Ms. Heather Woodruff	Siloam Springs	Elementary Teacher	2019
Ms. Amber Stout	Springdale	Elementary Teacher	2018
Mr. John Crowder	West Fork	High School Principal	2019
Superintendent – 1 Year Term			
Dr. Allen Williams	Prairie Grove	Superintendent	2018

Northwest Arkansas Education Service
Cooperative
2017-2018

Arkansas Department of Education...

Arkansas Department of Education

Education Service Cooperative (ESC) Annual Report

DATE: June 2018

LEA# 072-21

ESC# 072-21

ESC NAME: Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative

ADDRESS: 4 North Double Springs Road, Farmington, AR 72730

PHONE NUMBER: 479-267-7450

Fax: 479-267-7456

DIRECTOR: Dr. Charles Cudney

TEACHER CENTER COORDINATOR: Ms. Missy Hixson

COUNTIES SERVED: Benton, Madison, and Washington

NUMBER OF DISTRICTS: 16

NUMBER OF CHARTERS: 5

TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS: 88,962

District	Total Number of Students	Percentage of Free/Reduced Lunches	Certified Personnel	Certified Classroom Teachers	Classified Personnel
Bentonville	16,870	22%	297	1074	857
Decatur	560	100%	15	68	40
Elkins	1,246	48%	20	90	56
Farmington	2,475	34%	34	172	100
Fayetteville	10,017	38%	228	636	701
Gentry	1,462	63%	22	129	86
Gravette	1,909	46%	22	133	93
Greenland	793	65%	16	79	60
Huntsville	2,258	65%	36	173	139
Lincoln	1,169	70%	19	139	59
Pea Ridge	2,124	41%	33	148	95
Prairie Grove	1,918	42%	28	139	82
Rogers	15,697	59%	208	970	929
Siloam Springs	4,281	53%	89	269	246
Springdale	21,828	71%	282	1,411	1,126
West Fork	990	52%	12	106	58
Charter School					
AR Arts Academy	792	25%	8	64	26
AR Connections Academy	761	62%	4	27	1
Haas Hall Academy	986	3%	19	71	10
NWA Classical Academy	564	5%	3	35	17
Ozark Montessori Academy	262	44%	32	10	13

Totals	88,962		1,427	5,943	4,794
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I. GOVERNANCE:

A. How is the co-op governed? Board of Directors

How many members on the Board? 16

How many times did the Board meet? 11

When is the regular meeting? First Thursday of each month, unless other arrangements are made.

Date of current year's annual meeting: Thursday, June 7, 2018

B. Does the co-op have a Teacher Center Committee? YES ☒ NO ☐

If yes, then:

How many are on the Teacher Center Committee? 17

How many members are teachers? 9

How many times did the Teacher Center Committee meet? 3

When is the regular meeting? As scheduled (three times per year)

C. When was the most recent survey/needs assessment conducted? December 2017

D. Have written policies been filed with the Arkansas Department of Education?
Yes ☒ No ☐

II. STAFFING

Please list (or attach a list of) all staff members of the co-op (including those housed at the co-op and paid through other sources), their titles and the salary funding sources for the positions. Place an asterisk (*) beside those who are housed at the co-op only and whose salary does not flow through the co-op's budget.

S=State, F=Federal, H=Head Start, M=Medicaid, P=Private Funding, B=Base Funds, D=District Allocations

2017-2018 Employees						
	Last Name	First Name	Position	Funding Source	New Hire	Resigned
1.	Aguirre	Margarita	Interpreter	S	10-26-17	
2.	Alagood	Leah	Child Development Specialist	S		
3.	Barnes-Whorton	Kathy	Medical Records / Office Assistant	S		
4.	Brown	Ember	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
5.	Brown	Katelyn	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
6.	Brown	Kim	Literacy Specialist	S	7-1-18	
7.	Busch	Julia	Child Development Specialists	S		6-30-18
8.	Butcher	Kelli	Community Health Nurse Specialist	*		
9.	Chavis	Lisa	Asst. Director Secretary / Teacher Center Secretary	B		

10.	Clements	Leslie	Child Development Specialist	S	8-8-17	
11.	Coats	Lisa	English Language Specialist	F	7-1-17	
12.	Corbino	Dena	Child Development Specialist	S	2-1-18	
13.	Cotton	Tresa	English Language Administrative Assistant	S		
14.	Cudney	Charles	Director	B		
15.	D'Angelo	Jennifer	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
16.	DeVore	Colleen	Early Childhood Coordinator	S		
17.	Edgar	Cheri	Early Childhood Secretary	S		
18.	Estes	Shem	Child Development Specialist	S		
19.	Ezell	Penny	Literacy Specialist	*		
20.	Fields	Judy	Literacy Specialist	S		
21.	Flood	Jill	Speech / Language Pathologist	S	1-8-18	
22.	Florick	Wendy	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
23.	Gadberry	Christi	ESVI Consultant	F		
24.	Gambert	DeeAnn	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
25.	Gammil	Jenny	STEM Specialist	S	7-1-17	
26.	Garnett	Joni	Child Development Specialist	F		
27.	George	Lindsey	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
28.	Graf	Darlene	Child Development Specialist	S		
29.	Gutierrez	Stephanie	Program Secretary	S		
30.	Hahn	Sheryl	Behavior Support Specialist	F		
31.	Harris	Cristine	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
32.	Hixson	Missy	Assistant Director / Teacher Center Coordinator	B	7-1-17	
33.	Holder	Marsha	ESVI Consultant	F		
34.	Hughes	Aaron	APSCN - Student Applications Field Support	*		
35.	Inboden	Mary Eve	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
36.	Jaslow	Linda	Math Project Co-Director	S		
37.	Johnson	Kara	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
38.	Johnston	Paul	Transition Specialist	F		
39.	Karnatz	Sam	Technology Specialist	S		
40.	Kerr	Tricia	ESOL Program Director	*		
41.	Kitzmiller	Claire	Speech / Language Pathologist	S	8-29-17	
42.	Lebeau	Matthew	Speech / Language Pathologist	F		1-1-18
43.	Komarek	Cindy	Child Development Specialist	S		
44.	Ludwick	Mandee	Paraprofessional	F		
45.	Matthews	Marla	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
46.	McIntyre	Mary Ann	Behavior Support Specialist	F		
47.	McLaren	Lisa	Paraprofessional	S		
48.	Miles	Stephanie	Literacy Specialist	S	7-1-17	
49.	Minkel	Julie	Licensed Professional Counselor	S		
50.	Moore	Anna	Speech / Language Pathologist	S	8-8-17	
51.	Neal	Cayce	Science Specialist	S	7-1-17	
52.	Nelson	Marlo	Child Development Specialist	S		
53.	Nicot Torres	Dilka	Early Childhood Administrative Assistant	S	10-16-17	
54.	Onstott	Carol	Child Development Specialist	S		
55.	Patel	Jigish	Computer Science Specialist	S		

56.	Pickering	Cheryl	Career & Technology Education Coordinator	S		
57.	Ramer	Michael Ann	Speech / Language Pathologist	F		
58.	Rhodes	Rachele	Child Development Specialist	S	8-8-17	
59.	Rieger	Tina	Child Development Specialist	S		
60.	Rowe	Annette	Speech / Language Pathologist	S	8-8-17	
61.	Sandate Rocha	Abigyl	Interpreter	S	8-21-17	10-10-17
62.	Sanders	Marcia	TALENTS / Novice Teacher Coordinator	S		
63.	Schmidt	Mary Catherine	Speech / Language Pathologist	F		
64.	Seaton	Dustin	Gifted & Talented Specialist	S	7-1-17	
65.	Smith	Gordon	Distance Learning Coordinator	S		
66.	Smith	Rea	Math Specialist	S		6-30-18
67.	Smith	Rebecca	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
68.	Spears	Kaley	Community Health Promotion Specialist	*		
69.	Storm	Tina	Program Secretary	S		
70.	Tomlinson	Melody	Maintenance / Housekeeping	B		
71.	Vanhook	Jakki	Business Manager	B		
72.	Warford	Shelby	Paraprofessional	S	8-8-17	
73.	Wohlford	Patti	Business Assistant	B		
74.	Wylde	Tristen	Child Development Specialist	S	8-8-17	
75.	Yates	Mitzi	Child Development Specialist	S		

III. TEACHER CENTER

Please attach a list of all in-service training/staff development workshops offered through the co-op, including month offered, topic, number of districts participating, number of participants and location of workshops. Place an asterisk (*) beside those which provided curriculum assistance. Include a cumulative total of participants. See attached form.

A. Does the co-op provide media services to schools? YES [☒] NO [☐]

If yes, then:

Approximate the number of titles in media center: 70

Does the co-op provide delivery to the districts? YES [☐] NO [☒]

How many districts participate in the media program? 16

How many titles (including duplicate counts) were provided to schools during this current year? 7

Do districts contribute dollars to the media services? YES [☐] NO [☒]

If yes, then:

How are media / technology charges per district determined (formal or per ADM)? N/A Please describe:

Does the co-op operate a “make-and-take” center for teachers? YES [X] NO []
If yes, then:
How many teacher visits have been made to the center? 123 (Count all teachers who have visited the center, using duplicate counts for teachers who have visited the center more than once.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Please check administrative services offered through the co-op:

- ☐ Cooperative purchasing
- ☐ Planning assistance
- ☒ Special education services
- ☒ Gifted and talented assistance
- ☐ Grant writing assistance
- ☐ Personnel application
- ☒ Evaluation procedures
- ☐ Migrant student Identification
- ☒ Bookkeeping assistance
- ☒ Technology training
- ☒ Curriculum alignment
- ☐ Business Management training
- ☐ Computer technician
- ☐ C.P.E.P. administration
- ☒ E-Rate applications
- ☒ Assessment data analysis
- ☒ Instructional facilitator training
- ☒ Math coaches training

- ☐ TARGET interim assessments
- ☒ Math/Science/Literacy/Computer Science specialists
- ☒ Numerous professional development opportunities for teachers
- ☒ Administrators and local board members
- ☐ Other (please specify)
- ☐ _____

V. DIRECT SERVICES TO STUDENTS

Please check the student services provided through the co-op:

- ☒ Student assessment program
- ☒ Itinerant teachers – please list areas: Early Childhood
- ☒ Occupational therapy and physical therapy
- ☐ Computer-assisted instruction
- ☒ Mentor programs: Novice Teacher Mentoring System
- ☒ Gifted/talented programs: 16 participating districts
- ☐ Video instruction
- ☒ Speech therapist
- ☒ Low incidence handicapped
- ☒ Other (Please specify):
Early Childhood Special Education 3-5 years of age,
Behavioral Intervention Consultants, Nursing Services

VI. ANECDOTAL REPORTS

The Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative (NWAESC) continued the work to support regional schools in a plethora of ways, including implementation of State Standards, preparation for ACT Aspire assessments, support for TESS and LEADS, alignment of K-12 schools with higher education and with business and industry needs, etc. Workshops were held at the Co-op as well as onsite in the districts. Additionally, some other highlights are listed below:

- To continue support for administrators with TESS and LEADS, various sessions were held throughout the year that included TESS updates and overview sessions with Leadership Development Coach, Rocci Malone to better develop their understanding of the revisions and framework/calibration. The sessions included the review and use of the EdReflect portal system.
- NWAESC has also provided three TESS 2.0 Law Overview sessions through our TALENTS/Novice Teacher Program.
- The demand for professionals in STEM fields is projected to outpace the supply of trained workers and professionals. To improve STEM education, STEM instruction and opportunities in the areas of science, math, technology and engineering, NWAESC houses the only STEM Specialist in the state. This interdisciplinary position provides professional development as well as onsite support for K-4 teachers in the NWA region.
- NWAESC, in partnership with the University of Arkansas' Educational Renewal Zone (ERZ) hosted two trainings provided by the nationally recognized group of WebbAlign on the topic of "Using Depth of Knowledge (DOK) to Inform Your Practice". DOK is powerful language system that is used to evaluate content complexity in education standards, formative and summative assessment items, and other instructional materials. When used consistently and appropriately, DOK is a common language that allows teachers, schools, and districts to communicate effectively to promote attainment of alignment (coherence) within an instructional system. Participants will work together in an interactive session to calibrate their thinking about content complexity, address common alternate interpretations/misconceptions, and develop and strengthen their understanding of DOK and their confidence in using this valuable tool.
- Over the past four years, NWAESC has partnered with nationally recognized professional development company and educational publisher Solution Tree to provide training to area educators in three critical areas: Common Collaborative Assessments, Response to Intervention, and Professional Learning Communities. We view these three

components as foundational to a strong educational system and, at the request of our districts, have provided these three trainings on a rotating basis beginning with the PLC Institute in 2015, followed by RtI Cohorts in 2016 and 2017, and Common Collaborative Assessment in 2017 and 2018 and a second PLC Institute scheduled for July 2018. These trainings were led by highly regarded authors/presenters, e.g., Rick and Rebecca DuFour (PLC Institute 2015), Dr. Austin Buffum (RtI in 2016 and 2017), and Cassandra Erkens (Common Collaborative Assessments in 2017 and 2018). Cost savings to districts has been tremendous, allowing them to build capacity in these three critical areas. These Solution Tree trainings align with the Arkansas Department of Education's PLC initiative.

- NWAESC hosted their fifth Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee meeting on March 14. The event was held again at the Northwest Arkansas Community College in Rogers. Educators and business leaders from the region joined students and state CTE leaders to discuss the challenges high school students face as they prepare to enter the job market, whether it be after high school or after a postsecondary education. Sessions were also held that highlighted workforce needs in NWA.
- NWAESC's Technology Coordinator continued to work with the sixteen schools and the area's five charter schools, assisting with technology needs while preparing for online assessments such as ACT Aspire.
- Because of the number of second language learners in the region, ADE houses the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Program Director position at NWAESC. In addition to the ESOL Program Director, NWAESC also houses one of the two EL Specialist to assist the educators in NWA, as well as services other area Co-ops. These two positions assist in co-hosting monthly ESOL Coordinators meetings that provides updates, collaboration and guide professional development for these educators.
- The Adolescent Literacy Council, K-5 Literacy Council, Dyslexia Council and the newly formed NWA Computer Science Leadership Group all meet regularly to bring district leaders together to discuss common professional development needs, share concerns and suggestions and to collaborate in a way that benefits all districts in the NWA region in these areas. These groups were led and supported by content specialists in their specific areas.
- NWAESC has formed partnership with area business organizations to further the work of career development in the region. Some examples of these partnerships are:

- NWAESC works with the Bentonville/Bella Vista Chamber of Commerce to promote their “No-Where Tech Conference” which provides information for both students and teachers about high demand technology careers in the NWA region.
- NWAESC works with the Rogers/Lowell Chamber of Commerce to promote their K2J visits in the fall and spring to local businesses. This provides area administrators, counselors and CTE teachers the opportunity to both visit a local industry or business to learn more about job opportunities contained within these companies and to work in small groups with local business leaders to identify challenges and possible solutions faced by business when hiring.
- NWAESC works regularly with the NWA Council to support the growth of CTE in the region and to help schools understand the workforce needs of our region so that they may better align their programs to the jobs that are available in NWA.

VII. EMPLOYMENT POLICIES AND PRACTICES

Act 610 of 1999 requires that each educational service cooperative report the following information:

EMPLOYED

Number of new males employed by the cooperative for the 2017-2018 school year: 1
For this number above, please provide the number in each of the following racial classifications:

White 1
African American 0
Hispanic 0
Asian 0
American Indian/Alaskan Native 0

Number of new females employed by the cooperative for the 2017-2018 school year: 18
For this number above, please provide the number in each of the following racial classifications:

White 16
African American 0
Hispanic 2
Asian 0
American Indian/Alaskan Native 0

TERMINATED

Number of males terminated by the cooperative during the 2017-2018 school year: 2
For this number above, please provide the number in each of the following racial classifications:

White 2
African American 0
Hispanic 0
Asian 0
American Indian/Alaskan Native 0

Number of females terminated by the cooperative during the 2017-2018 school year: 8
For this number above, please provide the number in each of the following racial classifications:

White 7
African American 0
Hispanic 1
Asian 0
American Indian/Alaskan Native 0

SEEKING EMPLOYMENT

Number of males seeking employment by the cooperative during the 2017-2018 school year: 6
For this number above, please provide the number in each of the following racial classifications:

White 2
African American 0
Hispanic 4
Asian 0
American Indian/Alaskan Native 0

Number of females seeking employment by the cooperative during the 2017-2018 school year: 59
For this number above, please provide the number in each of the following racial classifications:

White 49
African American 1
Hispanic 9
Asian 0
American Indian/Alaskan Native 0

Northwest Arkansas Education
Cooperative
2017-2018

Program Summaries...

PROGRAM: Early Childhood Special Education

FUNDING SOURCE: Federal, State, Local

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No **X**

RESTRICTED **X NON-RESTRICTED ___**

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS:

Bentonville, Decatur, Gentry, Gravette, Pea Ridge, Rogers, Siloam Springs, Elkins, Farmington, Fayetteville, Greenland, Lincoln, Prairie Grove, Springdale, West Fork, Huntsville

PERSONNEL:

Leah Alagood	Child Development Specialist	Bachelor
Ember Brown	Speech Language Pathologist	Masters
Katelyn Brown	Speech Language Pathologist	Masters
Julia Busch	Child Development Specialist	Masters
Leslie Clements	Child Development Specialist	Bachelor
Dena Corbino	Child Development Specialist	Bachelor
Jennifer D'Angelo	Speech Language Pathologist	Masters
Colleen DeVore	Early Childhood Sp. Ed. Coordinator	Masters
Shem Estes	Child Development Specialist	Bachelor
Jill Flood	Speech Language Pathologist	Masters
Wendy Florick	Speech Language Pathologist	Masters
Dee Ann Gambert	Speech Language Pathologist	Masters
Joni Garnett	Child Development Specialist	Bachelor
Lindsey George	Speech Language Pathologist	Masters
Darlene Graf	Child Development Specialist	Masters
Stephanie Gray	Speech Language Pathologist	Masters
Cristina Harris	Speech Language Pathologist	Masters
Evie Inboden	Speech Language Pathologist	Masters
Kara Johnson	Speech Language Pathologist	Masters
Clarie Kitzmiller	Speech Language Pathologist	Masters
Cindy Komarek	Child Development Specialist	Masters
Matt LeBeau	Speech Language Pathologist	Masters
Marla Matthews	Child Development Specialist	Masters
Mary Catherine Moery	Speech Language Pathologist	Masters
Julie Minkel	Behavior Intervention Consultant	Masters
Marlo Nelson	Child Development Specialist	Masters
Carol Onstott	Child Development Diagnostician	Bachelor
Michael Ann Ramer	Speech Language Pathologist	Masters
Rachele Rhodes	Child Development Specialist	Masters
Tina Rieger	Child Development Specialist	Masters
Annette Rowe	Speech Language Pathologist	Masters

Rebecca Smith	Speech Language Pathologist	Masters
Anna Turnman	Speech Language Pathologist	Masters
Tristen Wylde	Child Development Diagnostician	Bachelor
Mitzi Yates	Child Development Specialist	Bachelor

Early Childhood Non-Certified Staff:

Shelby Warford	Paraprofessional	N/A
Lisa McLaren	Paraprofessional	N/A
Mandee Parsons	Paraprofessional	N/A
Christina Tinkel	Paraprofessional	N/A
Christin Brown	Paraprofessional	N/A
Lyndsee Thompson	Paraprofessional	N/A
Dilka Nicot	Paraprofessional/Support Staff	N/A
Kathy Barnes-Whorton	Secretary/Medicaid Billing	N/A
Cheri Edgar	Secretary	N/A

Contracted Services (as needed): Physical Therapy Occupational Therapy Language Interpreters Audiological Evaluations Vision Assessments Psychological Evaluations

GOAL:

To provide free appropriate public education to children with special needs ages three through five under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act on behalf of the 16 area school districts.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

The Early Childhood Special Education Program provides developmentally appropriate services through an Individual Education Program for children with disabilities ages three through five. These services are mandated under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 1997 (IDEA) and provided by the Early Childhood Program on behalf of the 15 school districts in the Co-op area. Services provided include screening, evaluation, preschool instruction, speech/language therapy, physical/occupational therapy, counseling, and other services as needed at no cost to the family. Services are provided in a variety of settings, including preschool and Head Start classrooms, a self-contained classroom, private homes, and central locations such as churches, libraries, youth centers, community buildings, and school facilities. The staff works on an itinerant basis traveling to all 16 school districts to provide service to preschool children in the most appropriate environment. A child may be eligible for special services if he/she is experiencing difficulties which may interfere with normal development in speech/language, vision, hearing, motor skills, behavioral/social skills, self-help skills, or cognition/readiness skills. The majority of children have speech and language disorders,

any of which can be remedied much more efficiently at these early ages and provide the child with the ability to enter

Kindergarten with no deficit. Research shows that this is beneficial to social development as well as development of reading skills. Children with more severe disabilities are also treated. These disabilities include autism, hearing impairment, cerebral palsy, cleft palate, general developmental delays, traumatic brain injury, personal/social/behavioral disorders, and attention deficit disorder. Children with these disorders are much better prepared for entering kindergarten after receiving Early Childhood services. Their parents are initiated into the special education services gradually and caringly. State and national research shows that dollars spent on early intervention are saved in later public education costs.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

- Will have served over 800 children with Individualized Education Plans
- Received over 1400 screening requests
- Provided training for community preschool programs
- Provided consultative services to improved general education programs for all students
- Provided parent training

PROGRAM: Teacher Center

FUNDING SOURCE: Base

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No **X**

RESTRICTED **X NON-RESTRICTED ___**

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS - (INSIDE THE NORTHWEST CO-OP AREA)

Bentonville, Decatur, Elkins, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Huntsville, Lincoln, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Rogers, Siloam Springs, Springdale, West Fork, **Charter Schools** - Arkansas Arts Academy, Arkansas Connections Academy, Haas Hall Academy, Northwest Arkansas Classical Academy, Ozark Montessori Academy.

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS – (OUTSIDE THE NORTHWEST CO-OP AREA)

Alma, Arkadelphia, Arkansas Adult Learning Center, Bald Knob, Bearden, Beebe, Bergman, Cabot, Calico Rock, Cedarville, Charleston, Clarksville, Conway, Cossatot River, Crossett, Cotter, Dardanelle, Dover, East End, El Dorado, Eureka Springs, Flippin, Fort Smith, Glen Rose, Gosnell, Green Forrest, Hackett, Harrison, Hot Springs, Jonesboro, Lamar, Marion, Marmaduke, Mena, Mountainburg, Mountain Home, Mountain View, Nemo Vista, Paragould, Pattillo Center, Piggott, Pulaski County Special School District, Pocahontas, Pottsville, Ouachita River, Russellville, Salem, Searcy County, Smackover-Norphlet, South Conway, Stuttgart, Valley Springs, Van Buren, Viola, Virtual Arkansas, Waldron, White Hall, Yellville-Summitt

PERSONNEL:

Missy Hixson	Assistant Director/Teacher Center Coordinator	M.S.Ed.
Lisa Chavis	Teacher Center Administrative Assistant	N/A

GOAL:

To provide teachers, administrators, and support staff with professional growth opportunities in order to expand knowledge, enhance skills, and develop new strategies and techniques is the major focus. Professional Development and the Teacher Learning Center are the primary responsibilities of this program.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

Professional Development is offered through the Co-op as a means of continually educating and updating educators, including administrators. Offerings are based on the expressed needs from districts, through the Teacher Center Committee, advisory committees (e.g., Principals' Forums, Federal Program and Curriculum Coordinators meetings, etc.), the Board of Directors, administrators, and teachers, as well as state initiatives/mandates. These opportunities included, but were not limited to, trainings such as:

- Math – Workshops were held at both the co-op and in the districts on requested topics in various areas of math, including CGI (Cognitively Guided Instruction), ECM (Extending Children’s Mathematics)
- Literacy –Workshops were held at both the co-op and in the districts on requested topics e.g., close reading, complex texts, argumentative writing, etc. Specialists made site visits to schools to provide targeted assistance in the areas of reading and writing, dyslexia awareness, etc. The K-5 Literacy Council, a newly-added Adolescent Council, and the Dyslexia Council provide a time of collaboration to literacy leaders in the region and provide direction to NWAESC literacy specialists regarding needed professional development and other levels of support. Cohort 1 of the R.I.S.E. Academy Schools K-2, completed Year 1, where the Science of Reading training was held at NWAESC, as well as on site coaching support throughout the year.
- Science/STEM – both pure science workshops, literacy in the content area, and STEM trainings for science teachers, lesson writing, examination of Arkansas Science Standards. The trainings included both cooperative and district-hosted sessions led by specialists in various fields of science.
- Other content areas were addressed through workshops/trainings and onsite visits: Social Studies, Arkansas History, Career and Technical Education, Health and Wellness, etc.
- Art, Music, Drama – Since 1991, NWAESC has partnered with the Walton Arts Center and the Kennedy Center of the Performing Arts to provided quality arts integrated education in this area.
 - Walton Arts Center teamed with Trike Theatre Teaching Artists to offer SmART Residency
 - Offered to 5 Northwest Arkansas Schools
 - 26.5 Hours of pd
 - Educators (i.e. Teachers, Principals, and AWE Educators) Trained – 214
 - 625 Students effected
 - NWAESC, Walton Arts Center, U of A Center for Children & Youth, and Crystal Bridges worked together to offer ARTeacher Fellows.
 - Teacher attendance - 35
 - Teaching Artists – 10
 - 48 Hours of pd
 - Walton Arts Center offered other various Arts Professional Development
 - Trainers – 6
 - 1.5 – 3 Hours of pd
 - Educators in attendance - 64

All sixteen districts were provided a Professional Development Report three times during the year. This report lists the training titles, dates, hours, etc. as well as the names of the educators who attended in order to provide necessary documentation for licensure requirements.

The Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative and the Arkansas Department of Education continue to work together to support districts in the state initiatives and mandates, particularly those related to the adoption and implementation of new state standards, the ACT Aspire state-mandated assessment system, Teacher Excellence Support System (TESS) and Leader Excellence And Development System (LEADS). These initiatives continue to be the driving forces for increasing student achievement. All NWAESC districts have been involved in the various professional development opportunities provided at the local and state levels. With the support from the Arkansas legislature, the Arkansas Department of Education, other education cooperatives, and the local districts, K-12 educators now have the resources to align their curriculum to the Arkansas content frameworks (in disciplines where appropriate), and to increase student achievement to meet these standards. NWAESC worked with the Schools to address schools' professional development needs as reflected in their ACSIP (Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement Plan), as needed.

The Teacher Learning Center (TLC) is a make/take room provided for teachers' usage that offers a wide range of equipment and materials at a very minimal cost. The availability of laminators, opaque projectors, lettering, and cutters with over 600 dies, as well as construction paper, poster board, and transparencies make it easier for teachers to create lasting, colorful visual aids for the classroom. Additional resources include: badge makers, book binders, and various resource books. Training on the use of equipment and assistance with appropriate learning materials for classroom use is readily available. The TLC may be used by member districts' staff as well as other private, public, and home-schooling educators.

PROGRAM: APSCN

FUNDING SOURCE: Arkansas Department of Education

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No **X**

RESTRICTED **X NON-RESTRICTED ___**

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS:

Benton County, Bentonville, Decatur, Elkins, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Haas Hall, Huntsville, Lincoln, Northwest Arkansas Classical, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Rogers, Siloam Springs, Springdale, West Fork, Northwest Co-op, Berryville, Eureka Springs, Green Forrest, Ozark Montessori Academy

PERSONNEL:

Aaron Hughes APSCN SMS Field Analyst B.A.

- Responsible for training NWA School Districts in APSCN eSchool Scheduling Module.
- Training school districts on entering data in student demographics, updated the table and Room Catalog, and Teacher Catalog, Verified Data in Modules and/or Configuration.
- Responsible for training NWA School Districts on using and troubleshooting computer application programs supported by APSCN, including but not limited to eSchoolPlus and IBM Cognos business tools for building reports.
- Trains and provides technical assistance to public school district personnel regarding software applications, including but not limited to, the eSchoolPlus student management software systems
- Instructs on processes and procedures for pulling and entering state reporting data for loading into the statewide data warehouse, and teaches others to use the Cognos business tools to create ad-hoc reports from the data in the statewide data warehouse.
- Researches and resolves problems and issues for district users of the online Teacher Access Center and Home Access Center (TAC/HAC).
- Creates, edits, and reviews training and procedural documentation and presentations.
- Proficient in computer operations, applications, and an expert user of computer productivity software, such as Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint, eSchoolPlus, and TAC/HAC.
- Provides computer training workshops on APSCN software applications to NWA school districts

GOAL:

To provide end-user support to district student users of the SMS statewide student management system, Cognos reports, and meeting statewide guidelines.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

The Student Applications Field Analyst provides services to districts within Arkansas that utilize the SMS statewide student management system software. The software is used to store district, school, and student data. Student Management Systems Applications is computer software used primarily to process and maintain student records. The SunGuard Pentamation student management systems applications provided by APSCN include: Demographics, Attendance, Scheduling, Report Cards, Discipline and Medical. With the use of nine cycles yearly, districts electronically submit data to the ADE. The student field analyst provides districts with consulting and training workshops through meetings at the Cooperative, school visits, and communicating closely by e-mail and telephone. Various trainings offered throughout the year include, but are not limited to, SMS Required Fields for State Reporting, New Personnel, Cognos Report Writing, Next Year Scheduling and Year End Rollover.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:**Implementation/training of the eSchool Software to Phase 4 and Phase 5 districts**
100 Total Training Days

- 15 days at Little Rock APSCN
- 20 days at OUR Co-op
- 65 days at Northwest Co-op

PROGRAM: ADE/APSCN Financial Management Systems Field Analyst

FUNDING SOURCE: Arkansas Department of Education

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No X

RESTRICTED ___ **NON-RESTRICTED** ___

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS:

Arkansas Arts Academy, Arkansas Connections Academy, Bentonville, Boston Mountain Coop, Decatur, Elkins, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Lincoln, Rogers, Haas Hall Academy– Fayetteville, Haas Hall Academy– Bentonville, Huntsville, NW Coop, Ozark Montessori Academy, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Siloam Springs, Springdale, and West Fork

PERSONNEL:

Pam Cruce	APSCN Financial Field Analyst
Lauryn Cheek	Financial Field Analyst
Carla Parrish	Financial Field Analyst
Zach Cremer	Financial Field Analyst

GOAL:

To provide end-user support to district financial users of the Arkansas Public School Computer Network Financial Management System, convert schools to new APSCN FMS software, and help with meeting Federal and State reporting requirements.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

The APSCN Financial Field Analyst provides services to districts within Arkansas that utilize the Arkansas Public School Computer Network Financial Management System software. APSCN FMS software is used primarily to process and record financial transactions. The Pentamotion financial management systems applications provided by APSCN include the following integrated modules: Fund Accounting, Human Resources, Fixed Assets, Budget Preparation, Personnel Budgeting, Purchasing and Warehouse. The APSCN Financial Field Analyst provides technical and accounting assistance for all of the modules. The Analyst also provides technical and practical assistance for Monthly Reporting, Financial Report Cycles. Various trainings offered throughout the year include, but are not limited to, changes to Federal and State reporting requirements, training and support new school financial personnel, Financial Cycle Reporting, Fiscal Year End, Calendar Year End, and converting schools to new APSCN FMS software.

PROGRAM: Educational Services for the Visually Impaired (ESVI)

FUNDING SOURCE: ESVI is a statewide educational consultative service program administered by the Arkansas Department of Education, Special Education Unit.

STAFF:

• Anglyn Young	TVI/COMS	State Coordinator
• Cynthia Kelley		Secretary
• <u>Marsha Holder</u>	TVI/COMS	Educational Vision Consultant
• <u>Christi Gadberry</u>	TVI/COMS	Educational Vision Consultant
• Cynthia White	TVI/COMS	Educational Vision Consultant
• Jo Croft	TVI/COMS	Educational Vision Consultant
• Sharon Niemczyk	TVI/COMS	Educational Vision Consultant
• Paige Dillinger	TVI/COMS	Educational Vision Consultant
• Melanie Birthright	TVI/COMS	Educational Vision Consultant

PROGRAM GOAL:

Educational Services for the Visually Impaired collaborates with school districts, parents, and communities to provide support that empowers them to remove educational and environmental barriers and to create solutions that foster independence for all students with visual impairments.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

Educational Services for the Visually Impaired consultants provide recommendations for accommodations to enhance the student's opportunities for learning; develop district support teams to meet the needs of students who are blind or visually impaired ages 3 through 21 in educational programs; conduct Learning Media and Functional Vision Assessments; make recommendations for individual student access to educational curriculum; provide large print or Braille textbooks through the Instructional Materials Center; demo, loan, and provide instruction and consultation in the use of assistive technology and low vision devices; provide direct instruction in Orientation and Mobility in the school and local communities. In addition, professional development opportunities are offered to parents, teachers and related staff.

Regional vision consultants are funded through the following Education Service Cooperatives:

Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative
Crowley's Ridge Education Service Cooperative
Southwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative
Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative

ESVI's Central Office is located at:

1401 West Capitol Avenue
Victory Building, Suite 425
Little Rock, AR 72201

PROGRAM: Tobacco Prevention and other School Health Issues

FUNDING SOURCE: ADH

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ☐ No ☒

RESTRICTED XX

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS: Arkansas Arts Academy, Bentonville, Elkins, Decatur, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Haas Hall, Huntsville, Lincoln, Northwest Arkansas Classical Academy, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Rogers, Siloam Springs, Springdale, West Fork, and private schools such as Shiloh Christian, The New School, St. Vincent de Paul, St. Joseph

PERSONNEL:

Kelli Butcher, RN Community Health Nurse Specialist RN, B.S.

GOAL:

This program provides: (job description from ADH)

- Assistance with grant writing for school grants and community coalition grants
- Linkage for school-based tobacco prevention and other health efforts with local community coalitions
- Serves as an advocate for school health needs to community coalitions
- Linkage of resources for schools, community coalitions and others in the community to promote healthy communities
- Provides technical assistance on public health practices to schools and community
- Provides technical assistance and collaborates with school nurses to identify appropriate resources and continuing education offerings that will help meet the requirements for nursing licensure
- Works with State School Nurse Consultant to disseminate information as needed
- Technical assistance with school districts on all School Health issues
- Provides Technical Assistance in policy development for tobacco and school-based enforcement of tobacco related policies
- Provides Technical assistance with evidenced based curricula for tobacco, nutrition, teen dating, suicide prevention, teen pregnancy, and physical activity
- Provides training to school nurses and others
- Provides technical assistance to school districts with communicable disease outbreaks
- Provides educational information to schools
- Provides training and technical assistance on School Health Index

- Provides technical assistance to Coordinated School Health grantees
- Provides technical assistance to tobacco prevention grantees

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

- NWAESC Annual Back to School Nurse Workshop- various speakers in addition to nursing Continuing Education Units offered- approximately 150 participants from the various school districts. Physicians presented on marijuana and the new Arkansas Medical Marijuana law, mental health, and state required immunizations as related to school age children. Cheria Lindsey, State School Nurse Consultant presented on new laws and rules and regulations for school nurses. Exhibitors were present for nurses to visit with and learn from before conference and during breaks and lunch.
- Vision Certification Training for all new school nurses held 3 times throughout the year
- Hearing Certification Training for all new school nurses held 3 times throughout the year
- Scoliosis Certification Training for all new school nurses held 3 times throughout the year
- BMI Certification Training for all new school nurses held 3 times throughout the year
- Regional ADH Hometown Health meetings hosted and held at NWAESC
- Assisted at Guy Fenter, Arch Ford, and Our Educational Cooperatives with their annual Back to School Nurse Workshops
- Assisted with review of School Health Index and Indistar reporting in Little Rock at the Arkansas Department of Education for all schools in the state of Arkansas
- Assisted with School Based Health Center Grants
- eSchool education for school nurse medical module held at NWAESC, 4 sessions. Also educated at OUR, Arch Ford, Great Rivers, Crowley's Ridge, and Guy Fenter Educational Service Cooperatives
- Assisted with multiple school based influenza immunization clinics

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

- Assisted with planning and implementation of Madison County Teen Summit
- Presented 12 safeTALK (suicide prevention education) sessions to multiple locations in the northwest region
- Presented to Medical Professions classes, health classes, and school staff Stop the Bleed emergency first aid training

- Presented nutrition and Rethink Your Drink to students at Prairie Grove Middle School Health day
- Educated students in Rogers, Bentonville, Springdale and Huntsville regarding e-cigarettes and health risks associated with use
- Attended Coordinated School Health meetings in Springdale, Fayetteville, Siloam Springs, and Prairie Grove
- Presented Poison Control in Action to multiple Health Classes in Rogers, Huntsville, Springdale and Bentonville
- Educated on Teen Dating Violence at Haas Hall Academy, and Rogers High School, Heritage High School, and George Junior High
- Educated on Nutrition and Physical Activity at George Junior High, Springdale all health classes
- Presented information on internet safety/sexting/texting to health classes at Bentonville Junior High
- Hosted and facilitated Glucagon and Insulin training for school nurses at the Northwest Educational Service Cooperative
- Benton, Madison, Washington Counties-Hosted and facilitated training for school counselors, teachers and nurses on concussion and traumatic brain injury signs and symptoms and care of students with these diagnoses , and 504 application for students diagnosed with a concussion or traumatic brain injury
- Benton, Madison, Washington Counties-Hosted and facilitated School Wellness Workshop held at Northwest Educational Service Cooperative. Educated on Act 1220 and Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act including smart snack rules and resources for the classroom
- Presented overview of CATCH e cigarette curriculum in breakout session at School Health Conference held in Benton, AR.
- Facilitated the train the trainer class held for school personnel to learn how to teach their staff the state required mandated reporter training
- Educated all staff in West Fork School District, employees of NWAESC, and a Bentonville Middle School on state required Child Maltreatment/Mandated Reporter.
- Facilitated workshop on traumatic brain injuries school nurses, teachers and speech pathologists in attendance
- Facilitated SPARK(physical activity) training held at NWA Educational Cooperative, assisted with distribution of SPARK curriculum
- Assisted with the New School Nurse Conference held to educate new school nurses from around the state regarding all aspects of school nursing. Taught section on using eSchool to document and track student health
- Facilitated Medicaid in the Schools workshop on training and billing for personal care done in the school setting, included Poison Control in Action at the training

- Trained Fayetteville district Para pros correct personal care to maintain their Personal Care Assistant certification
- Educated all health classes at George Junior High, Rogers High School, Heritage High School and Haas Hall High School, Ramay Junior High School on STD's and Teen Pregnancy
- Educated 6th grade health classes at Huntsville Middle School regarding tobacco, drug and alcohol abstinence multiple grading periods
- Presented Suicide Prevention Myth vs Fact to all health classes at Rogers High School and to Dardanelle Middle School
- Performed vision and hearing screening for students at NWA Children's Shelter

Community Links

- NWA Drug and Tobacco Free Coalition
- Benton County Community Coalition
- NWA Hometown Health Improvement
- Madison County Health Coalition
- NWA Trauma Regional Advisory Council
- NWA Suicide Coalition
- Region 1 Prevention Providers
- Arkansas Children's Hospital

PROGRAM: Nutrition, Physical Activity and other School Health Issues

FUNDING SOURCE: ADH

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No XX

RESTRICTED XX

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS: Arkansas Arts Academy, Bentonville, Elkins, Decatur, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Haas Hall, Huntsville, Lincoln, Northwest Arkansas Classical Academy, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Rogers, Siloam Springs, Springdale, West Fork, and private schools such as Shiloh Christian, The New School, St. Vincent de Paul, St. Joseph

PERSONNEL:

Kaley Spears Community Health Promotion Specialist B.S.

GOAL:

This program provides:

- Provides technical assistance and guidance to schools for wellness initiatives
- Provides technical assistance to schools for implementation of best practices for nutrition and physical activity, Coordinated School Health and other public health issues
- Provides technical assistance to school wellness committees regarding state and federal mandates
- Provides technical assistance on nutrition and physical activity via evidenced based curricula
- Provides technical assistance to communities regarding school health issues and current public health policy
- Links resources to schools and community coalitions
- Maintains current knowledge of research, resources, and best practices related to school health issues
- Informs schools and communities of available trainings and grant opportunities
- Addresses training needs related to school health issues and organizes and conducts trainings based on those needs
- Coordinates and provides trainings to school personnel, ADH colleagues, and community members
- Maintains regular contact with school personnel within service area
- Informs schools and communities of available trainings and grant opportunities
- Serves as an advocate for school and community health needs
- Serves as a resource for community assessments
- Establishes communication links with communities to keep them informed of public health policy
- Compiles and distributes necessary reports and other information
- Participates in data collection and evaluation of community and school health interventions

- Serves on committees and work groups
- Works on special projects
- Attends, participates in, and distributes updates from regional and state meetings to schools, ADH colleagues, and community members
- Attends CHAC meetings and reports outcomes to HHI Support Staff and Wellness Committees

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

- Presented for Red Ribbon Week at Prairie Grove Middle School to 260 5th and 6th grade students on substance abuse. Educated students on what substance abuse means and that it includes both legal and illegal substances. We discussed the negative physical, mental and emotional effects that illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco (including ENDS) and prescription drugs have on the body. We discussed the importance of making healthy decisions in order to avoid becoming addicted to these substances. I explained how the decisions we make can produce either positive or negative consequences in our lives and those around us.
- Provided assistance to both the ADH Local Health Unit employees and the school nurses at school flu clinics (totaling 61 hours) in order to help with time management and efficiency, documentation, and to continue to build relationships with administrators and other key people.
- Assisted the Statewide School Health Team by reviewing the School Health Index and Indistar report form from all schools in the state.
- Educated 102 Huntsville Middle School Students (over the course of two semesters) using the Life Skills Evidence based curriculum on several different topics: Alcohol abuse, Tobacco products, poison control in action, communication and social skills, nutrition and physical activity, and Social media on health.
- Educated every student present at Decatur High School (155) on the fallacies of ENDS (Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems) or E-Cigarettes. Mr. Conrad, the Principal of the High School, verbalized that he had confiscated several E-cigarette devices and so he asked if I would come present on the adverse health effects that can be caused from choosing to use ENDS.
- Conducted Obesity Prevention Education and Body Mass Index Protocol for 29 school nurses in the NWAESC and Arch Ford Coop areas. We discussed the obesity epidemic and risk factors and health issues related to it. I educated on the Arkansas legislature that requires BMI to be taken in schools and the protocols on how to take the data and report it properly.
- Educated every Decatur High School Student present (127) on Teen Dating Violence and the differences between healthy and unhealthy relationships. This presentation is given to break social norms and gender biases that exist in our society regarding

relationships. We defined Dating abuse and discussed four different types of abuse: Physical, Sexual, Mental/emotional, and Digital. I included resources from loveisrespect.org. I spoke to three different individuals at the end of the presentations regarding their present situation and helped them process through what might be a sign of an unhealthy relationship.

- Educated 720 Fayetteville Middle School students on the dangers of Tobacco use, using the Project Prevent presentation. With these 5th and 6th graders, we discussed different tobacco products and focused mostly on Electronic Smoking Devices because they are an emerging product. Act 811 was also discussed, given that all of these students were under the age of 14. I presented on the common fallacies of these ESDs and the consequences of using any tobacco products. We concluded with a scavenger hunt using several TPCP pamphlets to answer the questions.
- Educated 132 High School Students enrolled in a Health Professions elective course on cyberbullying/sexting/and social media. We discussed the long-term negative consequences that our digital footprints have our ability to get into colleges and to be chosen for specific jobs, especially medical professions. I educated on the laws specific to cyberbullying, sexting and child pornography in Arkansas as stated by the Attorney General. We also discussed the links between depression and social media because of the unconscious comparison that happens when we are consistently being exposed to one another's lives.
- Assisted Kelli Butcher, CHNS, in training 20 high school classes on the Stop the Bleed program. This program teaches the public proper bleeding control techniques (using their hands, dressings, and tourniquets) in order to respond effectively to any number of emergency situations. In the next few years, this initiative will become a requirement for high school Health curriculum, similar to CPR.
- Educated 320 students on nutrition topics such as re-think your drink, reading nutrition labels, and MyPlate and "Go, Slow, Whoa" foods. The students learned to categorize their food into food groups through a physical activity relay race game and engaged in a jumping jack activity to reinforce foods that we should eat less often. We looked at the nutrition labels of popular sugar sweetened beverages and I provided a visual comparison to understand just how much sugar is hidden in these drinks.
- Provided over 18 grant opportunities to wellness chairs in the NWA Educational service area and offered technical assistance in the completion of the applications.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS:

- Attended the Access to Healthy Foods workshop in Little Rock initiated by Healthy Active Arkansas and ARCOP. The purpose of this workshop was to get key stakeholders across the state together to plan and prioritize the methods by which we

aim to increase access to healthy foods statewide. Our four main goals were to define access to healthy foods (AHF), prioritize focus to address AHF in Arkansas, create AHF SMART goals and create AHF Action teams. A meeting report draft was sent via email and distributed to those who couldn't attend.

- Provided technical assistance to Audra Walter's with 3 different SPARK trainings. Registration was run through the NWAESC, and two of the trainings were held off campus, which required a liaison. Upon the conclusions of the trainings, Kelli Butcher and I distributed the free PE curriculum to the coaches that attended the trainings.
- Provided technical assistance to Laurie Reh and Codie McCuiston of Region 1 Regional Prevention Provider by scheduling a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder training course at the NWA Educational Coop. 29 community members attended and participated in the training conducted by David Deere, M.S.W., M.Th..
- Attended and participated in the Annual Farm to school Summit at Carolyn Lewis Elementary School in Conway. This event served as a value Chain training and a local conversations event to educate participants on different elements of Farm to School in Arkansas. I attended the breakout sessions regarding Student Leadership/Systems Change, Connecting Food and Curriculum and The Garden as a Place for Healing. I will be having a speaker from the Summit (Jenna Rhodes) present at the Wellness Workshops this summer.
- Met with the new Siloam Springs Wellness Coordinator to provide technical assistance on wellness committees and hometown health—have been in contact with her when she needs assistance with her wellness committee.
- Educated students on the physical and social implications of HIV/AIDS/STD diagnosis and treatment.
- Educated high school students on suicide using the Myth vs. Facts for Teens presentation from Injury Prevention.
- Assisted the Regional Prevention Advocacy Council Task Force in the planning of the 2018 NWA Drug Prevention Conference. Providing ongoing technical assistance along with Kelli Butcher, to the Region 1 Prevention Providers by handling the registration for the conference through the NWAESC.
- Attended regular Coordinated School Health meetings in Springdale, Fayetteville, Siloam Springs, and Prairie Grove. Also attended Quarterly State CSH meetings.

Community Links

- NWA Drug and Tobacco Free Coalition
- Benton County Community Coalition
- Washington County Hometown Health Improvement
- Madison County Health Coalition

- NWA Trauma Regional Advisory Council
- Region 1 Regional Prevention Provider
- Arkansas FoodCorps

PROGRAM: Behavior Support Specialists

FUNDING SOURCE: Area Services VI-B

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No X

RESTRICTED X **NON-RESTRICTED** ___

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS:

Bentonville, Decatur, Elkins, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Huntsville, Lincoln, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Rogers, Siloam Springs, Springdale, West Fork, Statewide

PERSONNEL:

Sheryl Hahn	Behavior Support Specialist	M.Ed., BCBA
Mary Ann McIntyre	Behavior Support Specialist	M.A, CCC-SLP-BCBA

GOAL:

The goal of the Behavior Support Specialists is to assist districts in (NWAESC, Wilbur Mills Education Cooperative, Guy Fenter Education Cooperative, Crowley Ridge Education Cooperative, Northeast Education Cooperative and Arkansas River Cooperative) in building local capacity in the following ways:

- Training in Essentials of Behavior ---Principles of Applied Behavior Analysis, Defining Behavior, Data Collection and Reinforcement
- Tier 2 strategies-including programming for AU and evidence based strategies that improve teacher and student behaviors that impact student achievement
- Onsite (student specific-Dangerous Tier 3 behaviors) assistance and training in conducting Functional Behavioral Assessments and Behavior Intervention Plans
- Assistance and training is provided to student specific staff as well as large group trainings that increase local capacity in evidence-based strategies to address autism, challenging behavior, FBA/BIP, and other areas, as requested.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

This program provides districts with assistance with programming, behavior change procedures, identification, assessment, interagency collaboration, development of behavior plans for individual students, and staff development. (Tier 2 behaviors are addressed in training and Tier 3 (self-injury, injuring adults/peers, and elopement are addressed on site.)

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

- Continued to mentor BSS around the state of Arkansas
- Training new BSS in multiple areas
- Numerous trainings such as: Examining Special Ed Files Like an Attorney, VB Mapp

Training, Designing the Learning Environment for Success, ASD Eligibility Classroom Design, Team Training for Identification of Autism Training, Defining Behavior, Reinforcement, Data Collection, Applied Behavior Analysis

- Offered and provided didactic trainings with follow up

PROGRAM: Career and Technical Education

FUNDING SOURCE: Department of Career Education & Carl Perkins Grant

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No X

RESTRICTED ___ **NON-RESTRICTED** X

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS:

Gravette, Gentry, Decatur, Farmington, Prairie Grove, Lincoln, Elkins, West Fork, Greenland

PERSONNEL:

Cheryl Pickering	CTE Coordinator	M. Ed
Mandee Ludwick	CTE Administrative Assistant	N/A

GOAL:

The Career and Technical Education Department enhances student achievement and participation in both CTE and academic education by offering technical assistance to CTE teachers, advanced technologies in the classroom, and connection to business and industry.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

The Career and Technical Education Department of NWAESC develops and coordinates the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Program for the consortium, creates and manages the budget, and provides accountability as required by the Arkansas Department of Career Education.

The CTE state staff and program managers work cooperatively in the collection of data, evaluation of programs and assistance to instructors. Staff development is provided for all CTE instructors and encourages the development, implementation, and improvement of CTE programs. Professional development for administrators, teachers and counselors regarding CTE initiatives are scheduled. Curriculum frameworks, programs of study, embedding of academic and CTE, Business and Industry connections are some of the offerings.

The coordinator represents the cooperative at local and state events, and attends the Arkansas Career Education meetings.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

- | | |
|---|---|
| * Regional Business & Industry Partnership | * Business & Industry Tours |
| * Perkins Updates/Requirements | * Local Chamber of Commerce Connections |
| * CTE Teacher Roundtables | * Mentor Novice CTE Teachers |
| * Partnership with the NWA Council/Labor Market and Educational Programs | |
| * Work with Business & Industry Improving CTE Programs | |
| * Partner with local Chambers of Commerce to provide education to Educators | |

PROGRAM: K-12 Computer Science Specialist

FUNDING SOURCE: Arkansas Department of Education Grant

COMPETITIVE GRANT: No X Yes__

RESTRICTED X **NON-RESTRICTED** __

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS: Atkins, Beebe, Boonville, Cabot, Cedarville, Charleston, Clarksville, Corning, County Line, Elkins, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gravette, Greenbrier, Hampton, Huntsville, Lavaca, Lincoln, Marvell, Ozark Mountain, Ozark, Paris, Rogers, So. Conway Co., Van Burden, Vilonia, Virtual Arkansas, Yellville-Summit, West Fork, Prism Education Center, Fort Smith, Waldron, DeQueen, Foreman, Ouachita, Dierks, Bentonville, St. Joseph Catholic School, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Arkansas Arts Academy, Valley Springs, Bergman, Mountain Home, Berryville, Cotter, Jasper, Harrison, Eureka Springs, Searcy County, Carlisle, Rector, Lonoke, Rose Bud, Bald Knob, Stuttgart, Little Rock, Augusta, McCrory, White Co. Central, Lakeside, Lead Hill, Springdale, Eureka Springs, Omaha, Alpena, Siloam Springs, Gentry, Malvern, Pottsville, Danville, Magnolia, Crossett, Conway, Hope, Palestine-Wheatley, Piggott, Lisa Academy-Little Rock, Metropolitan Career Tech Center, Jefferson Area Tech Career Center, Warren, Nemo Vista, Manila, Flippin, Mena, Ashdown, Cossatot River, Helena/West Helena, Lamar, Arkansas School for the Deaf, Decatur, Smackover-Norphlet, SE Lakeside, Junction City, Cove, Pulaski County, Alma, Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County, Mountain View, Northwest Arkansas Technical Institute, and Dewitt

PERSONNEL:

Jigish Patel	K-12 Computer Science Specialist	M.Ed.
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GOALS:

Goal 1: A major goal for me this year has been to increase content knowledge of high school teachers since they are the ones teaching rigorous, high quality computer science to students.

Actions taken toward the goal: Week-long Praxis and computer science content trainings that focuses not just on passing the Praxis test, but also on making sure that teachers feel prepared to teach computer science levels 1 and 2.

Number of teachers impacted: 45

Goal 2: During the high school trainings, many teachers have asked for one day prep sessions for the Praxis.

Action taken toward the goal: Developed Praxis prep Saturday trainings to provide teachers taking the Praxis test a last minute prep so they felt prepared to pass the test.

Number of teachers impacted: 20

Goal 3: Research has shown that an early introduction to computer science for K-8 students leads to higher enrollment in high school computer science courses so I wanted to prepare K-8 teachers in embedding CS in their classes.

Actions taken toward the goal: I’ve worked with hundreds of K-8 teachers to show them how computer science impacts every single content area. I also worked with math, science, STEM, literacy and EL specialists to develop content specific CS professional development sessions.

Number of teachers impacted: 511

Goal 4: Major focus of my work has been to make sure that *all* students have access to CS education.

Actions taken toward the goal: Worked on professional development activities to discuss barriers to CS education and how they could be overcome. I am also analyzing CS enrollment data for school districts.

Goal 5: I want to bring creativity and physical computing into CS education to provide more hands-on and real-world applications of coding.

Actions taken toward the goal: I developed a “trash to robot” trainings where teachers learn about recycling, programming, and robotics. I also co-developed MicroBit, Arduino and RaspberryPi trainings. During these trainings, teachers learn how to teach students to create robots, monitor systems such as moisture and temperature sensors for plants.

Number of teachers impacted: 88

Goal 6: I want to make sure that community organizations are trained in providing CS programming. This allows students to gain CS education not just in their school buildings, but also in their communities.

Major organizations I’ve partnered with: Boys and Girls Club, Richardson Community Center of Fayetteville, Girls Scouts, FabLab of Northwest Arkansas, TechStart, University of Arkansas STEM center, Scott Family Amazeum, Teach For America—Arkansas, and Girls of Promise (U of A).

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

The computer science program at Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative is focused on providing regional, district-based, school-based, and classroom-based support in terms of state regulations, content, and pedagogy. This includes providing professional development in computer science topics, providing opportunities for teachers and administrators to network with one another, supporting adoption of curriculum and content resources. The program also supports teachers with taking the computer science Praxis exam through 5-day trainings and Saturday boot camps.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

- Worked with the statewide computer science team to develop K-8 professional development to support teachers in embedding computer science standards into their existing curriculum
- Developed training for 7th and 8th grade coding block teachers to support teacher content development, instructional strategies, and course organization
- Supported first-time high school computer science teachers in understanding the high school computer science standards and understanding the critical content areas that they would be teaching during their first year
- Helped support schools who were identified by Facebook TechStart to receive virtual reality kits. This support included setting up the kits, completing the necessary paperwork, updating the software, and learning how it could be used in the classroom.
- Collaborated with other computer science specialist to implement Unity trainings in multiple schools in Northwest Arkansas schools.
- Supported novice high school math teachers through four in-person professional learning communities
- Worked with various organizations to develop computer science and STEM related activities

PROGRAM: Technology

FUNDING SOURCE: Arkansas Department of Education

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No X

RESTRICTED X **NON-RESTRICTED** ___

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS: Bentonville, Decatur, Elkins, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Huntsville, Lincoln, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Rogers, Siloam Springs, Springdale, West Fork

PERSONNEL:

Sam Karnatz, Technology Coordinator

GOAL:

The goal of the Technology Program is to provide technology information and support throughout our member district area. The Technology Coordinator administers and supports the computer network, 2 computer training labs, 3 Device Carts, over 140 PC's, servers, and other devices at NWAESC. It is a further goal of the Technology Department to provide training and support for member district staff and internal NWAESC staff.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

The Technology Coordinator is a resource for districts to utilize as needed. The Technology Coordinator supplies pertinent information on new technologies, statewide initiatives, and training opportunities. Support for the NWAESC LAN including file server administration, desktop support and staff development training for Co-op staff is provided. Duties also include supporting the Co-op website. Another primary role of the Technology Coordinator is to support the hundreds of workshops held at the cooperative during the year. This includes supporting workshop presenters, loading specific software required for workshops, providing necessary hardware for participants, and resolving technical issues as they arise.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

- Brought in numerous vendors to support / train member district technology staff on new products and services
- Visited multiple district campuses to perform Network bandwidth and infrastructure performance with Fluke Networks Etherscope network scan tool

- Participated with state technology leaders at the annual HSTI conference and the Arkansas Conference of Technology.
- Attended Northwest Arkansas' first regional developer's conference the 2018 Nowhere Developer's conference.
- Rolled out a new VOIP phone solution and network at our new Early Childhood office in Rogers

PROGRAM: Arkansas Transition Services

FUNDING SOURCE: Federal Grant

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No **X**

RESTRICTED **X** **NON-RESTRICTED** ___

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS:

NWAESC – Arkansas Arts Academy, Arkansas Connections Academy, Bentonville, Decatur, Elkins, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Huntsville, Lincoln, NWA Classical Academy, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Rogers, Siloam Springs, Springdale, West Fork

OUR – Alpena, Bergman, Berryville, Cotter, Deer/Mt. Judea, Eureka Springs, Flippin, Green Forest, Harrison, Jasper, Lead Hill, Omaha, Ozark Mountain, Searcy County, Valley Springs, Yellville/Summit

WAESC – Alma, Booneville, Cedarville, Charleston, Clarksville, County Line, Fort Smith, Future School of Fort Smith, Greenwood, Hackett, Hartford, Lamar, Lavaca, Magazine, Mansfield, Mountainburg, Mulberry, Ozark, Paris, Scranton, Van Buren, Waldron, Westside

PERSONNEL:

Paul Johnston

Transition Consultant

M.M., B.S.Ed, A.A.S.

GOAL:

To provide district, regional, and state-wide trainings throughout the year to prepare teachers to help Special Education students reach their post school goals as stated on their Transition Plans per their IEP. To provide consults with participating districts to assist students, parents, and teachers in assisting students to reach their post school goals. To develop and facilitate local Transition Teams for school districts. To assist LEAs in folder reviews to ensure Transition Plans on the IEP are accurate and help students to reach their post school goals.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

Arkansas Transition Services (ATS) is a small, hardworking consultant group which serves Arkansas school districts in affiliation with the Arkansas Department of Education, Special Education Unit. Although each transition consultant serves different parts of the state, we work as one unit to provide the best technical assistance and training opportunities for transitioning students in special education to life after high school. Arkansas Transition Services serves all 75 counties in Arkansas in an effort to improve transition outcomes for students with disabilities. Our mission is to effectively assist students with disabilities, educators, parents, agency personnel and community members in preparing students to transition from school to adult life and reach positive post-school outcomes. We provide technical assistance, trainings and consultations to special education teachers and other relevant staff, as well as to various agency personnel. Our services are provided at no cost.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

State Level

- Arkansas Transition Services held two Cadre meetings in Little Rock where the local teams came together to receive professional development in transition assessments, student focused planning, practice profiles, agencies, and post school options. These events provided opportunities for continued team planning and networking.
- For the second year Arkansas has the opportunity to host a Film Camp run by Inclusion Films and Joey Travolta. This will be held the last week in April in conjunction with the Bentonville Film Festival. It is one of many camps held across the country for High School students with disabilities to learn about the film industry and produce their own films. As of this report 52 students from across the state will be participating.
- The Arkansas Interagency Transition Partnership (AITP) will hold the sixth annual AITP Summer Connections as a way for district personnel around the state to learn about a variety of agency services. We will be including a panel of professionals to discuss their experiences and expectations of working with people with disabilities.
- The AITP has developed, printed, and handed out to schools/parents/agencies, a Resource Guide. These guides were developed for schools and agencies to give to parents as a way to help increase parental awareness of the importance of transition and resources to help with transition as early as possible. This year we made available a Resource Guide in Spanish. Also this year ATS had to run a second printing of 25,000 due to requests.
- This year will be the 12th annual College Bound Arkansas. This is a yearly event held in collaboration with University of Central Arkansas. It is a three day residential program intended to increase students with disabilities knowledge of accommodations, assistive technologies, leadership skills, and other exciting aspects of college life. Parents and professionals are also invited to attend and learn about the possibilities for their children and students at the college level.
- State Level Organizations Served:
 - AITP - Executive Committee
 - Arkansas Council on Exceptional Children (AR-CEC) sub-division Division of Career Development and Transition (DCDT) - State President
 - Member of the State Core Team for National Technical Assistance Center Transition (NTACT) Intensive Technical Assistance State
 - Member of State Work Program work group. Helped to set up Opportunities for Work Based Learning (OWL) Program. This is a collaboration with ATS and Arkansas Rehabilitation Services (ARS) to provide funding for schools to have work based learning opportunities.

Coop Level

- Transition Fairs – ATS promotes and provides technical assistance for districts and regions that want to have a Transition Fair. The fairs are opportunities for students, parents, and teachers to connect with state and local agencies that can provide assistance.
 - NWAESC
 - Benton County Transition Fair (Bentonville, Rogers) – 100 plus attendees
 - Springdale Transition Fair – Over 550 students, 47 Vendors, and 15 parents.
 - Arkansas Rehabilitation Services Transition Workshop - 400+ students
 - OUR
 - Harrison Transition Fair-Held in combination with CTE students from across the OUR Coop area
 - WAESC
 - Greenwood Transition Fair – 300 Students. This year included students from Mansfield, Hartford, Lavaca, Booneville, Paris, Charleston
- Focused Transition Nights
 - GFESC – Greenwood has continued with Focused Transition Nights this year. These are held each quarter for parents/families to get specific information on things like the Arkansas Work Incentives (Project AWIN), Medicaid Waiver program, College information, etc..
 - NWAESC – Gravette held their first Transition Night to provide parents information on Transition and opportunities for their children as they move toward graduation.
- Coop Trainings – 2 all day trainings were offered over the past summer at all 3 Coops.
 - “Transition Toolkit” and “Transition Planning: Considerations for Students on the Autism Spectrum and Students with Intellectual Disabilities”
 - 81 attendees
 - NWAESC – Fayetteville, Decatur, Rogers, Siloam Springs, Bentonville, Lincoln, Huntsville, Elkins, UAFS, Springdale, Prairie Grove
 - OUR – Mt. Judea, Lead Hill, Oark, St. Joe, Bruno-Pyatt, Deer
 - GFESC – Magazine, Waldron, Cedarville, Westside, Mulberry, Greenwood, Charleston, Alma, Paris, County Line, Ozark, Mansfield, Lavaca
 - Fort Smith Schools-2 Modified Toolkit Trainings-24 attendees
- Rogers – This year Rogers is a District Leadership Team in Transition. They took part in training all of the High School teachers in the new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and how the collaboration with Arkansas Rehabilitation Services (ARS) can improve the Transition outcomes for their students.

- The Transition Requirements Review and New IEP Paperwork Introduction was given to 61 teachers
 - NWAESC – Bentonville West HS, Gravette, NWA Classical Academy
 - OUR – Berryville, Flippin, Harrison, Green Forrest, Jasper, Searcy Co.
 - GFESC – Greenwood, Mulberry, Scranton, Mountainburg
- Transition Class Consults were given to 6 districts
 - GFESC – Greenwood (7), Mulberry, Fort Smith (5), Ozark, Van Buren (2), Hackett
- Transition File Reviews – 2 districts
 - OUR – Searcy County
 - GFESC – Mulberry
- Student Conferences Attended – 5
 - GFESC – Greenwood, Fort Smith, Ozark
 - NWAESC – Springdale High School, Pea Ridge
- Person Centered Plans Facilitated – 4
 - GFESC – Ozark (2), Alma, Mulberry
- OWL Program Consultations –
 - NWAESC – Huntsville (2), Springdale Harbor High School (2)
 - GFESC – Ozark
- Presentations to Students
 - GFESC – Greenwood, Ozark
 - NWAESC - Pathfinders
- Meetings regularly attended
 - AASEA Area I and Area II (Special Education Supervisors)
 - AR-CEC Board Meetings
 - AITP Board and General Membership Meetings
 - Child and Adolescent System Service Program (CASSP) – Fort Smith Region and NWA Region
 - Project Search partners
 - Fayetteville Public Schools/Washington Regional Medical Center/Life Styles
 - Sebastian, Crawford and surrounding County Schools/Mercy Hospital/Access-This program has just started and will be up and running for fall of 2018.
 - Transition Team Meetings
 - NWAESC – Rogers
 - OUR - Harrison
 - GFESC – Greenwood, Van Buren

- Other Presentations:
 - AR-CEC Conference – “Transitioning a Mild/Moderate Child”.
 - UA Transition Class – “Transition in Arkansas-an Overview”
 - UA Conference on Autism and Intellectual Disabilities – Presented with team on ATS/ARS Collaboration.
 - NTACT National Capacity Building Institute – May 2017 in Kansas City, MO will be presenting on our state collaborative measures with Arkansas Rehabilitation Services.
- Trainings/Conferences Attended:
 - NTACT National Capacity Building Institute – Kansas City, MO
 - DCDT International Conference – Milwaukee, WI
 - Arkansas SPED Consultant Training
 - Arkansas LEA Academy
 - Arkansas Mental Health in Education Association Conference
 - Step Up to Healthcare Transition Conference

PROGRAM: Gifted and Talented Program/GT Specialist, Contracted for FTE 0.75

FUNDING SOURCE: Arkansas Department of Education & Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative, and School Districts contribution

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No **X**

RESTRICTED **X** **NON-RESTRICTED** ___

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS:

Bentonville, Decatur, Elkins, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Huntsville, Lincoln, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Rogers, Siloam Springs, Springdale, and West Fork

PERSONNEL:

Dustin Seaton	Gifted and Talented Specialist	M.A.Ed
Stephanie Gutierrez	Administrative Assistant	N/A

GOAL:

The state of Arkansas Education Department has mandated that all public school districts provide differentiated educational services for students with these identified abilities: academically advance, highly creative, and/or high achieving/motivated students. As one of the state's 15 education service cooperatives, the GT Specialist position provides support and services in the 16 school districts located in the northwest Arkansas region (Washington, Benton, and most of Madison counties) as guided by the ADE Gifted and Talented Program and AP Program standards. We facilitate College Board sponsored Pre-AP, AP teacher certification and Secondary Content training as governed by the Arkansas Department of Education. The NWA ESC GT Specialist also provides extracurricular academic events and scholastic competitions for local students.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

The ESC GT Specialist serves and functions as a contact person and GT Program resource to a variety of educational stakeholders located in NWA; including district GT coordinators, GT facilitators (teachers), administrators, students, parents, community members, and community business partners in support of Gifted and Talented Education. Some of the key responsibilities are:

- Facilitating and ensuring that each NWA ESC school district meet all of the ADE's GT program standards, especially those districts slated to be monitored by the state
- Functioning as a conduit for information and positive dialog between the ADE Office for Gifted Programs, Advanced Placement, and IB Programs with NWA ESC school districts
- Providing and conducting monthly meetings with NWA ESC GT Program coordinators
- Making on-site visits to local school districts to provide support and/or in-service topics for all educational stakeholder members

- Attending annual and monthly state meetings; staying connected with other ADE Education Service Cooperative GT Specialists; both in face-to-face meetings as well as electronic conference meetings/ZOOM and sharing events and documentation with Google Doc technology
- Hosting various student academic competitions supported by NWA ESC schools: 3rd and 4th grade STEAM Day, Elementary/Middle School/High School quiz bowl competitions, Elementary/Middle School Science Olympiad events, 3 scholastic regional chess tournaments for students grades 2-12, high school ACE competitions (grades 9-12), assistance with Odyssey of the Mind (OM) and National History Day (NHD) events/judging as well as responding to invitations from AGQBA regional and state competitions and invitational
- Developing and engaging in positive working relationships with local district personnel and ADE office employees connected with GT education and AP testing.
- Conducting appropriate needs-assessment questionnaires related to GT Specialist job in order to set goals and respond to local GT/AP program needs.
- Facilitating, hosting, and presenting educational workshops and trainings, including but not limited to College Board Pre-AP and Secondary Content trainings.
- Responding to requests from NWA teachers providing specific workshop topics, such as GT identification testing materials review, GT program documents review, and GT program staff development instruction materials, GT program curriculum writing workshops, and differentiated instruction trainings.
- Actively participates in the annual AAGEA and AGATE state conference and other advocacy opportunities as a leader and/or organizer, along with belonging to appropriate professional organizations. I have initiated that the NWA ESC establish a cycle to also send the GT Specialist to attend the National Gifted and Talented Conference (NAGC) on a rotating basis.
- Answering emails and phone calls of parents, teachers, administrators, or community members about issues of giftedness and/or opportunities for scholastic competitions
- Supporting and volunteering for GT related regional events: i.e. quiz bowl moderator, AP testing proctor, and other job related requests as needed.
- Serving on the Arkansas Governor's School Student Selection team whenever possible
- Managing all documentation and financial record keeping required by ADE and NWA ESC related to the ESC GT Specialist position (i.e. Strategic Management Place, Quarterly GT GEM newsletter, and maintaining yearly applications for College Board and GT Specialist grant, etc. as well as quiz bowl, Science Olympiad, chess, and ACE budgeting/funds management.
- Maintaining a positive working relationship with all NWA ESC clientele and staff members for best collaborative practices in the region
- Attending NWA ESC board meetings and staff meetings when possible

- Investigating and support the use of blended learning opportunities (digital learning) as a way to deliver information and instruction

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

- 16 NWA School Districts' GT Programs all certified by ADE fully compliant with GT program standards for the 2017-2018 school year
- Dustin worked, visited, and prepared with all 6 NWA schools that had a Technical Assistance Visit (TAV) from the AR Dept. of Education GT/AP office
- 26 times Dustin travelled to NWA area schools for face-to-face consultations/support
- 4 professional development workshops scheduled for the 2018 summer related to GT education and another 2 workshops for general education
- Dustin attended and presented at the AAGEA Conference in September, Arkansas Curriculum Conference (ACC) in November 2017, Arkansans for Gifted and Talented Education (AGATE) conference in March 2018
- Dustin attended the NAGC Leadership and Advocacy National Conference in Washington, D.C. to advocate for GT funding in the Javits Act with Arkansas congressional leadership
- Dustin worked with 15 novice social studies and GT teachers in the NWA ESC area for first year teacher advice and guidance
- Dustin established a partnership working with Northwest Arkansas Community College (NWACC) to grow the National History Day (NHD) regional contest
- Dustin hosted 6 NWA monthly GT program coordinators meeting, with guest speakers and presenting information about GT/AP updates
- Dustin was elected President-elect of the statewide AGATE organization in March
- Dustin attended 5 ADE Education Service Cooperative GT Specialist monthly meetings in the 2017-2018 year
- Dustin Seaton, the NWA ESC GT Specialist managed these academic events for the local NWA schools that made a significant impact for NWA ESC participating students:

○ 15 ACE matches/games for 9-12 th graders	9 High Schools	100 students
○ 1 STEAM Day for 3/4 th graders	10 Elementary Schools	220 students
○ 3 chess tournaments for 2-12 th graders	28 Schools	400 students
○ 3 Quiz Bowl tournaments for 4-12 th graders	32 Schools	470 students
○ 2 Science Olympiad competitions for 4-8 th graders	10 Schools	250 students

PROGRAM: K-5 STEM Specialist

FUNDING SOURCE: Arkansas Department of Education

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No X

RESTRICTED X **NON-RESTRICTED** ___

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS:

Arkansas Arts Academy, Bentonville, Decatur, Elkins, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Huntsville, Lincoln, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Rogers, Siloam Springs, Springdale, West Fork

PERSONNEL:

Jenny Gammill	K-5 STEM Specialist	M.Ed.
Stephanie Gutierrez	Administrative Assistant	N/A

GOAL:

The Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative, in partnership with the Arkansas Department of Education, will work with Arkansas Public School personnel to meet the following goals related to STEM education:

- To align elementary science and engineering curricula with science state and national frameworks and Common Core State Standards
- To provide professional development and implementation of training related to the STEM disciplines
- To mentor and coach teachers in the classroom
- To provide strategies for integrating science into the literacy block in the elementary classroom
- To collaborate with the NWAESC Computer Science and Science Specialists and the Center for Math and Science to promote high-quality STEM education
- To provide assistance in choosing standards-based instructional resources
- To partner with local community and business organizations to provide STEM training and resources to educators
- To assist schools' professional learning communities in using science ACT Aspire data to inform instructional decision making

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

The elementary STEM program at the Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative is based on the identified teacher needs of the Northwest Arkansas school districts. These include

increasing teachers' content knowledge, sharing best practices, disseminating research, locating and developing supplemental teaching resources, assisting with data-driven decision making, and increasing parental involvement. Each opportunity supports the state and national goal of STEM literacy for all students. The specialist is continuing to build relationships with other specialists, administrators, teachers, university officials and community and business organizations in order to best support STEM education throughout the region.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

- Collaborated with Co-op's Science Specialist and CMASE's Science Specialist to continue the work of supporting K-2, 3-5, and 5-8 science cadres that were started in the 2016-17 SY. The work of the cadres included providing professional development on new STEM lessons and state science assessments, sharing best practices and current instructional resources, communicating the latest information from state and national organizations, and creating a space for teachers to collaborate. Forty K-5 teachers and twenty-three 5-8 teachers participated from fifteen Northwest Arkansas school districts.
- Supported professional learning communities in several different districts including Prairie Grove, Fayetteville, Siloam Springs, Elkins and Lincoln to assist teachers in aligning science curriculum and choosing resources to support learning.
- Partnered with the Amazeum to create professional development on integrating literacy into their field trips and assisted with promoting opportunities for additional on-site teacher professional development.
- Collaborated with Springdale's Science TOSA (Teacher On Special Assignment) to align grade level resources and create a series of webinars to train elementary teachers on various topics related to the Next Generation Science Standards
- Partnered with the Co-op's Computer Science Specialist to provide a semester of after school STEM programming to students at the Yvonne Richardson Center in Fayetteville and to bring computer science education into the elementary classroom using hands-on coding resources
- Partnered with the Co-op's GT specialist to overhaul the Science Olympiad competition and create engaging sessions that challenged students through engineering design
- Collaborated with a group of state science specialists to create statewide professional development to support elementary teachers in teaching science and helping students make sense of science phenomena by effectively engaging students in science and engineering practices.

PROGRAM: Science Specialist

FUNDING SOURCE: Arkansas Department of Education

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No **X**

RESTRICTED **X NON-RESTRICTED ___**

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS:

Arkansas Arts Academy, Bentonville, Decatur, Elkins, Eureka Springs, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Huntsville, Lincoln, Mena, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Rogers, Searcy County, Siloam Springs, Springdale, West Fork

PERSONNEL:

Cayce Neal	Science Specialist	B.S.
Stephanie Gutierrez	Administrative Assistant	N/A

GOAL:

The Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative, in partnership with the Arkansas Department of Education, will work with Arkansas Public School personnel to meet the following goals:

- to support schools as they align standards to curriculum to assessment
- to align classroom assessment with statewide science exams
- to promote instructional strategies that support all three dimensions of the state standards
- to mentor and coach teachers in the classroom
- to educate about current scientific and educational research
- to provide assistance in choosing standards-based instructional resources
- to support schools as they design and implement common assessment and the RTI process

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

The science program at the Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative is based on the identified needs of teachers in the Northwest Arkansas school districts. These include supporting the growth of teachers' content knowledge and pedagogy, facilitating collaboration among districts, assisting with data-driven decision making particularly with the RTI process, researching and developing supplemental teaching resources, and supporting Grasping Phenomenal Science, the Arkansas Department of Education's science initiative.

The specialist is continuing to build relationships within districts in order to best support schools in the region.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

- Collaborated with multiple school districts this year to provide ongoing professional development for all the science teachers in the districts. Participating districts include: Decatur, Gentry, Rogers, and West Fork
- Continued the middle school and high school science cadres with area science teachers with the purpose of developing teachers' skills with phenomena-based instruction, using student models to demonstrate understanding, and disciplinary literacy and argumentative writing to blend science, engineering, and literacy skills. Participating schools include: Arkansas Arts Academy, Decatur, Elkins, Eureka Springs, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gravette, Greenland, Huntsville, Lincoln, Mena, Pea Ridge, Searcy County School District, Siloam Springs, Springdale, West Fork
- Continued the Science Leadership PLC, bringing together science leaders from all districts for collaboration; products include middle school rubrics for standards-based grading on the science and engineering practices, classroom observations between districts, and testing prep assistance
- Worked with a team of state science specialists to design Grasping Phenomenal Science professional development for summer PD implementation
- Partnered with the computer science specialist to provide professional development that blended computer science skills and science instruction
- Partnered with STEM specialist to provide professional development for K-4 science teachers
- Supported 5-12 grade novice science teachers with 4 mentoring sessions. Participating districts include: Arkansas Arts Academy, Bentonville, Huntsville, Lincoln, Siloam Springs, Springdale, West Fork
- Partnered with APPEL (non-traditional licensure program) to provide professional development for year 1 teachers during their content specific week; supported these teachers in their classrooms throughout the year

PROGRAM: TALENTS: Teachers and Administrators Leading Every Novice To Success

FUNDING SOURCE: ADE Grant

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No X

RESTRICTED X **NON-RESTRICTED** ___

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS:

Bentonville, Decatur, Elkins, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Huntsville, Lincoln, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Rogers, Siloam Springs, Springdale, West Fork, Arkansas Arts Academy, Northwest AR Classical Academy, AR Connections Academy

PERSONNEL:

Marcia Sanders	Talents / Novice Teacher Coordinator	M.S.Ed
Tina Storm	Administrative Assistant	N/A

GOAL:

1. Each novice teacher will meet or exceed educational milestones along pathways to become an effective teacher who remains in the profession for many years.
2. Each novice teacher will meet or exceed his/her expected individual professional growth annually.
3. Each novice teacher will develop and apply professional competencies that foster learning, community engagement, and success in life among his/her students.
4. Each novice teacher will be actively engaged in a professional learning community within his/her school that successfully contributes to the academic growth of each student.
5. The Northwest AR Education Cooperative and its partners, through the TALENTS program, will build the capacity of each novice teacher to provide efficient and effective education that benefits students, respects their veteran colleagues, and serves their students, district, and community.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

In cooperation with their member districts, NWAESC developed the TALENTS program - Teachers and Administrators Leading Every Novice To Success - to service novice teachers in the region. TALENTS served 330 novice teachers during the 2017-2018 school year through a variety of means. Fifteen cohorts, based on grade bands and discipline areas, met for a half-day each quarter to gain new information and insight, celebrate successes, vent frustrations, and share concerns. Literacy, math, science and social studies sessions were led by NWAESC staff while Athletics/P.E. and counselors led by higher ed instructors from the University of AR Fayetteville and John Brown University and fine arts novices met with staff from the Walton Arts Center. The program covered the cost of the sessions as well as paying for the novice's substitute. In alignment with local districts' desires to limit time away from their classes, a summer conference is scheduled for June 4-7 which will focus on the two areas identified through surveys of novices and their building administrators: classroom management and lesson planning. Thirty-eight

sessions have been scheduled that primarily target these two areas. Additional trainings related to classroom management were also scheduled for the fall.

In addition, TALENTS focused on helping area administrators develop a culture of collaboration and support in their buildings that would provide an environment of support for the novices. Understanding the impact on novices of effective leadership and support from peers, this portion of TALENTS centered around this quote from John Wink's book, *A Leader's Guide to Excellence in Every Classroom* : Leaders must create schools in which all educators have responsibility for guaranteeing every teacher's success. To that end, two sessions were held that focused on how to build that culture through Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and through a focus on building leadership. Additional training was provided via Leadership Quests, facilitated by two area principals.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

1. TESS Law and Process Trainings provided at the Co-op during the summer and early fall, onsite at districts (as requested) and at the University of AR for secondary MAT students
2. Fifteen cohorts of novice teachers were formed which met for one half-day during each quarter. The groups and their lead facilitators were as follows:
 - K-2 Literacy - Kim Brown, NWAESC Literacy Specialist
 - K-2 Mathematics - Rea Smith, NWAESC Mathematics Specialist
 - K-4 STEM - Jenny Gammill, NWAESC STEM Specialist
 - 3-5 Literacy - Lisa Coats, NWAESC English Language Learner Specialist
 - 3-5 Mathematics - Rea Smith, NWAESC Mathematics Specialist
 - 5-8 Literacy - Stephanie Miles, NWAESC Literacy Specialist
 - 5-8 Mathematics - Rea Smith, NWAESC Mathematics Specialist
 - 5-12 Science - Cayce Neal, NWAESC Science Specialist
 - 5-12 Social Studies - Dustin Seaton, NWAESC Gifted & Talented Coordinator
 - 9-12 Literacy - Judy Fields, NWAESC Literacy Specialist
 - 9-12 Mathematics - Jigish Patel, NWAESC Computer Science Specialist
 - 7-12 Career and Technical Educators - Cheryl Pickering, NWAESC Career and Technical Education Coordinator
 - K-12 Fine Arts - Dr. Patricia Relph and Sallie Zazal, Walton Arts Center - Arts Learning Specialists
 - K-12 Physical Education and Athletics - Jack Kern, University of Arkansas Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Clinical Instructor
 - K-12 Special Education - Christi Gadberry, NWAESC Vision Specialist (ESVI - Educational Services for the Visually Impaired)

- K-12 Counselors - Dr. Judy Winslett, John Brown University Assistant Professor of School Counseling
3. Administrator Training
 - John Eller - Solution Tree Author and Presenter
 - John Wink - Solution Tree Author and Presenter
 4. Novice Teacher Summer Conference - June 4-7, 2018
 - Featured Speakers:
 - ❖ Cassandra Erkens - Solution Tree Author and Presenter - led two days of training on developing effective standards-based lessons and identifying effective methods of informative assessment to ensure student learning
 - ❖ Oretha Ferguson - Co-author (with Harry Wong) of THE Classroom Management Book - led two days of training on establishing a culture of learning in the classroom - creating, teaching, and implementing procedures, developing an effective behavior plan, etc.
 - Follow-up sessions on lesson planning led by specialists in the field
 - ❖ K-2 literacy
 - ❖ K-2 math
 - ❖ 3-5 literacy
 - ❖ 3-5 math
 - ❖ 5-8 literacy
 - ❖ 5-8 math
 - ❖ 5-12 science
 - ❖ 5-12 social studies
 - ❖ K-12 fine arts
 - ❖ K-12 Career and Technical Education
 - ❖ K-12 physical education
 - Multiple sessions for special education
 - Additional sessions on
 - ❖ Parent Involvement
 - ❖ Differentiation
 - ❖ Working with Children in Poverty
 - ❖ Formative Assessment
 - ❖ Struggling Learners
 - ❖ English Language Learners
 - ❖ GOOGLE in the classroom

PROGRAM: Literacy

FUNDING SOURCE: Arkansas Department of Education

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ☐ No ☒

RESTRICTED ☒ **NON-RESTRICTED** ☐

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS:

Bentonville, Arkansas Arts Academy, Decatur, Elkins, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Lincoln, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Rogers, Siloam Springs, Springdale, West Fork

PERSONNEL:

Stephanie Miles,	6-8 Literacy Specialist	M.S.Ed
Tina Storm,	Administrative Assistant	A.A.

GOAL: The primary goals of the Literacy Specialist are to promote, develop, and support effective literacy instruction for all K-12 students through a combination of professional development and technical support for teachers, administrators, and parents. Assistance with the Arkansas Curriculum Frameworks for English Language Arts is designed to increase student achievement to ensure college and career readiness for all students.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

Professional Development programs are designed for literacy development in language arts, reading development, and content classrooms. Implementation is achieved with on-site support with classroom teachers, instructional facilitators, and administrators. Special projects and grant programs are also cooperatively conducted with the Arkansas Department of Education, such as:

Instructional Facilitation K-12 The instructional facilitation program provides ongoing training and assistance to districts with the instructional facilitators. This site-based professional development is based on the research of Stephen Barkley, Jim Knight, and Diane Sweeney.

School Improvement Support

Literacy specialists are available to assist in the school improvement process. Support includes meeting with school support teams, ACSIP chairs, administrators, and teachers to provide specific learning opportunities and to analyze both summative and formative data.

Strategic Instruction Model (SIM): The University of Kansas-Center for Research on Learning has developed the Strategic Instruction Model® to address the learning needs of

at-risk adolescent learners. Learning strategies such as word identification, word mapping, sentence writing proficiency, and paraphrasing are taught explicitly through eight stages of learning. Content enhancement routines are also taught to provide instructional tools that help learners organize and recall information as they work with the Arkansas State Standards in their content classrooms.

On-site Support as Requested:

Literacy specialists are available upon request to provide on-site professional development, technical assistance, and consultation on a variety of literacy needs and requests.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

- Provided professional development for Northwest Arkansas novice teachers.
- Designed and presented professional development to Northwest Arkansas educators regarding data analyzation and analytics, Argumentative Writing, bridging current writing programs to the high school classroom, comprehension strategies that engage and develop ELA students, developing authentic assessments, developing effective lesson plans, supporting resource students in the regular classroom, classroom management, and program evaluation of current writing programs.
- Designed and presented on-site professional development to address the design and delivery of instruction in the English Language Arts classroom.
- Facilitated educator discussions and collaborative efforts in regards to possible changes needed in district and school current curriculum.
- Provided on-site support to Northwest Arkansas schools through the administering of oral reading fluency (ORF) screeners in an effort to identify and fully serve students in need of support.

PROGRAM: Literacy

FUNDING SOURCE: ADE Learning Services Division, K-12 Literacy

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No X

RESTRICTED X **NON-RESTRICTED** ___

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS:

Bentonville, Benton County Arts Academy, Decatur, Elkins, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Lincoln, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Rogers, Siloam springs, Springdale, West Fork

PERSONNEL:

Judy Fields	9-12 Literacy Specialist	Ed.S.
Tina Storm	Administrative Assistant	A.A.

GOAL:

The primary goal of the Literacy Specialist is to support the region's personnel with implementation of sound pedagogical and research-based literacy instruction through professional learning opportunities offered onsite, virtually, and at NWAESC. Sound pedagogical and researched-based practices include gathering and interpreting formative as well as summative student performance data and developing curriculum and strategies that fulfill all students' needs as they work to become career ready.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

Professional learning opportunities are developed based on districts' needs and requests with regard to literacy instruction in reading, language arts, writing, disciplinary literacy, and Arkansas Department of Education initiatives. Implementation is achieved through onsite support with classroom teachers, instructional facilitators, interventionists, and administrators. Specific implementation and support has been provided for the following programs over the past year:

Instructional Facilitation K-12

The instructional facilitation program provides ongoing training and assistance to districts with instructional facilitators through onsite professional development.

School Improvement Support

Literacy specialists are available to assist districts in the school improvement process including meeting with school support teams, ACSIP chairs, administrators, and teachers to provide specific guidance in analyzing both summative and formative data.

Onsite Support as Requested

Literacy specialists are available upon request to provide onsite professional development, technical assistance, and consultation regarding a variety of literacy needs and requests.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

- Continued the **Adolescent Literacy Council** for grades 6-12. It is designed to provide a forum for discussion of specific needs and concerns at the district, building, and classroom level. The NWAESC Adolescent Literacy Council is a collaborative community that promotes open discussion centered on ideas and challenges to formulate solutions, develop evidenced-based best practice plans, and positively impact the school community by providing guidance, resources, and support. The following districts have sent representatives to council meetings 2017-2018: Greenland, Lincoln, Elkins, Farmington, Springdale, Gentry, Siloam Springs, Pea Ridge, Gravette, and Decatur.
- Created surveys prior to delivering district-requested workshops to tailor presentations to the specific needs of the district.
- Coordinated with Career and Technical specialist, Cheryl Pickering, to develop literacy training for CTE instructors.
- Designed the following learning opportunities that were delivered either at NWAESC or onsite at West Fork, Gravette, Pea Ridge, Decatur, Siloam Springs, Bentonville, Gentry, Farmington, Lincoln, Prairie Grove, Greenland, Elkins, St. Paul, Huntsville, and Rogers: Webb's Depth of Knowledge Training, support for Critical Reading implementation, oral reading fluency screening, Dyslexia Level 1 screening, and Novice Teacher support through TALENTS.

PROGRAM: Literacy

FUNDING SOURCE: Arkansas Department of Education

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No X

RESTRICTED X **NON-RESTRICTED** ___

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS: Arkansas Arts Academy, Bentonville, Decatur, Elkins, Farmington, Fayetteville, Fort Smith, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Huntsville, Lincoln, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Rogers, Siloam Springs, Springdale, St. Paul, St. Joseph's Catholic School, The New School, West Fork

PERSONNEL:

Kim Brown	K-5 Literacy Specialist	M.S.Ed.
Tina Storm	Administrative Assistant	A.A.

GOAL:

The primary goal of the Literacy Specialists is to promote, develop, and support effective literacy instruction that matches the Science of Reading for all K-12 students through a combination of professional development and technical support for teachers, administrators, and parents.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

Professional Development programs are designed for literacy development in language arts, reading development, and content classrooms. Implementation is achieved with on-site support with classroom teachers, instructional facilitators, and administrators. Special projects and grant programs are also cooperatively conducted with the Arkansas Department of Education.

This year's K-5 professional development focused on the shift in classroom and intervention instructional strategies based on the Science of Reading. The professional development had a continued focus on Phonics and Word Study instruction in core instruction with an added focus on Whole Group and Small Group Instruction, and how to better understand and use assessment data to drive instruction in core and Tier 2. Classroom and technical support for teachers and administrators was provided by the literacy specialist in these areas and also an increased assistance in RTI. This technical support was provided and tailored to each individual school or district's needs.

Professional Development June 1, 2017- April 30, 2018:

6-1-17	Simplifying RTI for Elem K-6	35 participants
6-5/6-17	K-1 ICLF M2 Phonics/Word Study (2 Days)	17 participants
6-8-17	Simplifying RTI for Elem K-6	38 participants

6-13-17	What Makes a “Good” Reading Intervention in the Classroom? Grades 3 and 4	22 participants
6-20-17	2017 DMESC Summer SPED Conference	97 participants
6-21-17	Increase the DOK in your Math, Literacy, Science & Soc St with Effective Questioning! Grades 3-6	28 participants
7-19-17	K-1 ICLF M4 Shared Reading	13 participants
8-2/3/4-17	RISE Academy Days 1, 2, 3 (3 Days)	69 participants
8-31-17	Fall K-5 Literacy Council Meeting	22 participants
9-6-17	Fall Dyslexia Contact Meeting	21 participants
9-22-17	RISE Academy Administrator	50 participants
9-26-17	Text Analysis for Small Group Instructional Reading	22 participants
10-3-17	RISE Day 4 Kindergarten	25 participants
10-5-17	RISE Day 4 1 st Grade	16 participants
10-10-17	RISE Day 4 2 nd Grade	20 participants
10-24-17	Novice Teacher Forum: K-2 Literacy and The Science of Reading	17 participants
10-30-17	Dyslexia Contact Meeting	27 participants
12-18-17	Dyslexia Contact Meeting	16 participants
1-9-18	Novice Teacher Forum: K-2 Literacy	5 participants
1-22-18	RISE Day 5 Kindergarten	20 participants
1-24-18	RISE Day 5 1 st Grade	21 participants
1-25-18	RISE Day 5 2 nd Grade	23 participants
1-30-18	Text Analysis for Small Group K-1 Day 3	38 participants
2-20-18	Novice Teacher Forum: K-2 Literacy	8 participants
2-26-18	Dyslexia Contact Meeting	30 participants
3-8-18	RISE Academy Day 6 Kindergarten	17 participants
3-13-18	RISE Academy Day 6 1 st Grade	21 participants
3-15-18	RISE Academy Day 6 2 nd Grade	21 participants

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

- RISE Academy Trainer professional development
- Site-based observations with RISE Academy teachers, principals and instructional facilitators representing our participating school districts. These site-based observations focused on the implementation of instructional strategies and shifts in small group instruction based on the Science of Reading. In PLC meetings, we debriefed and had collaborative discussion on how to use student data to plan for whole group, small group, and intervention instructional time.

- Collaborated with a couple of districts in the area to add to teacher knowledge on the process of RTI and support in improving their process within their district. This is a continuing support as the schools become more and more efficient with the process.
- Continue to train large number of teachers in our area in content knowledge and best practices in regards to Phonics and Word Study in grades K-5 for Core Instruction and how to use initial screeners/diagnostic assessments for all levels of RTI
- Provided support for novice teachers in our area from several schools in The Science of Reading, best practices in the classroom, and classroom management. Also, support with the effect of new laws put in place at the last legislative session.
- Provided hours of technical support to area schools, as needed, in regards to phonics/word study, whole group and small group reading instruction, and RTI
- Continued the professional development required to continue being a certified Trainer for LETRS Foundations
- Collaborated with other literacy specialist in creating statewide professional development of Small Group Reading Instruction. This was created to support teachers as they make shifts in their practice to align with The Science of Reading. Provided a Trainer of Training for the literacy specialist from across the state.

PROGRAM: Literacy

FUNDING SOURCE: Arkansas Department of Education

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No X

RESTRICTED X **NON-RESTRICTED** ___

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS: Arkansas Arts Academy, Bentonville, Decatur, Elkins, Farmington, Fayetteville, Fort Smith, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Huntsville, Lincoln, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Rogers, Siloam Springs, Springdale, St. Paul, St. Joseph's Catholic School, The New School, West Fork

PERSONNEL:

Penny Ezell	K-5 Literacy Specialist	M.A.T.
Tina Storm	Administrative Assistant	A.A.

GOAL:

The primary goal of the Literacy Specialists is to promote, develop, and support effective literacy instruction for all K-12 students through a combination of professional development and technical support for teachers, administrators, and parents.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

Professional Development programs are designed for literacy development in language arts, reading development, and content classrooms. Implementation is achieved with on-site support with classroom teachers, instructional facilitators, and administrators. Special projects and grant programs are also cooperatively conducted with the Arkansas Department of Education.

This year's K-5 professional development focused on the shift in classroom and intervention instructional strategies based on the Science of Reading. The professional development had a continued focus on Phonics and Word Study instruction in core instruction with an added focus on Whole Group and Small Group Instruction, and how to better understand and use assessment data to drive instruction in core and Tier 2. Classroom and technical support for teachers and administrators was provided by the literacy specialist in these areas and also an increased assistance in RTI. This technical support was provided and tailored to each individual school or district's needs.

Professional Development June 1, 2017- April 30, 2018:

6-6-17	Dyslexia Awareness & the RTI Connection	15 participants
6-8-17	Phonological Awareness	7 participants
6-12-17	Word Study: Morphology Grades 4-8	13 participants

6-15/16-17	ICLF M3 Grades 4-5 Whole Group & Small Group Reading Instruction – Days 1 & 2	14 participants
6-26/27-17	Whole Group and Small Group Reading Instruction Grades 2-3 Days 1 & 2	22 participants
6-29-17	Grades 3-5: Going Deeper with Literacy Text In Whole Group and Small Groups Day 1	9 participants
7-6-17	From the Paper to the Screen: Best Ways To Brainstorm to Compose Digitally In Grades 3-5	21 participants
7-21-17	Text Analysis for Small Group Instructional Reading Day 1	24 participants
8-2/3/4-17	RISE Academy Days 1, 2, 3 (3 Days)	69 participants
8-8-17	Dyslexia Training	71 participants
8-8-17	Dyslexia and the RTI Connection	14 participants
8-9-17	Farmington Literacy Training	43 participants
8-31-17	Fall K-5 Literacy Council Meeting	22 participants
9-6-17	Fall Dyslexia Contact Meeting	21 participants
9-22-17	RISE Academy Administrator	50 participants
9-26-17	Text Analysis for Small Group Instructional Reading	22 participants
10-3-17	RISE Day 4 Kindergarten	25 participants
10-5-17	RISE Day 4 1 st Grade	16 participants
10-10-17	RISE Day 4 2 nd Grade	20 participants
10-17-17	Level 2 Dyslexia Screening Training for Dyslexia Contacts	6 participants
10-30-17	Dyslexia Contact Meeting	27 participants
11-3-17	Whole Group/Small Group Grades 4-5	17 participants
11-29-17	Digging Deeper with Literary Texts Gr3-5	5 participants
12-1-17	Grades 2-3 Whole Group/Small Group Day 3	18 participants
12-15-17	Text Analysis for Small Group Instruction Day 2	40 participants
12-18-17	Dyslexia Contact Meeting	16 participants
1-15-18	ELA Morphology Training	14 participants
1-22-18	RISE Day 5 Kindergarten	20 participants
1-24-18	RISE Day 5 1 st Grade	21 participants
1-25-18	RISE Day 5 2 nd Grade	23 participants
1-30-18	Text Analysis for Small Group K-1 Day 3	38 participants
2-26-18	Dyslexia Contact Meeting	30 participants
3-8-18	RISE Academy Day 6 Kindergarten	17 participants
3-13-18	RISE Academy Day 6 1 st Grade	21 participants
3-15-18	RISE Academy Day 6 2 nd Grade	21 participants

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

- RISE Academy Trainer professional development
- Site-based observations with RISE Academy teachers, principals and instructional facilitators representing our participating school districts. These site-based observations focused on the implementation of instructional strategies and shifts in small group instruction based on the Science of Reading. In PLC meetings, we debriefed and had collaborative discussion on how to use student data to plan for whole group, small group, and intervention instructional time.
- Collaborated with several districts in the area to create a scope and sequence and video series to be used in PLCs to add to teacher knowledge on the science of reading when using the Phonetic Connections curriculum. This had been rolled out with IFs and principals this year on how to use this Google Classroom resource. There are still plans to create a Google Classroom for Phonics First schools as well.
- Collaborated with a couple of districts in the area to add to teacher knowledge on the process of RTI and support in improving their process within their district. This is a continuing support as the schools become more and more efficient with the process.
- Continue to train large number of teachers in our area in content knowledge and best practices in regards to Phonics and Word Study in grades K-5 for Core Instruction and how to use initial screeners/diagnostic assessments for all levels of RTI
- Provided support for novice teachers in our area from several schools in The Science of Reading, best practices in the classroom, and classroom management. Also, support with the effect of new laws put in place at the last legislative session.
- Provided hours of technical support to area schools, as needed, in regards to phonics/word study, whole group and small group reading instruction, and RTI
- Continued the professional development required to continue being a certified Trainer for LETRS Foundations
- Created statewide professional development on Small Group Reading Instruction. This was created to support teachers as they make shifts in their practice to align with The Science of Reading. Provided a Trainer of Training for the literacy specialist from across the state.

PROGRAM: Dyslexia

FUNDING SOURCE: Arkansas Department of Education

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No X

RESTRICTED X **NON-RESTRICTED** ___

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS: Arkansas Arts Academy, Bentonville, Decatur, Elkins, Farmington, Fayetteville, Fort Smith, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Haas Hall Academy, Huntsville, Lincoln, Pea Ridge, Ozark Montessori, Prairie Grove, Rogers, Siloam Springs, West Fork

PERSONNEL:

Penny Ezell	K-5 Literacy Specialist	M.A.T.
Kim Brown	K-5 Literacy Specialist	M.S.Ed
Tina Storm	Administrative Assistant	A.A.

GOAL: The goal of the dyslexia group at the co-op is to provide guidance with the dyslexia law and provide professional development to the dyslexia contacts from each school district.

PROGRAM SUMMARY: The dyslexia contacts met on a regular basis focusing on a variety of topics to help raise awareness of dyslexia in our schools, provide guidance on different program options, understand screeners and the different types of Level 1 and Level 2 assessments to best identify students with dyslexia, and create plans to better equip schools to use RTI and discuss where dyslexia fits into the RTI process. There was also a major focus in professional development to help schools understand how to best use their RTI process and data to best help students based on their needs.

Professional Development June 1, 2017- April 30, 2018:

6-6-17	Dyslexia Awareness & the RTI Connection	15 participants
8-8-17	Dyslexia Training	71 participants
8-8-17	Dyslexia and the RTI Connection	14 participants
9-6-17	Fall Dyslexia Contact Meeting	21 participants
10-17-17	Level 2 Dyslexia Screening Training for Dyslexia Contacts	6 participants
10-30-17	Dyslexia Contact Meeting	27 participants
12-18-17	Dyslexia Contact Meeting	16 participants
2-26-18	Dyslexia Contact Meeting	30 participants

Training Penny Ezell, Dyslexia Contact, and Kim Brown, Dyslexia Co-Contact received:

- Continued LETRS training
- Continued Dyslexia Training from Vicki King, ADE

Presented session at the Arkansas Dyslexia Conference in March 2018

- Making the Shift in Small Group Reading Instruction

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

10-30-17 We had ADE Dyslexia Specialist, Vicki King, visit and talk with the District Dyslexia Contacts. Discussion centered around what the screenings show us at the K-2 level and the expectation of the schools for providing services at this level – and what the interventions may look like not only in Tier II or III, but also in Tier I – core instruction. At this meeting, we included an open agenda for questions pertaining to any updates or confusions with the Dyslexia law.

Through these contact meetings and professional development provided, districts now

- Have raised the awareness of dyslexia and how to intervene for these students
- Have a better understanding of how dyslexia fits into the overall RTI process
- Have a better understanding of how to interpret data in regards to K-1 prevention
- Have increased, targeted instruction in the core when it comes to phonics/word study
- Have a better understanding of how to look at Level 1 and 2 diagnostic assessments to determine where a student is on the dyslexia continuum to determine the amount of intervention and accommodation support the student may need
- Have a better understanding of how to look at secondary student data and how to use the data to figure out students' needs
- Have knowledge of best assistive technology tools to use with dyslexic students
- Know the new laws that have been passed this legislative session in regards to dyslexia and the implications of those laws on school districts

PROGRAM: Mathematics Specialist

FUNDING SOURCE: Arkansas Department of Education

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No X

RESTRICTED X **NON-RESTRICTED** ___

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS:

Arkansas Arts Academy, Bentonville, Decatur, Elkins, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Huntsville, Lincoln, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Rogers, Siloam Springs, Springdale, and West Fork

PERSONNEL:

Rea Smith	K-12 Math Specialist	M.Ed.
Linda Jaslow	Math Project Co-Director	M.S.Ed.
Stephanie Gutierrez	Administrative Assistant	N/A

GOAL:

The primary goal of the Mathematics Specialist is to provide professional development and site based support that inspires positive relationships with and success in mathematics for both educators and students of Northwest Arkansas.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

The mathematics program at the Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative is constantly adapting to meet the varying needs of the Northwest Arkansas school districts. This includes increasing teachers' content and pedagogical knowledge, engaging in action research, assisting with data-driven decision making, and increasing parental awareness of the importance of quality mathematics experiences. Though we differentiate our work for districts/schools/educators, the mathematics program is always working to inspire positive relationships with and success in mathematics. The major focus this year was to continue strengthening relationships with districts and facilitate districts/schools as they worked toward creating a vision of mathematics. This work allowed professional development and site based support to meet specific needs of each district

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

Site Based Support

- Led multiple job embedded opportunities guiding teams of mathematics teachers through the Professional Learning Community process
- Supported the work of the Math Task Force at Fayetteville Public Schools as they created a mathematics curriculum

- Worked collaboratively with other content specialists at the Co-op to deliver a custom session on Depth of Knowledge for K-12 Facilitators in Rogers Public Schools

Face-to-Face Professional Development

- Knowledge of Classroom Culture - 62 educators participated in this two day session on building a culture for student led classrooms.
- Facilitated groups of K-2, 3-5, and 5-8 novice teachers through the work of the TALENTS Program
- Created the Northwest Arkansas Math Forum for K-12 mathematics educators, facilitators, and administrators to come together and begin creating a collective vision of mathematics in Northwest Arkansas and to begin the process of collective inquiry

PROGRAM: CGI Years 1-3

FUNDING SOURCE: District / Participant

COMPETITIVE GRANT: N/A

RESTRICTED __ **NON-RESTRICTED** __

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS:

Pea Ridge, Greenland, Rogers, Gravette, Arkansas Connections Academy, Fayetteville, Bentonville, Elkins, Prairie Grove, Gentry, Ozark, and Huntsville

PERSONNEL:

Cheryl Scott	Trainer	M.A.Ed.
Kendra Bookout	Trainer	Ed.S.
Mary Nevin	Trainer	M.S.Ed.
Linda Jaslow	Trainer	M.S. Ed.
Stacie Mathis	Trainer	M.A.T.
Stephanie Gutierrez	Administrative Assistant	N/A

NUMBER OF TEACHERS TRAINED: 113

GOAL: To train teachers in the instructional model of Cognitively Guided Instruction.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI) is an on-going professional development program designed to assist K-3 teachers in implementing a comprehensive researched-based approach to mathematics instruction in their classrooms. The primary goal of CGI is to increase teachers' knowledge of how children think about mathematics. In this professional development, teachers will:

1. Analyze story problems and number sentences to determine the mathematical demands and recognize student responses in terms of cognitive development.
2. Assess students' thinking and design problems that will develop students understanding of the important concepts and skills.
3. Facilitate discussions that provide a window into children's thinking, strengthen children's ability to reason about arithmetic, and build children's capacity for algebraic reasoning."
4. Learn to engage children in early algebra tasks that enhance the children's learning of arithmetic. Many teachers have been engaged in a continuous 3-year professional development in CGI.

PROGRAM: Extending Children's Mathematics (ECM) Years 1-3

FUNDING SOURCE: District / Participant

COMPETITIVE GRANT: N/A

RESTRICTED ___ **NON-RESTRICTED** ___

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS:

Pea Ridge, Gentry, Fayetteville, Arkansas Arts Academy, Rogers, Prairie Grove, Lincoln, South Conway County, Gravette, Siloam Springs, Dardanelle, Bentonville, Elkins, Ozark, Springdale, Ozark Montessori Academy

PERSONNEL:

Linda Jaslow	Math Project Co-Director	M.S.Ed.
Stephanie Gutierrez	Administrative Assistant	N/A

NUMBER OF TEACHERS TRAINED: 106

GOAL:

Work with Linda Levi (Teachers Development Group) and a working committee in the development of professional development classes Extending Children's Mathematics for grades 3 - 6.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

Work collaboratively with mathematics specialists and university researchers from across the country to revise and develop expectations/materials for Extending Children's Mathematics – Years 1, 2 and 3.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

- Worked collaboratively with teachers from Tucker Elementary in Rogers to conduct action research on fraction equivalence and operations along with multi-digit multiplication and division fluency (3rd-5th grade) to define fluency and determine how to help teachers and students get to that point with plans to use new learning in ECM classes.
- Worked with teachers in study groups from Fayetteville and Bentonville to address areas that they were interested in investigating.
- The creation of the ECM classes has helped define the important building blocks that are critical to the development of children's understanding of CCSSM.

PROGRAM: English Learner Support Program/ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)

FUNDING SOURCE: Arkansas Department of Education

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No X_

RESTRICTED X NON-RESTRICTED ___

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS:

AFESC- Atkins Public Schools, Clinton School District, Conway Public Schools, Danville School District, Dardanelle Public Schools, Dover School District, East End School District, Greenbrier, Heber Springs, Nemo Vista School, Pottsville Public School, Quitman School District, Russellville Schools, South Conway County, Vilonia School District, Western Yell County

ARESC- Pine Bluff Schools, Sheridan School District, Stuttgart School District

CRESC - Armored School District, Blytheville School Dist., Brookland School District, Buffalo Island Central, Gosnell School District, Harrisburg, Jonesboro Public Schools, Manila School District, Marion School District, Marked Tree School Dist., Nettleton School District, Newport School District, Osceola, Rivercrest, Trumann Schools, Valley View School, Westside School District – Jonesboro, Wynne Public Schools

DESC - Arkadelphia Schools, Bauxite School District, Benton School District, Bismarck Public Schools, Bryant Public Schools, Caddo Hills, Centerpoint School, Cutter Morning Star, Fountain Lake School Dist, Glen Rose, Gurdon School District, Hot Springs School Dist., Jessieville School Dist, Lake Hamilton District, Lakeside School District - Hot Springs, Malvern Special School, South Pike County

DQMESC - Dequeen, Dierks School District, Foreman School District, Horatio School District, Mena Public Schools, Mineral Springs, Mount Ida School District, Nashville School District

GFESC - Alma School District, Booneville School Dist, Clarksville, County Line, Fort Smith Public Schools, Greenwood School District, Lamar, Lavaca Public Schools, Magazine Schools, Mansfield School District, Ozark School District, Paris School District, Scranton, Van Buren School District, Waldron School District, Westside School District - Coal Hill

GRESK - Clarendon School District, Forrest City, West Memphis

NCAESC - Batesville School Dist., Cave City, Highland School District, Melbourne School District, Mountain Home, Mountain View School, Salem School District, Southside School District – Batesville

NEESC - Corning Public Schools, Greene County Tech, Jackson County, Paragould School District, Pocahontas School Dist.

NWAESC - Arkansas Arts Academy, Bentonville Public School, Decatur, Elkins School District, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gentry Public Schools, Gravette, Greenland Public Schools, Huntsville, Lincoln, Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, Rogers Public Schools, Siloam Springs Schools, Springdale, West Fork District

OURES - Alpena, Berryville Public Schools, Eureka Springs, Green Forest, Harrison School District, Omaha School

SCESC - Camden Fairview Schools, El Dorado School District, Hampton School District, Harmony Grove School District – Camden, Magnolia School District, Parkers Chapel Schools, Smackover School District

SEESC- Crossett School District, Dermott School District, Drew Central School Dist, Dumas School District, Hamburg School District, Hermitage Public School, Lakeside School District - Lake Village, McGehee School District, Monticello School District, Star City School District, Warren School District

SWESC- Blevins School District, Hope School District, Prescott School District, Texarkana

WDMESC- Bald Knob School District, Beebe School District, Cabot Public Schools, England School District, Lonoke School District, Pangburn District, Riverview School District, Rose Bud School District, Searcy School District, White County Central

Others not in an ESC - Capitol City Lighthouse Academy, Cedar Ridge, Cleveland County, Cossatot River, Covenant Keepers College Preparatory, Estem Public Charter School, Exalt Academy, Jacksonville Lighthouse Charter, Lawrence County School District, Lisa Academy, Little Rock, Little Rock Prep Academy, North Little Rock, Northwest Arkansas Classical Academy, Ozark Montessori Academy Springdale, Pine Bluff Lighthouse Charter, Pulaski County, Quest Middle School - West Little Rock, Two Rivers

Number of English Learners Identified in Each ESC

Educational Cooperative	Total ELL	Total K-12	% ELL
ARCH FORD EDUCATIONAL SERVICE	2632	42385	6.2%
ARK. RIVER EDUC. SERVICE CNTR.	277	16149	1.7%
CROWLEY'S RIDGE EDUCATION COOP	998	36826	2.7%
DAWSON EDUCATION SERVICE CO-OP	2055	42612	4.8%
DEQUEEN/MENA EDUC. CO-OP	1880	12607	14.9%
GREAT RIVERS EDUC. SERV. CO-OP	83	14029	0.6%
GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE	5144	43769	11.8%
NORTH CENTRAL ARK. EDUC CO-OP	596	18783	3.2%
NORTHEAST ARK. EDUC. CO-OP	350	17843	2.0%

NORTHWEST ARK. EDUCATION CO-OP	17122	88932	19.3%
OZARK UNLITD RESOURCE CO-OP	942	14644	6.4%
PULASKI COUNTY SCHOOLS	4991	57909	8.6%
SOUTH CENTRAL SERVICE CO-OP	334	16186	2.1%
SOUTHEAST ARKANSAS EDUCATIONAL	829	16434	5.0%
SOUTHWEST ARK. CO-OP	691	11575	6.0%
WILBUR D. MILLS EDUC. CO-OP	686	28289	2.4%
Grand Total	39610	478972	8.3%

PERSONNEL:

Tricia Kerr	ESOL Program Director	M.Ed
Tresa Cotton	Administrative Assistant	N/A

GOAL:

The Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) English Learner (EL) support program is the result of a collaboration among the Division of Learning Services' Curriculum and Instruction Unit and the Student Assessment Unit and the Division of Public School Accountability's Federal Programs Unit. This program's goal is to provide resources, support, and leadership to assist schools in their efforts to support ELs in the development of the skills needed to communicate effectively in English both in and out of school.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

ADE works with schools and educational cooperatives to:

- Provide assistance through the Teacher Center Coordinators for professional development of teachers and administrators in the implementation of effective English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program design and delivery
- Assist, upon request, with school improvement or ESOL program planning for ELs
- Coordinate ESOL professional development training
- Convene regional meetings of ESOL personnel to discuss strategies and share resources used to instruct ELs under the Arkansas State Standards
- Implement and assess the Arkansas State Board of Education adopted English Language Proficiency Standards
- Provide on-site technical assistance addressing ESOL techniques and strategies

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

- Creation and engagement of the Arkansas ESSA English Learners/Title III Advocate Group—met multiple times from January 2017 to present to inform items related to English Learners in Arkansas' ESSA plan including the creation of the "Professional Judgment Rubric-Exit Criteria Guidance" as well as the creation of a new "Home Language Usage Survey" as described in Arkansas' ESSA Plan

- Collaborated with the Office for Innovation in Education and multiple divisions within ADE to draft the English Learner components of the Arkansas ESSA plan along with obtaining feedback from multiple stakeholder groups
- Participated on ADE's Strategic Plan Management teams every 1st Friday of the month
- Conducted 2nd Annual ADE ESOL Coordinator Conference, November 7, 2017
- ESOL Coordinator Meetings continued or began at ESCs (Northwest, OUR, Wilbur D. Mills, Arch Ford, Dawson, Guy Fenter, Southeast)
- Coordinated with an ELP PD Committee a 5 day EASEL: Ensuring Academic Success for English Learners training at 7 sites simultaneously via Zoom throughout the state along with providing access to a website dedicated to professional development around the ELP Standards <http://www.arkansaselp.org/>
- Verified ELL Funds for districts reporting English Learners
- Collaborated with Joe Rapert and Tresa Cotton to create a "language Minority Student Error Report" to facilitate the ability of districts to clean up their EL related data in eSchool.
- Collaborated with ADE staff to identify ELL Bright Spots throughout the states. Joint team of ADE personnel visited 30 schools and will be compiling best practices to share with other districts.
- Presented professional development sessions at ADE Data Conference, Arkansas Association of School Counselors, Regional School Psychology Specialists' Trainings, AAFC Fall and Spring Conference, ARKTESOL, ADE Reading Conference, National Association of Bilingual Education, Charter School Orientation Training
- Maintained website for English Learners on ADE's website
- Collaborated with Alan Lytle in the support of ELPA21 and other EL Assessment issues
- Collaborated with Miguel Hernandez in the support of Title III districts
- Attended the EL-SCASS trainings in the Summer, Fall, and Winter
- Participated in the National EL Students with Disability Task Force
- Participated on the Identifying ELs with Disabilities Task Force via CCSSO
- Participated on the ELP Standards for EL Students with Disabilities Task Force via CCSSO
- Participated on the national ELPA21 Assessment Design Team
- Coordinated ELP Standards Introduction Trainings at multiple ESCs in Summer 2017
- Provided ESOL Coordinator 101 working sessions/trainings at most ESCs in the Summer of 2017
- Coordinated the efforts of two new English Learner Specialists (one house at Dawson ESC and one housed at Northwest ESC) as well as an English Learner Administrative Assistant.
- Issued and processed a Request for Proposals for the 2018-2020 ESOL Institutes, a professional development program designed to prepare Arkansas educators with the skills

necessary to teach English Learners. Completion of the ESOL Institute training results in an ADE Professional Development Certificate in Teaching English Learners and, at participants' expense, 12 graduate credit hours qualifying them to add an ESL Endorsement to their Arkansas teaching license upon successfully passing the ESL Praxis

- Conducting statewide training on ADE English Learner Updates: ESSA, Entry/Exit Manual, ELPA21 during Summer 2018
- Serving on the state committee to create a micro-credential in cultural competency for the APPEL program
- Participated in Universal Design for Learning training with intent of incorporating UDL principles in professional development and curriculum work pertinent to English Learners
- Will be participating in the Professional Learning Communities Institute in July 2018 with the intent of applying those principles to professional development work related to English Learners

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COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes ___ No X

RESTRICTED X NON-RESTRICTED ___

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EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE	TOTAL ELL	TOTAL K-12	% ELL
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Northwest ESC	17122	88932	19.30%
Ozark Unlimited ESC	942	14644	6.40%
Wilbur D. Mills ESC	686	28289	2.40%
TOTALS	28470	291471	9.60%

PERSONNEL:

Lisa Coats	English Learner Specialist	M.Ed
Tresa Cotton	Administrative Assistant	N/A

GOAL:

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- Implement and assess the Arkansas State Board of Education adopted English Language Proficiency Standards
- Provide on-site technical assistance addressing ESOL techniques and strategies

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

Facilitated monthly/quarterly ESOL coordinator meetings (NWA, OUR, GFESC)

- presented English Language Standards to educators (NWAESC, OUR)
- co-facilitated EASEL training (NEESC)
- consulted with West Fork administrators/teachers to plan for EL instruction and create Program Guide for district
- collaborated with EL Specialist at DESC and Tricia Kerr to update ESOL Program Guide on state website
- facilitated ESOL program guide updates (NWAESC, GFESC, OURESC)
- created bank of resources for ESOL coordinators
- facilitated training with NWA novice teachers
- presented at ARKTESOL conference (reflecting on best practices in the EL classroom)
- presented at Arkansas Science of Reading Conference (embedding strategies for English Learners into content areas)
- collaborated with EL team and Tricia Kerr to develop Entry/Exit Manual
- developing partnership with EL Achieve to bring Systematic English Language Development to NWA
- collaborated with team (Tricia Kerr, Alexandra Boyd, Alan Lytle, Jana Catlett) to develop protocol for site visits to top performing EL schools
- participated in ADE/ELL site visits (Bentonville, Springdale); collected data to replicate best practices across the state

Northwest Arkansas Education
Cooperative
2017-2018

Special Projects...

ADE Supported Leadership Programs:

Program: Teacher Excellence and Support System (TESS)

Goals and Description:

The Framework for Teaching by Charlotte Danielson provides the foundation for the Arkansas Teacher Excellence and Support System (TESS). NWAESC is currently scheduling additional sessions to extend the learning and support administrators and teachers as they continue to implement TESS as the teacher evaluation system in the upcoming school year. The Arkansas Department of Education provided training at each cooperative for districts that opted to use the premium services. Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative scheduled additional sessions to extend the learning and support administrators and teachers as they continue to implement TESS as the teacher evaluation system in the 2017-18 school year. The NWA Education Service Cooperative held training in TESS 2.0 multiple times during the 2017-18 school year. NWA Education Service Cooperative scheduled additional sessions to extend the learning and support administrators and teachers as they continue to implement TESS as the teacher evaluation system in the 2017-18 school year. Sessions at NWAESC included those in TESS 2.0 Law and Process and Beginning Administrators provided by ADE through AAEEA and two sessions provided by Leadership Development Coach, Rocci Malone to better develop their understanding of the revisions and framework/calibration.

Program: Leadership Excellence and Development System (LEADS)

Goals and Description:

The Interstate School Leaders Licensure Consortium (ISLLC) Standards and now the new Professional Standards of Educational Leadership (PSEL) provide the basis for the Arkansas evaluation and support system for Arkansas administrators. The Arkansas Department of Education provides training for administrators at each cooperative on Summative Evaluation Process and Professional Growth Plans. Trainings for the LEADS program throughout the 2017-2018 school year included work with the rubric, summative evaluations of principals, assistant principals, and other administrators, use of BloomBoard for evaluation and artifacts, and other support, as needed in individual cooperatives. NWAESC provided three training sessions for Beginning Administrators provided by ADE through AAEEA to support the administrators in LEADS and other leadership information. NWAESC provided administrator networking and support forums. Work provided by Solution Tree presenters John Eller and John Wink in coordination with the NWAESC TALENTS/Novice Teacher Program held two sessions that focused on how to build that culture through Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and building leadership capacity.

Program: Leadership Quest-In Pursuit of Teacher Excellence (Supporting Continuous Professional Growth)

Goals and Description:

Approximately 60 building leaders participated in the three-part Leadership Quest which held sessions in September, December and June. These sessions were led by current practicing NWA building level administrators.

- Day 1 Journey-Conducting Observations Leading to Meaningful Discussions with Useful Feedback. PLC discussions around best practices including leading critical conversations, setting and working toward performance goals (PGP), observing for continuous improvement, connecting campus goals and PGP goals to Professional Development, and promoting reflection.
- Day 2 Journey- Promoting Teacher Learning. PLC discussions around best practices including establishing trust and transparency, promoting reflection, learning from one another through peer observations and modeling, collaborating (PLC) by grade levels, subjects or departments, and individualizing professional development (PGP).
- Day 3 Journey- So Much Data... What's Next? Using Information Wisely to Enhance Shared Accountability for Student Learning. PLC discussions around best practices including becoming data literate, assessing student growth formatively, differentiating instruction, enhancing a system of RTI, and using data for instruction decision-making.

Program: School Board Trainings

Goals and Description:

NWAESC provided two training opportunities for area school board members allowing them to accumulate the required training hours without traveling a great distance. The training included:

- December 2017-A three-hour training was led by Scott Smith from Arkansas Public School Resource Center (APSRC). Topics presented included required financial components, laws related to school boards, and other items of interest to school boards.
- April 2018-A second three-hour training was led by Kristen Gould, of the Arkansas School Board Association (ASBA) and covered a variety of topics, including personnel-related issues and others.

Program: Electronic Fingerprinting

Goals and Description:

Arkansas State, FBI and Child Maltreatment Central registry background checks are required for student teaching internship, first time licensure and all licensure renewals, first employment or change of employment in public schools, charter schools or education service cooperatives. The Arkansas Department of Education deemed that that the Arkansas Education Cooperatives would perform all fingerprints needed.

- NWAESC has one Live Scan unit in the main office for scheduled appointments (every 15-30 minutes). We also have a portable Live Scan that we take into the districts to do onsite prints.
- NWAESC performed **1159 (revise after final count)** total electronic fingerprints from **July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018.**

- Currently, we have four employees trained to conduct fingerprints. These employees must work fingerprinting into their already full-time positions. (i.e. science, math, literacy, ESOL, Gifted & Talented administrative assistants/receptionists, Teacher Center Coordinator/Assistant Director administrative assistant).

Program: ACT Aspire

Goals and Description:

The NWA Cooperative also provided support to classroom teachers and instructional leaders to ensure Arkansas content standards were taught in a manner that would prepare students for the ACT Aspire. In addition to ADE presenters, cooperative content specialists provided face-to-face trainings on ACT Aspire resources and their use in strengthening the classroom teachers' understanding of assessment requirements for students. Trainings will continue during the summer of 2018 and the upcoming school year. Trainings included state required and local or onsite trainings such as, embedded questioning techniques, standards based information, data disaggregation and Depth of Knowledge (DOK) information.

The NWA Cooperative technology coordinator and staff continue to provide support to district testing and technology personnel as needed. Available support includes onsite visits within districts to aid in preparing technology infrastructure and providing training opportunities for ACT Aspire updates. Additionally, cooperative technology coordinators provide ongoing assistance through emails and phone conversations as problems and questions arise in districts.

Program: PLC work/Solution Tree

Goals and Description:

Over the past four years, NWAESC has partnered with nationally recognized professional development company and educational publisher Solution Tree to provide training to area educators in three critical areas: Common Collaborative Assessments, Response to Intervention, and Professional Learning Communities. We view these three components as foundational to a strong educational system and, at the request of our districts, have provided these three trainings on a rotating basis beginning with the PLC Institute in 2015, followed by RtI Cohorts in 2016 and 2017, and Common Collaborative Assessment in 2017 and 2018 and a second PLC Institute scheduled for July 2018. These trainings were led by highly regarded authors/presenters, e.g., Rick and Rebecca DuFour (PLC Institute 2015), Dr. Austin Buffum (RtI in 2016 and 2017), and Cassandra Erkens (Common Collaborative Assessments in 2017 and 2018). Cost savings to districts has been tremendous, allowing them to build capacity in these three critical areas.

Program: Novice Teacher Mentoring

Goals and Description:

In cooperation with their member districts, NWAESC developed the TALENTS program - Teachers and Administrators Leading Every Novice to Success - to service novice teachers in the region. All 16 public school districts and two public charter schools were served. TALENTS

served 330 novice teachers during the 2017-2018 school year through a variety of means. Fifteen cohorts, based on grade bands and discipline areas, met for a half-day each quarter to gain new information and insight, celebrate successes, vent frustrations, and share concerns. Literacy, math, science and social studies sessions were led by NWAESC staff while Athletics/P.E. and counselors led by higher ed instructors from the University of AR Fayetteville and John Brown University and fine arts novices met with staff from the Walton Arts Center. The program covered the cost of the sessions as well as paying for the novice's substitute. In alignment with local districts' desires to limit time away from their classes, a summer conference is scheduled for June 4-7 which will focus on the two areas identified through surveys of novices and their building administrators: classroom management and lesson planning. Thirty-eight sessions have been scheduled that primarily target these two areas. Additional trainings related to classroom management were also scheduled for the fall.

In addition, TALENTS focused on helping area administrators develop a culture of collaboration and support in their buildings that would provide an environment of support for the novices. Understanding the impact on novices of effective leadership and support from peers, this portion of TALENTS centered around this quote from John Wink's book, *A Leader's Guide to Excellence in Every Classroom* : Leaders must create schools in which all educators have responsibility for guaranteeing every teacher's success. To that end, two sessions were held that focused on how to build that culture through Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and through a focus on building leadership. Additional training was provided via Leadership Quests, facilitated by two area principals. TALENTS training facilitators/mentors include NWAESC contents specialists, Walton Arts Center partner specialists and higher education professors in content areas.

PROGRAM: Digital Learning – Virtual Arkansas, Team Digital, Arkansas Connect2Digital

FUNDING SOURCE: ADE Grant – Act

COMPETITIVE GRANT: Yes____ No____x__

RESTRICTED Yes **NONRESTRICTED** ____

PERSONNEL:

John Ashworth	Virtual Arkansas Director	BS, MSE
Junior Stormes	Team Digital Coordinator	
Michael Lar	Virtual Arkansas Director of Operations	BS, MBA, ED.D, ABD
Jason Bohler	Virtual Arkansas Director of Academics	BA, MAT
John Ross	Virtual Arkansas Director of Technology	BA
Lisa Russell	Team Digital Member	BSE

Team Digital Members (3) assigned to other cooperative areas

GOAL:

The mission of the digital learning program is to provide equitable, efficient, and effective learning opportunities for students and educators. These opportunities are offered utilizing digital solutions to extend learning where local access may not exist. The Arkansas Education Service Cooperatives support and provide resources to assist Virtual Arkansas and Team Digital.

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

Virtual Arkansas is an Arkansas-based program that is implemented through a partnership between the Arkansas Department of Education and the Arkansas Education Service Cooperatives. We provide an array of quality digital courses to public school students in Arkansas and utilize Arkansas licensed instructors. Virtual Arkansas served 221 districts and processed over 50,000 student enrollments during the 2017 – 2018 academic year. We are not an online high school or a diploma-granting institution but are a resource for supplementing education for public school students. Students enrolled in a public school may be enrolled in Virtual Arkansas courses by the local school administration.

Virtual Arkansas is committed to developing the full potential of Arkansas students by providing access to quality online courses that incorporate interactive instruction to prepare students to be successful in their college and career educational pursuits and in the global economy. School districts "Power Up with Virtual Arkansas" for a variety of reasons. A district may face a teacher shortage, want to provide additional course scheduling opportunities to their students, offer their students access to a digitally enriched curriculum, or broaden their course offerings beyond those mandated by the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools. Finally, districts that partner with Virtual Arkansas will be satisfying the requirements of Act 1280, the Digital Learning Act of 2013. www.virtualarkansas.org

In August 2017, Virtual Arkansas partnered with the Division of Youth Services (DYS) to deliver a consistent rigorous curriculum based on the Arkansas standards and frameworks, taught by Arkansas licensed teachers, to the students housed at five of the DYS campuses. This partnership has resulted in these students being able to transfer their grades and credits earned back to their home campus. Students were also provided intensive intervention sessions to improve their academic skills and comprehension of the content.

Team Digital:

Team Digital works within a state team to support the planning, implementation, and evaluation of digital learning environments in Arkansas. Team Digital has expertise in emerging online teaching and learning practices that allow for active learning; effective content authoring and lesson design methods that best serve digital education; and strategies in helping educators transform system-centered practices into student-centered practices. Team Digital interacts with media production workgroups, learning management system consultants, technology solution experts, pedagogical experts, curriculum design experts, and educators around the globe. Team Digital also provides operational support to state projects, Arkansas Cooperatives, and public schools in the growing interest in blended and online learning. www.teamdigital.org

Arkansas Connect2Digital:

Arkansas Connect2Digital is a digital platform where Arkansas educational agencies house digital resources and implement blended professional development. It supports 20,000 users and is hosted and maintained by Team Digital as well as partnering with the Education Service Cooperatives.

Major Highlights of the Year - Team Digital:

- Attended and became certified as “Blended Learning Live!” facilitators to allow Team Digital to host nationally-acclaimed conferences regionally
- Hold statewide school consultations and strategic planning sessions for the planning and implementation of blended and student-focused learning
- Presented, on behalf of ADE, at the 2017 INACOL conference on Blended Online Learning
- Offer daily support to schools in the implementation of Act 1280: Digital Learning Requirement
- Partnered with ADE to design and implement the mandated Civics Exam as an online resource. Host and provide support to schools and ADE for the Civics Exam with approximately 34,000 students, 600 teachers, and 300 registrars
- Contributed to the creation of posters, graphics, and logos pertaining to Act 379 of 2017 for the statewide Child Maltreatment Poster initiative
- Recorded and produced videos to support the RISE initiative
- Worked with Arkansas School Board Association to convert/update training videos to a modern web format
- Participated and/or presented to higher education entities how blended learning and technology enhances teaching and learning
- Hosted Zoom webinars for Arkansas educators with 78 total webinars hosted for ADE, over 100 hours offered, and over 5,800 total participants

Major Highlights of the Year - Virtual Arkansas:

- Named resource affiliate for ADE on school waiver process
- Implemented an enhanced SIS for schools, facilitators, teachers, and students to track their academic progress in Virtual Arkansas courses
- Trained over a 170 High School counselors and administrators around the state on Virtual Arkansas updates and registration process
- Attended and presented at the 2018 Virtual Learning Leadership Alliance (VLLA) national conference on online learning
- Shared information at numerous statewide conferences
- Implemented Computer Science course opportunities to Arkansas schools, per Governor's Initiative
- Added American Sign Language II course
- Secured NCAA approval for the Flexible pacing option
- Offered daily support to schools in the implementation of Act 1280: Digital Learning Requirement
- Gianella Edelen – selected as the 2017 Arkansas Foreign Language Association (AFLTA) Teacher of the Year
- Sarah Garrison – member of the ADE Teacher Leader Advisory Group
- Glenda Workman – member of the Foreign Language Frameworks Revision Committee
- Rainbow Bagsby – member of the Foreign Language Frameworks Revision Committee
- Dustin Summey – Recipient of an ADE scholarship to attend Computer Science Teachers of America (CSTA) national conference in Omaha, NE in July 2018
- Chantal Brice - Voted Arkansas Foreign Language Teacher of Promise 2017
- Susan Shaw - National Center for Women in Technology Honorable Mention and was nominated for National Award. Also had a student win NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Award
- Cindy Green - President of the Arkansas Council for Teachers of ELA Jan 2016-Jan 2018
- Vickie Yates – Member of the ADE task force partnering SPED and Social Studies to create an alternate pathway to graduation for students with significant cognitive disabilities
- Jason Wells-Nominated for National History Teacher of the year award
- Secured membership of Virtual Arkansas with Quality Matters (QM)
- Multiple staff members engaged in intensive training on the Quality Matters K-12 online course rubric to increase quality assurance measures
- Three staff members participated in intensive Quality Matters training to receive certification as official quality online course evaluators
- Partnered with the Department of Youth Services (DYS) to provide core courses and teachers to five DYS facilities

Northwest Arkansas Education
Cooperative
2017-2018

Professional Development Activities...

Professional Development Report

Beginning: July 1, 2017
Ending: June 30, 2018

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Northwest Arkansas Education Cooperative does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or disability in admission or access to or treatment or employment in its programs and activities. Any person having inquiries concerning compliance with the regulation of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation ACT of 1973 or other State or Federal law is directed to contact:

Northwest Arkansas Education Cooperative

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