

# **Annual Report**

*Northwest Arkansas*

*Education Service*

*Cooperative*



**2018-2019**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Table of Contents</b> .....	2
<b>Note from the Director</b> .....	4
<b>Mission Statement and State Map of Cooperatives</b> .....	6
<b>Northwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Organizational Chart</b> .....	7
<b>Northwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Board of Directors</b> .....	8
<b>Northwest Arkansas Education Cooperative Teacher Center Committee</b> .....	9
<b>ESC Annual Report</b> .....	10
I.    Governance	
II.   Staff	
III.  Teacher Center	
IV.  Administrative Services	
V.   Direct Services to Students	
VI.  Anecdotal Reports	
VII.  Employment Policies and Practices	
<b>Program Summaries</b> .....	22
Early Childhood.....	23
Teacher Center.....	27
APSCN Student Applications.....	32
Behavioral Support Services.....	34
Arkansas Transition Services.....	36
Educational Services for the Visually Impaired (ESVI).....	42
Tobacco Prevention and Other School Health Issues.....	44
Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Other School Health Issues.....	46
Gifted and Talented Program.....	52
Science.....	58
STEM (K-5 Math & Science).....	61
Mathematics.....	64
Literacy.....	67

Dyslexia.....	70
TALENTS (Novice Teacher).....	73
Career and Technical Education.....	77
Computer Science.....	79
English Learner Support Program / ESOL.....	83
Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI), Years 1-3.....	87
Extending Children’s Mathematics (ECM), Years 1-3.....	89
Technology.....	91
<b>Special Projects.....</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>Professional Development Activities.....</b>	<b>104</b>



*Dr. Charles Cudney*  
*Director*

*Dr. Missy Hixson*  
*Assistant Director/TC Coordinator*

Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative  
4 North Double Springs Road  
Farmington, AR 72730  
(479) 267-7450 FAX (479) 267-7456

TO: Arkansas Educators  
FROM: Charles J. Cudney Ed.D., Director  
SUBJECT: 2018-2019 Annual Evaluation Report

The Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative continued progressive growth through 2018-2019. 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 6 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 2018-2019 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 83 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 \$6,575,725.50 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

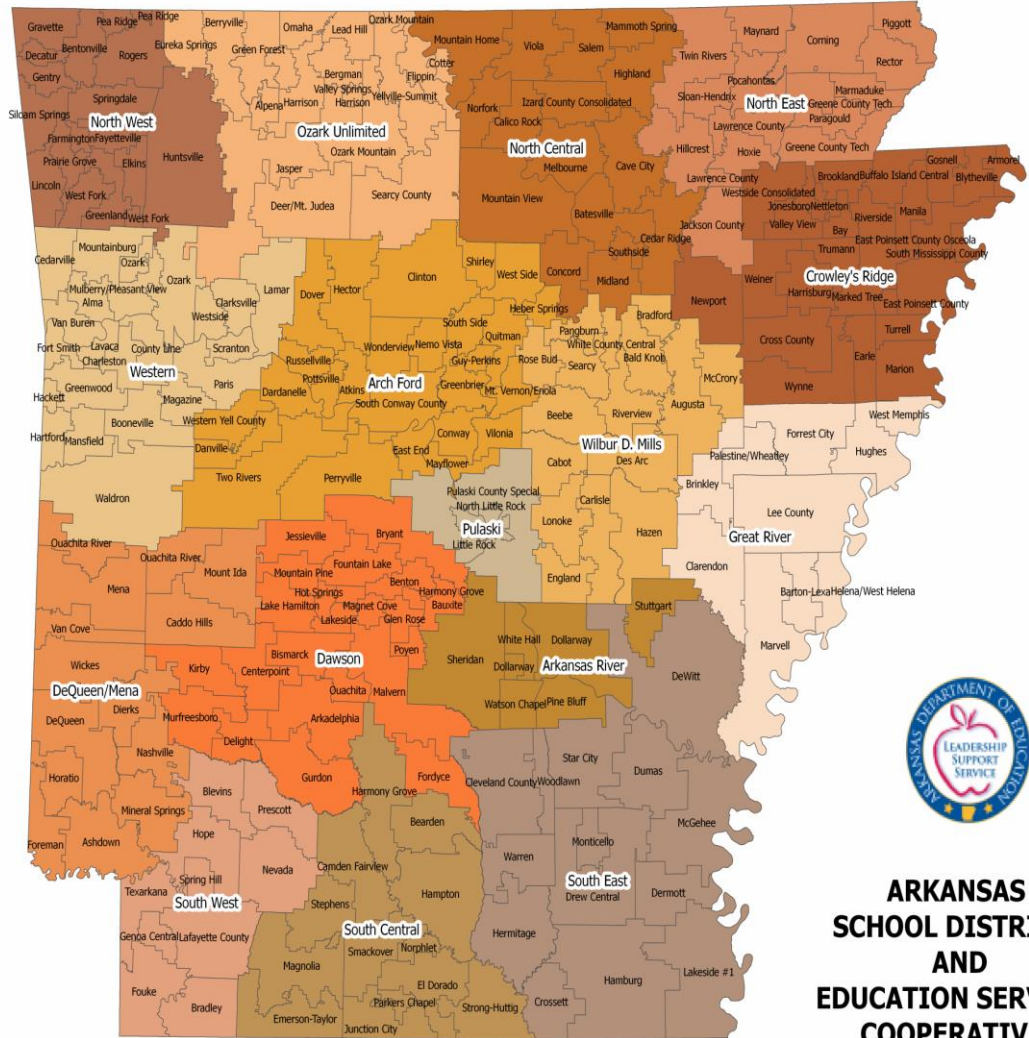
- \*Teacher Center services
- \*Career and Technical Education
- \*Literacy Support Services
- \*Novice Teacher Training

- \* 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”*

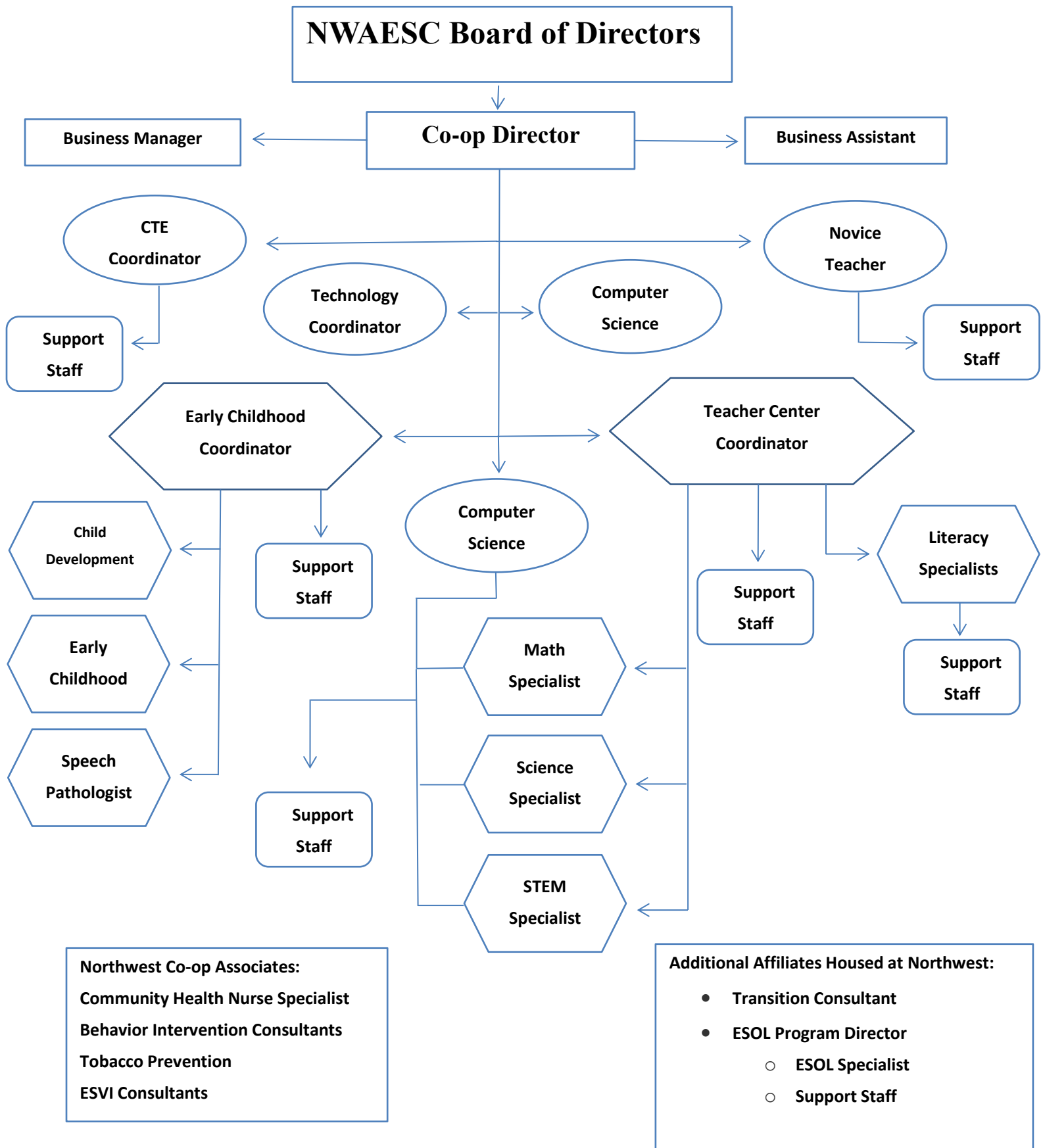
## Northwest Arkansas Education Services Cooperative



**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
Dr. Mary Ann Spears	President	Lincoln
Dr. Andrea Martin	Vice-President	Greenland
Dr. Charles Cudney	Director/Ex-officio	NWAESC
Mr. Rick Neal	Secretary	Pea Ridge

### Members of the Board

Name	Position	School District
Dr. Debbie Jones	Board Member	Bentonville
Mr. Steve Watkins	Board Member	Decatur
Mr. Jeremy Mangrum	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. Tammi Davis	Board Member	Huntsville
Dr. Mary Ann Spears	Board Member	Lincoln
Mr. Rick Neal	Board Member	Pea Ridge
Ms. Reba Holmes	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 2018-19 Teacher Center  
Committee**

<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Expires</b>
Ms. Amy Ford	Bentonville	Elementary Teacher	2020
Mr. John Unger	Decatur	Middle School Principal	2020
Mr. Steve Denzer	Elkins	Middle School Principal	2020
Ms. Kylie Daniels	Farmington	Middle School Teacher	2021
Ms. Mallory Alderson	Fayetteville	Elementary Teacher	2020
Ms. Christie Toland	Gentry	Curriculum/PD	2020
Dr. Mandy Barrett	Gravette	Elementary Principal	2021
Ms. Paula Bonner	Greenland	High School Teacher	2019
Ms. Kendra Thompson	Huntsville	Elementary Teacher	2021
Ms. Yvette Townsend	Lincoln	Middle School Teacher	2021
Ms. Leslie Moline	Pea Ridge	Middle School Principal	2019
Mr. Shayne Taylor	Prairie Grove	Middle School Principal	2020
Ms. Margaret Elenbarger	Rogers	High School Teacher	2021
Ms. Heather Woodruff	Siloam Springs	Elementary Teacher	2019
Ms. Kelly Powell	Springdale	Middle School Teacher	2021
Mr. John Crowder	West Fork	High School Principal	2019
<b>Superintendent – 1 Year Term</b>			
Dr. Debbie Jones	Bentonville	Superintendent	2019

Northwest Arkansas Education Service  
Cooperative  
2018-2019

*Arkansas Department of Education...*

# Arkansas Department of Education

## Education Service Cooperative (ESC) Annual Report

**Date:** June 2019

**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:** Dr. Missy Hixson

**Counties Served:** Benton, Madison, and Washington        **Number of Districts:** 16

**Number of Charters:** 6        **Total Number of Students:** 90,458

<b>District</b>	<b>Total Number of Students</b>	<b>Percentage of Free/Reduced Lunches</b>	<b>Certified Personnel</b>	<b>Certified Classroom Teachers</b>	<b>Classified Personnel</b>
Bentonville	16,870	22%	295	1,093	840
Decatur	553	79%	16	68	35
Elkins	1,270	47%	20	87	60
Farmington	2,511	31%	30	193	111
Fayetteville	10,334	37%	226	664	732
Gentry	1,442	60%	22	124	81
Gravette	1,877	49%	21	126	81
Greenland	766	64%	16	75	54
Huntsville	2,217	64%	34	193	147
Lincoln	1,129	70%	19	127	55
Pea Ridge	2,188	38%	30	145	101
Prairie Grove	1,996	42%	28	145	87
Rogers	15,604	56%	210	975	929
Siloam Springs	4,274	54%	101	269	275
Springdale	21,962	70%	281	1,405	1,183
West Fork	961	53%	11	97	59
<b>Charter School</b>					
AR Arts Academy	1025	27%	12	82	18
AR Connections Academy	1236	62%	3	39	4
Haas Hall Academy	941	9%	12	56	15
Haas Hall Bentonville	419	1%	5	21	4
NWA Classical Academy	660	5%	3	54	18
Ozark Montessori Academy	223	41%	22	8	8
<b>Totals</b>	<b>90,458</b>		<b>1,417</b>	<b>6,046</b>	<b>4,897</b>

**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 6, 2019

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? November 2018

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

2018-2019 Employees						
	Last Name	First Name	Position	Funding Source	New Hire	Resigned
1.	Aguirre	Margarita	Interpreter	S		
2.	Alagood	Leah	Child Development Specialist	S		
3.	Allgood-McGee	Zoe	Speech / Language Pathologist	F	8-7-18	
4.	Barnes-Whorton	Kathy	Medical Records / Office Assistant	S		
5.	Brown	Ember	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
6.	Brown	Karen	Talents Specialist	S	7-2-18	
7.	Brown	Katelyn	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
8.	Brown	Kim	Literacy Specialist	S		

9.	Butcher	Kelli	Community Health Nurse Specialist	*		
10.	Chavis	Lisa	Asst. Director Secretary / Teacher Center Secretary	B		
11.	Clements	Leslie	Child Development Specialist	S		
12.	Coats	Lisa	English Language Specialist	F		
13.	Coffelt	Chelsea	Occupational Therapist	S	8-13-18	6-30-19
14.	Corbino	Dena	Child Development Specialist	S		
15.	Cotton	Tresa	English Language Administrative Assistant	S		
16.	Cudney	Charles	Director	B		
17.	D'Angelo	Jennifer	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
18.	DeVore	Colleen	Early Childhood Coordinator	S		
19.	Edgar	Cheri	Early Childhood Secretary	S		
20.	Estes	Shem	Child Development Specialist	S		
21.	Fields	Judy	Literacy Specialist	S		
22.	Flood	Jill	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
23.	Florick	Wendy	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
24.	Fosse	Desere	Child Development Specialist	S	8-7-18	
25.	Gadberry	Christi	ESVI Consultant	F		
26.	Gambert	DeeAnn	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		6-30-19
27.	Gammil	Jenny	STEM Specialist	S		
28.	Garnett	Joni	Child Development Specialist	F		
29.	George	Lindsey	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
30.	Graf	Darlene	Child Development Specialist	S		
31.	Gutierrez	Stephanie	Program Secretary	S		
32.	Hahn	Sheryl	Behavior Support Specialist	F		6-30-19
33.	Hankins	Kelly	Literacy Specialist	S	7-1-18	6-30-19
34.	Harris	Cristine	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
35.	Hart	John	Computer Science Specialist	S	6-5-19	
36.	Heltzel	Sharla	Talents Specialist	S	7-2-18	6-30-19
37.	Hixson	Missy	Assistant Director / Teacher Center Coordinator	B		
38.	Holder	Marsha	ESVI Consultant	F		
39.	Hughes	Aaron	APSCN - Student Applications Field Support	*		
40.	Inboden	Mary Eve	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
41.	Jaslow	Linda	Math Project Co-Director	S		5-22-19
42.	Johnson	Kara	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
43.	Johnston	Paul	Transition Specialist	F		
44.	Jones	Laura	Speech / Language Pathologist	S	8-7-18	
45.	Karnatz	Sam	Technology Specialist	S		
46.	Kerr	Tricia	ESOL Program Director	*		
47.	Kitzmiller	Claire	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
48.	Komarek	Cindy	Child Development Specialist	S		
49.	Linn	Rachel	Speech / Language Pathologist	S	8-7-18	
50.	Love	Cindy	Literacy Specialist	S	7-1-18	
51.	Matthews	Marla	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
52.	McCain	Erin	Math Specialist	S	7-1-18	
53.	McIntyre	Mary Ann	Behavior Support Specialist	F		6-30-19
54.	McLaren	Lisa	Paraprofessional	S		

55.	Minkel	Julie	Licensed Professional Counselor	S		
56.	Moore	Anna	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
57.	Neal	Cayce	Science Specialist	S		
58.	Nelson	Marlo	Child Development Specialist	S		
59.	Nicot Torres	Dilka	Early Childhood Administrative Assistant	S		
60.	Onstott	Carol	Child Development Specialist	S		
61.	Patel	Jigish	Computer Science Specialist	S		6-30-19
62.	Phillips	Heather	Speech / Language Pathologist	F	8-7-18	
63.	Pickering	Cheryl	Career & Technology Education Coordinator	S		
64.	Post	Lauren	Speech / Language Pathologist	S	8-7-18	
65.	Ramer	Michael Ann	Speech / Language Pathologist	F		
66.	Reno	Dorothy	Maintenance / Housekeeping	B	10-29-18	
67.	Rhodes	Rachele	Child Development Specialist	S		
68.	Rollins	Joe	Director of Workforce Development	P	10-8-18	
69.	Rowe	Annette	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
70.	Sanders	Marcia	TALENTS / Novice Teacher Coordinator	S		
71.	Schmidt	Mary Catherine	Speech / Language Pathologist	F		
72.	Seaton	Dustin	Gifted & Talented Specialist	S		
73.	Smith	Gordon	Distance Learning Coordinator	S		
74.	Smith	Rebecca	Speech / Language Pathologist	S		
75.	Spears	Kaley	Community Health Promotion Specialist	*		
76.	Storm	Tina	Program Secretary	S		
77.	Tomlinson	Melody	Maintenance / Housekeeping	B		10-31-18
78.	Vanhook	Jakki	Business Manager	B		
79.	Walker	Jessica	Child Development Specialist	S	8-7-18	
80.	Warford	Shelby	Paraprofessional	S		
81.	Wohlford	Patti	Business Assistant	B		
82.	Wylde	Tristen	Child Development Specialist	S		
83.	Yates	Mitzi	Child Development Specialist	S		6-30-19

### 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 [ X ] NO [   ]  
 If yes, then:  
 Approximate the number of titles in media center: 70
- Does the co-op provide delivery to the districts? YES [   ] NO [ X ]
- How many districts participate in the media program? 16

How many titles (including duplicate counts) were provided to schools during this current year? 3

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

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? 114 (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



- [X] 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, and 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.
- In partnership with ADE and AAEA, two Beginning Administrator regional trainings were held at NWAESC, with trainings by led Leadership Development Coach, Rocci Malone.
- The NWAESC has provided six sessions at NWAESC, nine sessions at district sites and one session at a higher education program site on TESS Law Overview 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 a three day training provided by the nationally recognized Solution Tree on Collaborative Common Assessments with Solution Tree presenter/author Cassandra Erkens. In partnership with ADE, the Arkansas Campaign for Grade-Level Reading (AR-GLR), Attendance Works, and the

Education Renewal Zones have developed a series of professional development opportunities for district and school administrators, teachers, and other personnel. The objectives of the session was to: Enhance their understanding of chronic absence, Highlight the correlation between attendance and school wide goals, Understand the philosophy and functionality of the attendance team, Examine a multi-tiered approach to addressing chronic absences, and use chronic absence data to determine attendance goals and interventions.

- Over the past five 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 in July 2018. These trainings were led by Solution Tree highly regarded authors/presenters. 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 and High Reliability Schools initiatives.
- NWAESC hosted the sixth Northwest Arkansas Business and Partnership meeting in March. 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 six charter schools, assisting with technology needs while preparing for online assessments such as ACT Aspire. At least three technology coordinator’s meetings were held.
- 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, the NWAESC also house 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, the NWA Computer Science Leadership Group and the Math Leadership Forum 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.
  - Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce partnered on multiple occasions to service educators and students with local business partners, as well as sessions for working on computer science skills with the Fab Lab.

## 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 2018-2019 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 new females employed by the cooperative for the 2018-2019 school year: 14  
For this number above, please provide the number in each of the following racial classifications:

White 14  
African American 0  
Hispanic 0  
Asian 0  
American Indian/Alaskan Native 0

### Terminated

Number of males terminated by the cooperative during the 2018-2019 school year: 1  
For this number above, please provide the number in each of the following racial classifications:

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

Number of females terminated by the cooperative during the 2018-2019 school year: 9  
For this number above, please provide the number in each of the following racial classifications:

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

### **Seeking Employment**

Number of males seeking employment by the cooperative during the 2018-2019 school year: 12

For this number above, please provide the number in each of the following racial classifications:

White 10

African American 1

Hispanic 1

Asian 0

American Indian/Alaskan Native 0

Number of females seeking employment by the cooperative during the 2018-2019 school year: 23

For this number above, please provide the number in each of the following racial classifications:

White 17

African American 1

Hispanic 5

Asian 0

American Indian/Alaskan Native 0

Northwest Arkansas Education  
Cooperative  
2018-2019

*Program Summaries.....*

**Program:** Early Childhood Special Education  
**Funding Source:** Early Childhood Grant  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted Funding:** Yes

---

**Participating Districts:**

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

---

**Personnel:**

**Name:** Anna Moore  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Annette Rowe  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Carol Onstott  
**Position:** Special Education Teacher  
**Degree:** B.S.

**Name:** Cassie Howard  
**Position:** Special Education Teacher  
**Degree:** B.S.

**Name:** Cheri Edgar  
**Position:** Administrative Assistant  
**Degree:** N/A

**Name:** Cindy Komarek  
**Position:** Special Education Teacher  
**Degree:** M.Ed.

**Name:** Chelsea Coffelt  
**Position:** Occupational Therapist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Christin Brown  
**Position:** Paraprofessional  
**Degree:** N/A

**Name:** Christin Brown  
**Position:** Paraprofessional  
**Degree:** N/A

**Name:** Claire Kitzmiller  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Colleen DeVore  
**Position:** Coordinator  
**Degree:** M.Ed.

**Name:** Cristina Harris  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Darlene Graf  
**Position:** Special Education Teacher  
**Degree:** M.Ed.

**Name:** DeeAnn Gambert  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Dena Corbino  
**Position:** Special Education Teacher  
**Degree:** B.S.

**Name:** Dilka Nicot  
**Position:** Secretary/Paraprofessional  
**Degree:** N/A

**Name:** Evie Inboden  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Heather Phillips  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Jessica Walker  
**Position:** Special Education Teacher  
**Degree:** B.S.

**Name:** Joni Garnett  
**Position:** Special Education  
**Degree:** B.S.

**Name:** Kara Johnson  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Kathy Whorton  
**Position:** Secretary/Medicaid Billing  
**Degree:** N/A

**Name:** Lauren Post  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Leslie Clements  
**Position:** Special Education Teacher  
**Degree:** B.S.

**Name:** Lisa Lee  
**Position:** Administrative Assistant  
**Degree:** N/A

**Name:** Desere Fosse  
**Position:** Special Education Teacher  
**Degree:** M.Ed.

**Name:** Ember Brown  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Alisha George  
**Position:** Paraprofessional  
**Degree:** N/A

**Name:** Jennifer D'Angelo  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Jill Flood  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Julie Minkel  
**Position:** Behavior Specialist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Katelyn Brown  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Laura Beth Jones  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Leah Alagood  
**Position:** Administrative Liason  
**Degree:** B.S.

**Name:** Lindsey George  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Lisa McLaren  
**Position:** Special Education Teacher  
**Degree:** B.S.



**Name:** Maggie Aguirre  
**Position:** Interpreter  
**Degree:** N/A

**Name:** Maritza Pratt  
**Position:** Interpreter  
**Degree:** N/A

**Name:** Marla Matthews  
**Position:** Special Education Teacher  
**Degree:** M.Ed.

**Name:** Marlo Nelson  
**Position:** Special Education Teacher  
**Degree:** B.S.

**Name:** Mary Catherine Schmidt  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Michael Ann Ramer  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Mitzi Yates  
**Position:** Special Education Teacher  
**Degree:** B.S.

**Name:** Rachel Linn  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Rachele Rhodes  
**Position:** Special Education Teacher  
**Degree:** M.Ed.

**Name:** Rebecca Smith  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Andrea Schaugarud  
**Position:** Paraprofessional  
**Degree:** N/A

**Name:** Shelby Warford  
**Position:** Paraprofessional  
**Degree:** N/A

**Name:** Shem Estes  
**Position:** Special Education Teacher  
**Degree:** B.S.

**Name:** Tristen Wylde  
**Position:** Special Education Teacher  
**Degree:** M.Ed.

**Name:** Wendy Florick  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

**Name:** Zoe McGee  
**Position:** Speech Language Pathologist  
**Degree:** M.S.

---

**Goal:**

The NWAESC Early Childhood Program seeks to identify and serve children 3 through 5 with special needs.

---

**Program Summary:**

The Early Childhood Special Education Program provides developmentally appropriate services through an Individual Education Program for children with disabilities ages three to 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 16 school districts in the Co-op area.

The Early Childhood Program has grown from a child count of 115 children in 1988 to serving more than 800 children by May of 2018. This year we received over 1,000 inquiries for screenings. Preschool and day care programs make most of the referrals.

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:**

The Early Childhood Program has grown from a child count of 115 children in 1988 to serving more than 800 children by May of 2018. We have received over 1,000 inquiries for screenings. We did over 400 conferences with school districts for children entering kindergarten. These conferences are important to ensure the child will be successful entering kindergarten.

**Program:** Teacher Center  
**Funding Source:** Base  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted:** Yes

---

**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	Haas Hall Bentonville

**Participating Districts: (OUTSIDE THE NORTHWEST CO-OP AREA)**

Valley View	Van Buren	Waldron	Wynne
Star City	Paris	Perryville	West Memphis
Walnut Ridge	Yellville-Summit	West Side	Rose Bud
Rivercrest	Pottsville	Salem	Russellville
Palestine-Wheatly	Pulaski Co. Special	Sheridan	Searcy County
Mena	South Conway County	McCrary	Melbourne
Midland	Ozark Mountain	Norfork	Dover
North Little Rock	El Dorado	Flippin	Fordyce
Mountain Home	Mountain Pine	Nettleton	Mountainburg
Nemo Vista	Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County	Ozark	Green Forrest
Greenbrier	Greenwood	Hackett	Hamburg
Harmony Grove	Harrison	Jasper	Lamar
Jonesboro	Lavaca	Lead Hill	Lake Side
Little Rock	Lake Hamilton	Lonoke	Manila
Jackson County	Mansfield	Marion	Fort Smith
Drew Central	DeQueen	Eureka Springs	Berryville
Blytheville	Boonville	County Line	Brookland
Cedarville	Smackover-Norphlet	Cabot	Calico Rock
Clarksville	Conway	Bergman	Beebe
Bauxite	Batesville	Bald Knob	Ashdown
Armored	Alma	Alpena	

**Participating Universities:**

U of A Fort Smith	University of Central Arkansas	NWA Technical Institute
-------------------	--------------------------------	-------------------------

NWA Community College  
John Brown University

U of A Fayetteville  
Arkansas Tech University

Harding University  
U of A Monticello

**Participating Co-ops:**

Southeast  
Guy Fenter  
Arkansas River

Southwest  
Northcentral  
Wilbur D. Mills

Southcentral  
O.U.R.  
Boston Mountain

Northeast  
Arch Ford

**Others Participating:**

NWA Council  
Crossroads ALE  
AETN  
The New School  
ADE

Ozark Guidance Center  
Fayetteville Virtual Academy  
Shiloh Christian  
Walton Arts Center  
Ft. Smith Montessori

AR School for Math & Science  
1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Christian  
St. Joseph Catholic  
Academics Plus Charter

---

**Personnel:**

**Name:** Missy Hixson  
**Position:** Assistant Director/Teacher Center Coordinator  
**Degree:** Ed.D.

**Name:** Lisa Chavis  
**Position:** Assistant Director/Teacher Center Administrative Assistant  
**Degree:** 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:**

These opportunities included, but not limited to, trainings such as

- **Math**-CGI (Cognitively Guided Instruction), ECM (Extending Children’s Mathematics), Open-Up Resources/Illustrative Mathematics (OUR/IM), Thinking

Mathematically (TM), Mathematics Design Collaborative (MDC), and Math-Science Partnership grant related trainings, on-site visits to schools to provide targeted assistance and support with mathematical practices, curriculum design and curriculum alignment. Math forums were held for collaboration and discussion with school/district leaders to provide direction in mathematics for NWA.

- **Literacy-R.I.S.E.** Academy and R.I.S.E. related trainings were held at NWAESC, including regional and Trainer of Trainers (TOT) sessions provided by ADE with support from NWA literacy specialists. Workshops were held at both the Co-op and in the districts on requested topics e.g., closed reading, complex text, argumentative writing, etc. Specialists made site visits to schools to provide targeted assistance in the areas of reading and writing, dyslexia awareness and the science of reading, etc. The K-5 Literacy Council, Adolescent Literacy Council and the Dyslexia Council provided a time of collaboration to educational leaders in the reading and provide direction to NWAESC literacy specialists regarding needed professional development and other levels of support.
- **Science/STEM-** pure science workshops, STEM and integrating literacy in the content area trainings for science teachers, lesson writing and examination of the Arkansas State Standards with embedding Next Generation Science Standards. The trainings included both cooperative and district-hosted sessions led by Science/STEM Specialists. Assistance and support to districts with the three year state implementation efforts of the Next Generation Science Standards for grades K-12.
- **Computer Science-**provided quality computer science professional development and onsite support to NWA educators. Computer Science Praxis study sessions are also part of this specialist's support efforts in promoting the efforts of increasing computer science initiatives in Arkansas schools. Total trained: 485 participants both inside and outside the Co-op area.
- **Other content areas** were addressed through workshops/trainings and onsite support 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 4 Northwest Arkansas Schools
  - 30 Hours of pd
  - Educators (i.e. Teachers, Principals, and AWE Educators) Trained – 214
  - 925 Students affected
  
- 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
  
- For the past decade, the Arkansas 1991 Partnership has collaborated with the University of Arkansas’ Center for Children & Youth to provide professional development for secondary teachers. This year, the UA Center for Children & Youth was selected as the 2019 Governor’s Arts Award winner in the category of Arks in Education, presented by Governor Asa Hutchinson in Little Rock on March 12, 2019.
  
- Walton Arts Center through NWAESC’s TALENTS offered Professional Development to novice Fine Arts teachers
  - Trainers – 6
  - 12 – Hours of pd
  - Educators in attendance – 35
  
- Walton Arts Center offered other various Arts Professional Development
  - Trainers – 3
  - 1.5 – 3 hours of pd
  - Educators in attendance - 36

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 the 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 Arkansas State Standards implementation process, the ACT Aspire and other assessment systems, 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 various professional development opportunities provided at the state and local levels. With the support of 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 standards and to increase student achievement to meet these standards. The NWAESC has begun working in conjunction with the Arkansas Department of Education on developing support with the new Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Professional development will be designed for schools as related to district needs and reflected in the individual school improvement plans as we progress with this process.

**Program:** APSCN  
**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Education  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted:** No

---

**Participating Districts:**

Arkansas Arts Academy	Arkansas Connections Academy	Benton County
Bentonville	Decatur	Elkins
Farmington	Fayetteville	Gentry
Gravette	Greenland	Haas Hall
Huntsville	Lincoln	Pea Ridge
NWA Classical	Prairie Grove	Rogers
Siloam Springs	Springdale	West Fork
NWAESC	Berryville	Eureka Springs
Green Forrest	Ozark Montessori	

---

**Personnel:**

**Name:** Aaron Hughes  
**Position:** SMS Field Analyst  
**Degree:** B.A.

---

**Goal:**

Our goal is 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:** Behavior Support Specialists  
**Funding Source:** Area Services VI-B  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted:** Yes

---

**Participating Districts:**

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

---

**Personnel:**

**Name:** Sheryl Hahn  
**Position:** Behavior Support Specialist  
**Degree:** M.Ed., BCBA

**Name:** Mary Ann McIntyre  
**Position:** Behavior Support Specialist  
**Degree:** M.A, CCC-SLP-BCBA

---

**Goal:**

The goal of the BSS is to build local capacity and provide training that addresses severe behaviors through the BX3 project that provides district team training and coaching. The BSS also provides onsite and student specific assistance for self-injury, eloping campus, and aggression resulting in injury to others. Program 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:**

The Behavior Support Specialists' (BSS) role and goals align with the ADE-SEU initiatives including building local capacity to implement, scale up and sustain evidence-based practices, as well as improving results for children with disabilities. The BSS provide technical assistance to districts targeting severe behaviors that require Functional Behavioral Assessments and Behavior Intervention Plans. Also, BSS assist districts with identifying students eligible for Special Education services under the Autism eligibility.

**Major Highlights of the Year:**

- We have had the opportunity to train and coach 10 district teams as part of the BX3 Project designed to build local capacity by creating district teams.
- We have continued to mentor 6 BSS around the state of Arkansas
- Training new BSS
- Numerous trainings in NWA and Ozark United Resources Cooperative in Harrison, AR.

**Program:** Arkansas Transition Services  
**Funding Source:** Federal Grant  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted:** Yes

---

**Participating Districts:**

**NWAESC Districts:**

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

**O.U.R. Districts:**

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 Districts:**

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:**

**Name:** Paul Johnston  
**Position:** Transition Consultant  
**Degree:** MM-UA, BSE-Missouri State, AAS-UA

---

**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 their every other year Transition Summit in Rogers this past November. This is a hybrid workshop for Transition Teams from across the state. They get information from breakout sessions and work on a team plan to improve Transition in their district. ATS was proud to have 47 teams with over 300 attendees. We also had 45 presenters, 23 exhibitors and used 43 facilitators to assist the teams. At the Summit, Ozark teacher Meredith Stewart was presented as the Arkansas Division of Career Development and Transition Outstanding Transition Teacher.
  - NWAESC Teams – Rogers, Gravette, Fayetteville, Bentonville, Huntsville, Siloam Springs, Springdale
  - OUR Teams - Harrison
  - GFESC Teams – Greenwood, Fort Smith, Alma, Ozark, Paris
- Arkansas Transition Services held a Cadre meeting in Little Rock where the local Transition teams came together to receive professional development in transition assessments, student focused planning, practice profiles, agencies, and post school options. This event provides opportunities for continued team planning and networking.

- For the third 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 50 students from across the state will be participating.
- The Arkansas Interagency Transition Partnership (AITP) will hold the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual AITP Summer Connections as a way for district personnel around the state to learn about a variety of agency services. This year we will be focusing on students with more severe disabilities.
- 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. The Guides are available in English and Spanish.
- This summer will be the 13<sup>th</sup> 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. The 2018 program had 23 students and 11 parent/professionals in attendance.
- Arkansas Transition Services provided 2 statewide trainings for Transition Classes and served over 100 teachers and staff members.
- 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

### **Coop Level**

- OWL Schools. Opportunities for Work Based Learning is a collaboration of Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, Arkansas Transition Services, and area districts that enables schools to provide work programs, both School Based Enterprises and students working in the community, where students can get paid work experiences and job training.

- GFESC – Alma, Greenwood, Ozark
- NWAESC – Gravette, Huntsville, Springdale-Harber, Rogers-Heritage
- 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.
- 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.
    - Ozark held an orientation night for their OWL program and Transition.
  - **NWAESC**
    - Gravette held their second Transition Night to provide parents information on Transition and opportunities for their children as they move toward graduation.
    - Arkansas Rehabilitation Services held parent nights in Bentonville and Fayetteville to help make parents aware of resources for students with disabilities
- Coop Trainings – 2 all day trainings were offered over the past summer at all 3 Coops.
  - “Transition Toolkit” and “Evidence Based Practices and Predictors for Post School Success”
  - 48 attendees
    - NWAESC – Springdale, Gravette, Gentry, Pathfinders, Pea Ridge, Fayetteville, St. Paul, Boston Mtn. Coop, Lincoln, Huntsville
    - OUR – Deer/Mt. Judea, Harrison, Oark, Ozark Mtn., Alpena, Valley Springs
    - GFESC – Waldron, Cedarville, Ozark, Greenwood, Hackett, Boonville
  - Additional Trainings

- Bentonville-Modified Toolkit for Jr. Hi. Teachers-28 attendees
  - Berryville-Modified Toolkit-8 attendees
  - Greenwood-Modified Toolkit-13 attendees
  - Fort Smith Schools-3 Modified Toolkit Trainings-53 attendees
- CIRCLES – This year Rogers as a District Leadership Team in Transition piloted the CIRCLES program-Communicating Interagency Relationships and Collaborative Linkages for Exceptional Students. This is where students are given the opportunity to present their future goals to area employers and agencies who can provide help to reach those goals.
- Transition Requirements Review was given to 100 teachers
  - NWAESC – Fayetteville, Elkins
  - OUR – Jasper, Harrison, Oark, Flippin, Green Forest, Omaha, Alpena
  - GFESC – Greenwood, Johnson County Westside, Mountainburg, Lamar, Alma Middle School
- Transition Class Consults were given to 4 districts
  - GFESC – Fort Smith, Greenwood
  - NWAESC – Siloam Springs, Bentonville West High School
- Transition File Review
  - NWAESC – Elkins
- Transition Summary of Performance Review
  - NWAESC – NWA Classical Academy, Bentonville West High School
- Evidence Based Practices Consult
  - OUR – Green Forest
- Student Conferences Attended – 1
  - GFESC – Johnson County Westside (Mediated)
- Person Centered Plans Facilitated – 1
  - GFESC – Ozark
- OWL Program Consultations –
  - NWAESC – Huntsville, Rogers
  - GFESC – Ozark, Greenwood



- Presentations to Students
  - NWAESC – Pathfinders, UARK Transition Class
  
- 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 Counties/Mercy Hospital/Access
  - Transition Team Meetings
    - GFESC – Greenwood, Alma
  
- Trainings/Conferences Attended:
  - NTACT National Capacity Building Institute – Denver, CO
  - Arkansas SPED Consultant Training
  - Arkansas LEA Academy
  - Arkansas Mental Health in Education Association Conference

**Program:** Educational Services for the Visually Impaired  
**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Education Special Education Unit  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted:** Yes

---

**Participating Districts:**

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

---

**Personnel:**

**Name:** Angyln Young  
**Position:** TVI/COMS State Coordinator

**Name:** Glenda Cupples  
**Position:** Administrative Analyst

**Name:** Bill Beavers  
**Position:** Access Technology Specialist

**Name:** Marsha Holder  
**Position:** TVI/COMS

**Name:** Christi Gadberry  
**Position:** TVI/COMS

**Name:** Cynthia White  
**Position:** TVI/COMS

**Name:** Jo Ellen Croft  
**Position:** TVI/COMS

**Name:** Sharon Niemczyk  
**Position:** TVI/COMS

**Name:** Deanna Collie  
**Position:** TVI/COMS

**Name:** Paige Dillinger  
**Position:** TVI/COMS

**Name:** Melanie Birthright  
**Position:** TVI/COMS

---

**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 Summary:**

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 an individual student's access to educational curriculum; provide large print or Braille textbooks through the Instructional Materials Center; demonstrate, loan and provide instruction and consultation in the use of assistive technology and low vision devices; and provide direct instruction in Orientation and Mobility in the school and in 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

---

## **Major Highlights of the Year:**

- Bentonville student made it onto America's Got Talent
- Calico Rock student won the State Braille Challenge and went to Nationals
- Lincoln student made it to the finals in FFA talent competition
- Four West Fork students ran cross country and were featured on several news programs for their accomplishments; the two girls celebrated their senior years making 4A State Runner-Up with their teammates
- ESVI staff members presented on technology use with universally designed products to the state AER members and to the LEA Academy

**Program:** Tobacco Prevention and other School Health Issues  
**Funding Source:** ADH  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted:** No

---

**Participating Districts:**

Arkansas Arts Academy	Bentonville	Elkins	Decatur
Farmington	Fayetteville	Gentry	Gravette
Greenland	Haas Hall	Huntsville	Lincoln
NWA Classical Academy	Pea Ridge	Prairie Grove	Rogers
Siloam Springs	Springdale	West Fork	Shiloh Christian
The New School	St. Joseph	St. Vincent de Paul	

---

**Personnel:**

**Name:** Kelli Butcher, RN  
**Position:** Community Health Nurse Specialist  
**Degree:** Registered Nurse, BS Chemistry

---

**Goal:**

**This program provides:**

- 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

**Program:** Nutrition, Physical Activity and other School Health Issues  
**Funding Source:** ADH  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted:** No

---

**Participating Districts:**

Arkansas Arts Academy	Bentonville	Elkins	Decatur
Farmington	Fayetteville	Gentry	Gravette
Greenland	Haas Hall	Huntsville	Lincoln
NWA Classical Academy	West Fork	Pea Ridge	Siloam Springs
Prairie Grove	Springdale	Shiloh Christian	The New School
St. Vincent de Paul	St. Joseph	Rogers	

---

**Personnel:**

**Name:** Kaley Spears  
**Position:** Community Health Promotion Specialist  
**Degree:** BS Public Health

---

**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
- 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 and 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:**

- NWAESC Annual Back to School Nurse Workshop- various speakers in addition to nursing Continuing Education Units offered- approximately 140 participants from the various school districts. Presentations were made educating nurses on the topics of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and how they affect children’s ability to be successful in school. Nurses were also updated on oral health and the opioid crisis in our

communities. 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.

- Hosted Wellness Workshops at Guy Fenter Educational Cooperative with 20 people in attendance and at the NWA Educational Cooperative to 17 participants. With guest speakers, Anna Haver of ADE, Laura Taylor from PPYC, Bret Neiser, representative from GoNoodle, and Jenna Rhodes from the Arkansas Farm to School Network. Kaley also presented on the overlapping of ADE standards and the health data in Arkansas. With this I provided education on my role as a CHPS and the ways that we provide education in the schools through programs and presentations.
- Hosted and conducted a School Health Index/Indistar Wellness forms Training and Workday to all school districts in my coop area. 9 school employees representing 6 different school districts (3 of which haven't submitted Indistar forms in the past) attended and I was able to walk them through the process of correctly completing the SHI and how to document that through the Indistar reports.
- Facilitated an Active Recess training done by Shannon Borchert (ADH Central Region) for 6 elementary and middle school teachers in the NWAESC area. This training was modeled after Dr. Blair Dean's work out of Arkansas State University and is all evidence based information and procedures. We discussed the obvious benefits of physical movement throughout the school day and practical ways that can be implemented in a school schedule/flow. The group participated in some of the recommended games/activities and we provided several resources and tools for the teachers to take back to their schools and administration to implement.
- Vision Certification Training for all new school nurses held 5 times throughout the year
- Hearing Certification Training for all new school nurses held 5 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 4 times throughout the year
- Assisted at Guy Fenter, Arch Ford, and Our Educational Cooperatives with their annual Back to School Nurse Workshops



- Host the School Nurse Academy. Nurses were able to attend the academy and learn about insulin pumps and diabetes, cardiac care, tracheostomy care and management, and Stop the Bleed for the school setting.
- Assisted with School Based Health Center and Joint Use Agreement Grants
- eSchool education for school nurse medical module held at NWAESC, 4 sessions. Also educated at Arch Ford Educational Service Cooperative, DeQueen Mena Educational Service Cooperative and Guy Fenter Educational Service Cooperative
- Assisted with multiple school based influenza immunization clinics
- Partnered with Region 1 Prevention Providers to offer the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual NWA Drug Prevention Summit. Attendees were educated on Electronic Cigarettes and the Evolution of Tobacco product, Local Drug Trends, Mental health issues affecting youth in today's society, and Prescription for Life and Hidden in Plain Sight – Where Youth Hide Drugs
- Worked with the Madison County Health Coalition to put on the 2018 Madison County Teen Summit at the Jones Center with close to 165 8th grade students. I assisted in facilitating the technology and schedule of events for the day and well as helping with the physical activity portion of the agenda.

---

**Other Highlights of the Year:**

- Assisted with planning and implementation of Madison County Teen Summit held at the Jones Center for all 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in Madison County
- Presented 5 safeTALK (suicide prevention education) sessions to multiple locations in the northwest region
- Hosted ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) two-day advanced training for suicide prevention for staff in Benton, Washington and Madison Counties
- Presented nutrition and Rethink Your Drink information to students in Washington County

- Educated students, staff, and parents in Washington, Benton, and Madison Counties on the dangers of vaping/e cigarettes and other tobacco products
- Educated students and staff on emergency first aid program Stop the Bleed in Benton, Washington and Madison Counties
- Attended Coordinated School Health meetings in Springdale, Fayetteville, Siloam Springs, and Prairie Grove
- Presented Dose of Reality, an opioid education presentation to students in Benton, Washington and Madison Counties
- Educated students on Teen Dating Violence Benton, Washington, and Madison Counties
- Presented information on internet safety/sexting/texting to health classes in Washington, Benton and Madison Counties
- Attended the 2018 Southern Obesity Summit in Charleston West Virginia- the focus for the 3 days was on promoting equity, recognizing disparities and conquering obesity. Over the course of the summit, I received nearly 12 hours of training on areas specific to school and community environments related to nutrition, physical activity, wellness committees, and federal and state mandates related to wellness.
- 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 district Para pros correct personal care to maintain their Personal Care Assistant certification
- Attended monthly coalition meetings in Benton, Washington and Madison Counties

- Educated students regarding STI's and teen pregnancy prevention in Benton and Washington Counties
  - Educated students regarding oral health and hygiene in Benton County
  - Regional ADH Hometown Health meetings hosted and held at NWAESC
- 

**Community Links**

NWA Drug and Tobacco Free Coalition  
NWA Hometown Health Improvement  
NWA Trauma Regional Advisory Council  
Region 1 Prevention Providers  
NWA Suicide Coalition  
Washington County FoodCorps Service Members

Benton County Community Coalition  
Madison County Health Coalition  
NWA Safe Communities Coalition  
Washington County Hometown Health  
Arkansas Children's Hospital

**Program:** Gifted and Talented Program/GT Specialist, Contracted for FTE 0.75  
**Funding Source:** AR Dept. of Education, NWAESC, and School Districts Contribution  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted:** Yes

---

**Participating Districts:**

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

---

**Personnel:**

**Name:** Dustin Seaton  
**Position:** Gifted and Talented Specialist  
**Degree:** M.A., Ed.

**Name:** Stephanie Gutierrez  
**Position:** Administrative Assistant  
**Degree:** N/A

---

**Goal:**

The Arkansas Department of Education 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. The NWAESC facilitates College Board sponsored Pre-AP/AP teacher certification and Secondary Content training as governed by the Arkansas Department of Education. The NWAESC GT Specialist also provides several extracurricular academic events and scholastics competitions for local students. Lastly, the GT Specialist will help districts maintain best practices for their GT programs by utilizing the latest research and innovative techniques in the gifted community nationally. This will include finding ways to better involve parents/legal guardians into the parenting of gifted students.

---

## **Program Summary:**

The NWAESC GT Specialist serves and functions as a contact person and GT Program resource to a variety of educational stakeholders located in northwest Arkansas, including but not limited to: district GT coordinators/directors, GT facilitators (teachers), regular classroom teachers (especially Pre-AP/AP certified), 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 NWAESC school district meets all of the ADE's GT program standards, especially those districts slated to be monitored/TAV by the state
- Functioning as a conduit for information and positive dialogue between the ADE Office for Gifted Programs, Advanced Placement, and IB Programs with the NWAESC school district GT coordinators/directors
- Providing and conducting monthly meetings with NWAESC GT program coordinators/directors
- 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 with other GT specialists to stay connected with ADE updates and initiatives; these meetings are both face-to-face and virtual/electronic conference meetings via Zoom to share events, best practices and documentation with Google Doc technology
- Hosting various student academic competitions supported by NWAESC schools: STEAM Day for 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> graders, elementary/middle/high school quiz bowl competitions, elementary/middle school Science Olympiad events, 3 scholastic regional chess tournaments (open to all students in grades 2-12), high school ACE competitions (grades 9-12), assistance with Odysseys of the Mind (OM) and National History Day (NHD) events and judging as well as responding to invitations from AGQBA regional and state competitions and invitational tournaments

- 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, differentiation techniques in the regular classroom, and Novice teacher trainings as available
- Responding to requires 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
- Actively participate 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 related to gifted education
- Attending a national gifted conference (i.e. NAGC) to become a regional and statewide leader/representative for gifted education
- Answering emails and phone calls of parents, teachers, administrators, and community members about issues of giftedness and/or opportunities for scholastic events, especially those unfamiliar with school districts or opportunities for students
- Serving on the Arkansas Governor's School Student Selection team whenever possible to review student applications
- Managing all documentation and financial record keeping required by ADE and the NWAESC related to the GT Specialist position (i.e. Strategic Management Place, Quarterly GT 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

- Attending NWAESC board meetings and staff meeting when possible
- Investigating and support of use of blended learning opportunities (digital learning) as a way to deliver information and instruction
- Research and encourage districts to use best practices for GT identification and curriculum for identified students in GT programs

---

### **Major Highlights of the Year:**

- 16 NWA school districts GT program all certified by ADE fully compliant with GT program standards for the 2018-2019 school year
- Worked, visited, and prepared with all 3 NWA schools that had an onsite Technical Assistance Visit (TAV) from the AR Dept. of Education (ADE) in the summer, fall, and early spring to be in compliant and prepared
- Attended and/or presented at two statewide gifted conference – AAGEA (Sept. 2018) and AGATE (Feb. 2019) with fellow GT coordinators and parents of gifted students about best practices
- Attended the National Association of Gifted Conference (NAGC) in Minneapolis, MN (Nov. 2018)
- 3 (one-day) Pre-AP summer trainings scheduled, 2 (two-day) Whole Group Enrichment Elementary trainings schedule, 2 (two-day) AP Literature and AP Language best practices workshops, and a GT boot camp for new or returning GT Coordinators workshops scheduled for Summer 2019
- Completed 3 first year novice teacher half-day workshops and 2 second year novice teacher full-day workshops for Literacy and Social Studies teachers

- Continued partnering with Northwest Arkansas Community College (NWACC) to grow the regional National History Day (NHD) contest into the largest in the state
- Hosted 8 NWA monthly GT coordinator meetings (Aug., Sept., Oct., Dec., Jan., March, April, and May) with guest speakers and presenting information about ADE GT/AP updates
- Attended 8 GT specialist meetings (Aug., Sept., Oct., Dec., Jan., Feb., April, & May)
- Currently serves as President-elect of AGATE and GT specialist group leader organizing agendas, speakers, and meeting times/locations
- Collaborated with local school districts (Springdale & Rogers) to host 2 regional Parent Information Nights with over 150 parents participating in the fall and spring, with GT parent panelists, guest speakers on advocacy and college readiness
- Was highlighted as a 40 Under Forty in the *NWA Business and Politics Journal* as an emerging leader in education
- Was profiled in the Sunday regional newspaper of the *Arkansas Democrat Gazette* for his work with gifted and talented students in NWA and as a GT Specialist at NWAESC
- Attended a 40 Under Forty Forum hosted by the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute with other award winners from NW and central Arkansas on a two-day retreat focusing on Racial Equity in Arkansas
- Is currently working on a grant with the Walton Family Foundation to provide additional GT identification instruments and research for best practices
- Managed these academic events for the local NWA schools that made a significant impact for the NWAESC participating students:
  - 11 ACE matches/games for 9-12<sup>th</sup> graders (60 students – 5 high schools)
  - 1 STEAM Day for 3-4<sup>th</sup> graders (250 students – 10 elementary schools)



- 3 Chess Tournaments for 2-12<sup>th</sup> graders (500 students – 36 schools)
- 3 Quiz Bowl Tournaments for 4-12<sup>th</sup> graders (470 students – 32 schools)
- 2 Science Olympiad Events for 4-8<sup>th</sup> graders (250 students – 8 schools)
- 2 Regional Parent Nights (190 parents – 8 school districts)

**Program:** Science Specialist  
**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Education  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted:** Yes

---

**Participating Districts:**

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

---

**Personnel:**

**Name:** Cayce Neal  
**Position:** Science Specialist  
**Degree:** B.S.

**Name:** Stephanie Gutierrez  
**Position:** Program Administrative Assistant  
**Degree:** N/A

---

**Goal:**

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: Pea Ridge, Rogers, and West Fork
- Collaborated with NWAESC STEM specialist and CMASE science specialists to build the GPS cohort consisting of 3-12 grade science teachers with the purpose of developing teachers' skills with phenomena-based instruction, using student models to demonstrate understanding, disciplinary literacy, and formative assessment; support was provided through professional development and on-site support; Participating districts include: Arkansas Arts Academy, Elkins, Farmington, Fayetteville, Gentry, Gravette, Huntsville, Lincoln, Rogers, Siloam Springs, Springdale, West Fork
- Continued the Science Leadership PLC, bringing together science leaders from all districts for collaboration; completed a book study of *Helping Students Make Sense of the World Using Next Generation Science and Engineering Practices*; book study included classroom observations and PLC coaching based on the topics studied; Participating districts included: Bentonville, Huntsville, Siloam Springs, Springdale, West Fork
- 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
- Supported 5-12 grade novice science teachers with 3 mentoring sessions. Participating districts include: Bentonville, Decatur, Elkins, Gentry, Gravette, Greenland, Huntsville, Lincoln, Pea Ridge, Springdale, West Fork

- Supported mentor teachers and instructional facilitators through 2 instructional coaching professional development sessions

**Program:** K-5 STEM Specialist  
**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Education  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted:** Yes

---

**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:**

**Name:** Jenny Gammill  
**Position:** K-5 STEM Specialist  
**Degree:** M.Ed.

**Name:** Stephanie Gutierrez  
**Position:** Program Secretary  
**Degree:** 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 NWAESC Science Specialist and CMASE Science Specialist to create and support the NWA 3-12 Science Cohort with 30 teachers from across the region participating. The work of the cohort included providing professional development on 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. Follow-up support through email and site visits was provided to the 10 third-fifth grade teachers (6-12 teachers were supported by the other two science specialists).
- Supported professional learning communities in several different districts including Siloam Springs, West Fork, Elkins and Lincoln to assist teachers in aligning science curriculum and choosing resources to support learning.
- Served as a team member on the Making Spaces team at Folsom Elementary (Farmington), in partnership with the Amazeum, and assisted with creating a makerspace/STEAM lab, developing lessons, organizing a STEAM night and providing resources.
- Collaborated with content specialists at NWAESC to create meaningful professional learning for the novice teacher program and facilitated sessions for K-4 novice teachers.

- Partnered with the Amazeum to create STEAM professional development at the Co-op and to assist schools in setting up makerspaces as a place for students to develop 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and explore their passions.
- Partnered with the Co-op's Computer Science Specialist to bring computer science education into the elementary classroom using hands-on coding resources.
- Supported a number of schools across the region with books, equipment and kits so students could engage in high quality, hands-on STEM lessons.
- 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 and integrated STEM/literacy lessons.

**Program:** K-12 Mathematics Specialist  
**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Education  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted:** Yes

---

**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:**

**Name:** Erin McCain  
**Position:** K-12 Mathematics Specialist  
**Degree:** M.Ed.

**Name:** Stephanie Gutierrez  
**Position:** Program Secretary  
**Degree:** 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 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 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 strengthen relationships with districts, facilitate districts/schools as they worked toward



creating a vision of mathematics, and supporting individual schools/teachers as they implemented a student-centered curriculum, specifically in 6-8 math classrooms.

---

## **Major Highlights of the Year:**

### **Site Based Support**

- Facilitated districts and schools to align curriculum, instruction, assessment, and professional development efforts through creating collective visions of mathematics with each site and conducted numerous follow-up visits with districts and schools to support teachers as they began to work toward their vision
- Site specific professional development was provided based on school/district/teacher needs such as number sense in the secondary math classroom, identifying essential standards, analyzing vertical alignment within a district, and understanding justification and explanation as it pertains to ACT Aspire
- Facilitated job-embedded opportunities for individual teachers and teams of teachers to implement a student-centered curriculum from Illustrative Mathematics. These opportunities included planning lessons, observing lessons, and reflecting upon students' engagement and mathematical thinking.
- Facilitated job-embedded opportunities for teams to evolve into true professional learning communities and collaborative teams

### **Face-to-Face Professional Development**

- Illustrative Mathematics Curriculum and Instruction, 6-8 Mathematics - 29 educators participated in this session to learn more about this student-centered curriculum and how to purposefully plan for student-centered mathematics classrooms
- ACT Aspire Content Training, 6-8 Mathematics - partnered with multiple math specialists across the state to provide mathematical specific training for the ACT Aspire Summative Assessment in Fort Smith for 28 participants
- Arithmetic to Algebra, 5-12 Mathematics - 22 educators participated in this session to analyze how multiplication and division works across multiple grade levels from numerical operations to polynomial operations
- Defining and Developing Number Sense in 7-12 Math Classrooms - 8 educators participated in this session to understand why number sense is important for our students, how number sense is defined, and how to support students' number sense in our classrooms

- ACT Aspire Collective Inquiry: Mathematics Exemplars - 17 educators participated in this session to analyze the ACT Aspire Exemplar document as it pertains to Justification and Explanation tasks. This training has been offered on site in multiple schools and districts.
- NWA Math Forum - 48 educators including math teachers, math leaders, curriculum leaders, and district leaders participated in this session to collectively create a mathematics vision for NWA. The session also included an informative session on AR Math QuEST (Quantitative Essentials for Students and Teachers), a session to collect their top burning questions, and a mini-ED Camp experience.

### **Online Professional Development**

- Online, monthly follow-up support via Zoom was provided to the educators who attended the Illustrative Mathematics Curriculum and Instruction training. Two school districts participated in these opportunities and a virtual collaborative team was formed.

**Program:** Literacy  
**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Education  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted:** Yes

---

**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:**

**Name:** Kim Brown  
**Position:** K-12 Literacy Specialist  
**Degree:** M.S. Ed.

**Name:** Judy Fields  
**Position:** K-12 Literacy Specialist  
**Degree:** Ed.S.

**Name:** Kelly Hankins  
**Position:** K-12 Literacy Specialist  
**Degree:** M.S. Ed.

**Name:** Tina Storm  
**Position:** Administrative Assistant  
**Degree:** A.A.

**Name:** Cindy Love  
**Position:** Reading Specialist, K-12 Literacy Specialist  
**Degree:** M.S. Ed.

---

**Goal:**

The primary goal of the literacy specialist is to support educators in planning and implementing instruction that aligns with the Science of Reading and evidenced-based practices so that all students have equitable opportunities 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 was provided for the following programs over the past year:

- ***School Improvement Support***

Literacy specialists are available to assist in the school improvement process which includes meeting with educators in a variety of configurations to provide customized learning opportunities.

- ***R.I.S.E. Arkansas Grades K-2 and 3-6***

The Reading Initiative for Student Excellence (R.I.S.E.) is a program developed by the Arkansas Department of Education based on the Science of Reading and evidenced-based practices. Explicit, systematic synthetic phonics approach to decoding is the focus of the K-2 Academy, while the 3-6 Academy extends and deepens educators' knowledge of morphology. Fifteen of the sixteen school districts in Northwest Arkansas region are participating in the R.I.S.E. academies.

- ***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, facilitation of professional learning communities, 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 in the following areas:
  - data analysis

- comprehension strategies
  - authentic assessments
  - effective lesson plans
  - classroom management
  - student engagement
  - intervention
- Facilitated educator discussions and supported collaborative efforts regarding possible revision in current curriculum
  - Provided on-site support to Northwest Arkansas schools through the administering of oral reading fluency (ORF) screeners for intervention purposes
  - Continued the **K-5 Literacy Council** and the **6-12 Adolescent Literacy Council**.
    - The purpose of the councils is to provide a forum for discussion of specific needs and concerns at the district, building, and classroom level and to disseminate information.
  - Critical Reading (9-12) site-based observations
  - R.I.S.E. Academy site-based observation and support
  - Provided support for novice teachers in best practices and classroom management
  - Provided over 1,156 hours of technical and instructional support to area schools

**Program:** Dyslexia  
**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Education  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted:** Yes

---

**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:**

**Name:** Kim Brown  
**Position:** K-5 Literacy Specialist  
**Degree:** M.S.Ed

**Name:** Tina Storm  
**Position:** Administrative Assistant  
**Degree:** A.A.

---

**Goal:**

The goal of the dyslexia program 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. Another major focus has been how well the districts are providing dyslexia support according to the law.

## Professional Development June 1, 2018- April 30, 2019:

10-18-18	Dyslexia Contact Meeting	17 participants
12-17-18	Dyslexia Contact Meeting	16 participants
2-25-19	School Base Identification: What Classroom Teachers Need to Know	
5-17-19	<i>Planned</i> - Dyslexia Contact Meeting	61 participants

---

## Major Highlights of the Year:

**2-25-19** Vicki King, ADE Dyslexia Specialist, provided the training, School Based Identification: What Classroom Teachers Need to Know. Not only was screening, student identification and interventions discussed, but also what the responsibilities of the Districts are according to the law. 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.

**1-28 through 1-30-19** Kim Brown participated with ADE Specialists and other Dyslexia Contact Specialists from around the state in a District Dyslexia Audit. This opportunity provided her with information to bring to NWA districts in order to improve their implementation of Dyslexia Services.

## Individual District Support

There were some new District Dyslexia Contact leaders in the group this year that needed some individual support onsite. Some districts wanted individual support so they could provide better support for their schools, teachers and students.

- Decatur: Onsite support was provided on 9-17-18 and 11-9-18
- Pea Ridge: Onsite support was provided on 9-12-18, 10-5-18, 10-30-18, 10-31-18, 11-7-18 and 11-12-18
- West Fork: Onsite support was provided on 11-6-18 and 3-28-19. We have a district leadership team meeting scheduled for 5-16-19 to revise their District Dyslexia Plan.

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 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
- Know how to improve their District Dyslexia Plan and become better at meeting the letter of the law



**Program:** TALENTS / Novice Teacher  
**Funding Source:** ADE Grant  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted:** Yes

---

**Participating Districts:**

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

---

**Personnel:**

**Name:** Marcia Sanders  
**Position:** Talents / Novice Teacher Coordinator  
**Degree:** M.S.Ed

**Name:** Karen Brown  
**Position:** Mentoring Specialist  
**Degree:** B.S.E.

**Name:** Sharla Heltzel  
**Position:** Mentoring Specialist  
**Degree:** M.S.Ed

**Name:** Tina Storm  
**Position:** Administrative Assistant  
**Degree:** N/A

---

**Goal:**

- Each novice teacher will meet or exceed educational milestones along pathways to become an effective teacher who remains in the profession for many years.
- Each novice teacher will meet or exceed his/her expected individual professional growth annually.

- Each novice teacher will develop and apply professional competencies that foster learning, community engagement, and success in life among his/her students.
  - 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.
  - 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 334 Year 1 and 359 Year 2 novice teachers during the 2018-2019 school year through a variety of means. Eight cohorts, based on grade bands and discipline areas, met throughout the school year to gain new information and insight, celebrate successes, vent frustrations, and share concerns. Literacy, math, science, social studies, and CTE 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, respectively, and fine arts novices met with staff from the Walton Arts Center. Special Education novices were mentored by two mentoring specialists hired by TALENTS, each of whom had extensive backgrounds in special education. Speech Language Pathologists were served by both the mentoring specialists and ADE's Shelly Wier. The program covered the cost of the sessions as well as paying for the novice's substitute.

In addition, TALENTS continued to focus 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, TALENTS brought Wink back to the region to continue his work with area administrators on building that culture.

Administrators also benefitted from a day with Dr. Anthony Muhammad, Solution Tree author of *Transforming School Culture*. This day saw teams, led by their administrators,

learning how to develop cohesive school cultures that turn toxic cultures into healthy ones.

Further support was provided to administrators in the following two areas:

- Online course – Book study, led by Dr. Mandy Barrett, Principal of Gravette Intermediate School over *THE COACHING HABIT: SAY LESS, ASK MORE AND CHANGE THE WAY YOU LEAD FOREVER*
- ADE’s Leadership Quest – Journey 3 – led by Rogers’ Reagan Elementary Principal, Laura Quillen, and Lincoln High School’s Principal, Courtney Jones

Two mentoring specialists were hired, each of whom had deep experience and training in special education. These specialists were not limited to working with special education novices, but were available to all novices. They spent the majority of their 75 day contracts in classrooms working one-on-one with first and second year teachers, primarily in the area of improving classroom management.

Mentoring trainings were held on July 23 and repeated on Oct. 29 for any teacher interested in improving his/her mentoring skills. *These sessions, led by Jigish Patel and Cayce Neal (NWAESC Specialists), focused on THE ART OF COACHING by Elena Aguilar and MENTORING MATTERS by Bruce Wellman and Laura Lipton.* Each participant received a copy of the two texts and follow-up, onsite support by the session leaders.

---

### **Major Highlights of the Year:**

1. TESS Law and Process Trainings provided
  - Six sessions at the Co-op during the summer, early fall and spring,
  - Nine sessions onsite at districts (as requested)
    - ❖ Seven for novice teachers and two for high school students in the teaching pathway
  - One at the University of AR for secondary MAT students
2. Eight 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-5 – Jenny Gammill, Kim Brown, Cindy Love, Erin McCain, Marcia Sanders
  - 6-12 – Cayce Neal, Judy Fields, Kelly Hankins, Erin McCain, Dustin Seaton, Jigish Patel,
  - 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
    - ❖ Participants were offered sessions during the school day and on weekends/evenings – in an effort to meet the district’s desire to not have teachers out of the classroom
  - K-12 Physical Education and Athletics – Dr. Janet Forbess, University of Arkansas Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Clinical Instructor
  - K-12 Special Education – Karen Brown and Sharla Heltzel, NWAESC Mentoring Specialists
    - ❖ ADE’s Yvonne Green, Robin Stripling, and Shelly Wier assisted with these trainings
  - K-12 Counselors - Dr. Judy Winslett, John Brown University Assistant Professor of School Counseling
3. Classroom Management trainings (in addition to those provided through the cohorts above)
- CHAMPS
    - ❖ July 10, 2018
    - ❖ June 20, 2019
  - NO NONSENSE NURTURING
    - ❖ July 27, 2018
    - ❖ Oct 1, 2019
    - ❖ June 26, 2019
4. Administrator Training
- John Wink - Solution Tree Author and Presenter
  - Dr. Anthony Muhammad – Solution Tree Author and Presenter
  - Leadership Quest sessions
  - Online book study for asynchronous support
5. Mentor Training

**Program:** Career & Technical Education  
**Funding Source:** Department of Career Education & Carl Perkins Grant  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted:** No

---

**Participating Districts:**

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

---

**Personnel:**

**Name:** Cheryl Pickering  
**Position:** CTE Coordinator  
**Degree:** M.Ed

**Name:** Lisa Lee  
**Position:** CTE Administrative Assistant  
**Degree:** 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 connecting 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 consortia, 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, Student Certifications, 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
- Perkins Updates/Requirements
- CTE Teacher Roundtables
- Partnership with the NWA Council/Labor Market and Educational Programs
- Work with Business & Industry to improve CTE Programs
- Partner with local Chambers of Commerce to provide information to Educators
- Business & Industry Tours
- Mentor Novice CTE Teachers

**Program:** K-12 Computer Science  
**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Education Grant  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted:** Yes

---

**Participating Districts:**

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

Over 50 other school districts in other co-op regions

---

**Personnel:**

**Name:** Jigish Patel  
**Position:** K-12 Computer Science Specialist  
**Degree:** B.A., B.S., M.Ed.

---

**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. I also provided more specialized high school trainings in Arduinos and RaspberryPi.

**Number of teachers impacted:** 200+

**Goal 2:**

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:** 400+

**Goal 3:**

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 4:**

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 and circuit playground trainings. During these trainings, teachers learn how to teach students to create robots, monitor systems such as moisture and temperature sensors for plants.

**Trash to robot:** 40+

**Goal 5:**

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—Greater Delta
  - 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 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 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 teachers through in-person professional learning communities
- Worked with various organizations to develop computer science and STEM related activities
- Helped school with organizing STEM nights for students, parents, and community members

**Program:** English Learner Support Program/ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)  
**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Education  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted:** Yes

---

**Participating Districts:**

**AFESC:**

Atkins	Clinton	Conway	South Conway County
Dardanelle	Dover	East End	Heber Springs
Nemo Vista	Pottsville	Quitman	Danville
Russellville	Vilonia	Greenbrier	Western Yell County

**CRESC:**

Armored	Blytheville	Brookland	Buffalo Island Central
Gosnell	Harrisburg	Jonesboro	Manila
Marion	Marked Tree	Nettleton	Newport
Osceola	Rivercrest	Trumann	Valley View
Westside	Jonesboro	Wynne	

**GFESC:**

Alma	Booneville	Clarksville	County Line
Fort Smith	Greenwood	Lamar	Lavaca
Magazine	Mansfield	Ozark	Paris
Scranton	Van Buren	Waldron	Westside
Coal Hill			

**NCAESC:**

Batesville	Cave City	Highland	Melbourne
Mountain Home	Mountain View	Salem	Southside

**NEESC:**

Corning	Paragould	Pocahontas	Greene County Tech
Jackson County			

**NWAESC:**

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

**OURESC:**

Alpena	Berryville	Eureka Springs	Green Forest
Harrison	Omaha		

**WDMESC:**

Bald Knob	Beebe	Cabot	England
Lonoke	Pangburn	Riverview	Rose Bud
Searcy	White Co. Central		

---

**Personnel:**

**Name:** Lisa Coats  
**Position:** English Learner Specialist  
**Degree:** BSE; M.Ed.

**Name:** Tresa Cotton  
**Position:** ESOL Program Administration Assistant  
**Degree:** 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 ACSIP 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:**

- Partnered with EL Achieve and ADE to provide Systematic English Language Development (SysELD) training and support to teachers and administrators in 6 districts: Berryville, Farmington, Green Forest, Huntsville, Lincoln, Prairie Grove
- Partnering with Education Northwest (Tim Blackburn) and ADE to bring Intentional Planning Practice to districts across Arkansas
- ELPA21 Monitoring (Alma, Bentonville, HAAS Hall)
- Facilitated monthly/quarterly ESOL coordinator meetings (NWA, OUR, GFESC)
- Presented English Language Standards to educators (AFESC)
- Presented Supporting English Learners in Content Areas (Clarksville, OURESC, Gentry, NWAESC)
- Co-presented SIM Links Vocabulary Strategy (NWAESC)
- Presented Making LPACs (Language Proficiency Assessment Committee) Efficient and Effective (OURESC)
- Presented “HELP ME” – A Guide to Educating Newcomers (NEAESC)

- Facilitated ESOL program guide updates (NWAESC, GFESC, OURESC)
- Presented Stages of Language Acquisition (Pocahontas)
- Co-presented SIOP (Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol) to teachers in Lake Hamilton School District
- Delivered technical assistance to HAAS Hall (worked with EL Coordinator and Executive Director of APSCN to address eSchool errors, develop district ESOL Guide, establish district protocols for EL instruction and assessment)
- Presented at ARKTESOL conference (Academic Optimism for English Learners)
- Co-facilitated state EL Coordinators' Meeting
- Partnering with ADE, EL and SPED Specialists to create English Learner Students with Disabilities (ELSWD) Guide
- Collaborated with EL team and Tricia Kerr to revise/edit Entry/Exit Manual

**Program:** CGI Years 1-3  
**Funding Source:** District / Participant  
**Competitive Grant:** N/A  
**Restricted:** N/A

---

**Participating Districts:**

Bentonville	Berryville	Elkins	Fayetteville
Gravette	Huntsville	Pea Ridge	Prairie Grove
Rogers	Springdale		

---

**Personnel:**

**Name:** Cheryl Scott  
**Position:** Trainer  
**Degree:** M.A. Ed.

**Name:** Kendra Bookout  
**Position:** Trainer  
**Degree:** Ed.S.

**Name:** Mary Nevin  
**Position:** Trainer  
**Degree:** M.S. Ed.

**Name:** Linda Jaslow  
**Position:** Trainer  
**Degree:** M.S. Ed.

**Name:** Stacie Mathis  
**Position:** Trainer  
**Degree:** M.A.T.

**Name:** Stephanie Gutierrez  
**Position:** Administrative Assistant  
**Degree:** N/A

---

**Number of Teachers Trained:** 92

---

**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:** N/A

---

**Participating Districts:**

Bentonville	Elkins	Fayetteville	Gravette
Ozark Montessori	Pea Ridge	Prairie Grove	Rogers
Siloam Springs	Walnut Ridge		

---

**Personnel:**

**Name:** Linda Jaslow  
**Position:** Math Project Co-Director  
**Degree:** M.S.Ed.

**Name:** Stephanie Gutierrez  
**Position:** Administrative Assistant  
**Degree:** N/A

---

**Number of Teachers Trained:** 77

---

**Goal:**

Work with Linda Levi (Teachers Development Group, now CGI Math Teacher Learning Center) 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 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. Also worked on the connections between developing base 10 concepts and their relationships to student's strategies in multi-digit multiplication and division strategies.
- Worked with teachers in study groups Bentonville 5th grade teachers to explore the relationships between different problem types for fractions and the relationships embedded in the strategies. Tried to identify which big ideas interrelate between problem types and which are the most productive relationships (this includes properties of operations and relationships embedded in students' strategies). This is critical in that the past, we looked to move students from least sophisticated strategies to more sophisticated strategies. But it appears strategies based on the simplest ideas, are the most complex. It changes what we look for in students' strategies. Teachers continue to meet monthly and have created a Google Classroom to share resources and discuss big ideas.
- The research from our work with students influence the evolution of the ECM classes which in turn has help define the important building blocks that are critical to the development of children's understanding of Arkansas Mathematics Standards.

**Program:** Technology  
**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Education  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted:** Yes

---

**Participating Districts:**

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

---

**Personnel:**

**Name:** Sam Karnatz  
**Position:** Technology Coordinator  
**Degree:** B.A.

---

**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 discuss items of interest with district technology staff
- Participated with state technology leaders at the annual HSTI conference and the Arkansas Conference of Technology.
- Attended the National Consortium for School Networking conference in Portland, OR
- Installed new projectors and audio-visual equipment in 4 of our most heavily used meeting rooms

Northwest Arkansas Education

Cooperative

2018-2019

*Special Projects...*

## **ADE Supported Leadership Programs:**

- **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 2018-19 school year. The NWA Education Service Cooperative held training in TESS 2.0 multiple times during the 2018-2019 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 2018-2019 school year. Sessions at NWAESC included five sessions with TESS 2.0 Law and Process and Beginning Administrators provided by ADE through AAEA and two sessions provided by Leadership Development Coach, Rocci Malone to better develop their understanding of the revisions and framework/calibration.

- **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 2018-2019 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 AAEA to support the administrators in LEADS and other

leadership information. NWAESC provided administrator networking and support forums. Work provided by Solution Tree presenter John Wink in coordination with the NWAESC TALENTS/Novice Teacher Program held a session that focused on how to build that culture through Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and building leadership capacity.

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

**Goals and Description:**

Approximately 76 building leaders participated in the three-part Leadership Quest which held sessions in July, September, November, and January. These sessions were led by current practicing NWA building level administrators.

- ❖ **Principal PLC - Journey 1 The Principal's Role: Leading Rapid Improvement Through the Planning Process**

Planning the work and working the plan...During this Principal PLC, determine how to enhance your school improvement plan to better engage and meet the needs of your students.

- ❖ **Principal PLC - Journey 2: The Principal's Role: Using Data to Improve Student Learning through Collaboration**

Principal PLC - Journey 1 & 2 Due to cancellation of Journey 1 in December, this session will combine Journey 1 and 2 topics. We will discuss, "Planning the work and working the plan" and "Data in...Data out." During this Principal PLC, determine how to enhance your school improvement plan to better engage and meet the needs of your students. We will also briefly collaborate on methods to use student data to improve student achievement.

- ❖ **Principal PLC – Journey 3: The Principal's Role: Personalizing Learning for ALL**

How can the principal make an impact on individualized student learning? This Principal PLC will be a collaborative way for administrators to learn strategies to enhance student focused learning including utilizing student success plans and culturally responsive activities.

- **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 2018-A three-hour training was led by Kenneth Rich 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 2019-second three-hour training was led by Kristen Garner, of the Arkansas School Board Association (ASBA) and covered a variety of topics, including personnel-related issues and others.

- **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, 2018-June 30, 2019**.
- ❖ Currently, we have three 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).



- **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.

- **PLC work/Solution Tree**

**Goals and Description:**

Over the past five 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 in July 2018. These trainings were led by highly regarded authors/presenters. Cost savings to districts has been tremendous, allowing them to build capacity in these three critical areas.

**Program:** Digital Learning – Virtual Arkansas (2018-2019 Academic Year)

**Funding Source:** ADE Grant – Act

**Competitive Grant:** No

**Restricted:** Yes

---

**Participating Districts:**

Decatur	Elkins	Farmington	Gentry
Gravette	Greenland	Huntsville	Lincoln
Prairie Grove	Siloam Springs	West Fork	

---

**Personnel:**

**Name:** John Ashworth

**Position:** Virtual Arkansas Director

**Degree:** BS, MSE

**Name:** Kirsten Wilson

**Position:** Virtual Arkansas Director of Curriculum and Instruction

**Degree:** BS, MSE

**Name:** Michael Lar

**Position:** Virtual Arkansas Director of Operations

**Degree:** BS, MBA, ED.D, ABD

**Name:** Jason Bohler

**Position:** Virtual Arkansas Director of Academics

**Degree:** BA, MAT

**Name:** Jeremy Woodward

**Position:** Virtual Arkansas Director of Technology

**Degree:** BA

---

**Goal:**

The mission of the Virtual Arkansas is to equip, engage, and empower students by providing equitable, efficient, and effective learning opportunities for students and school districts throughout the state of Arkansas. These opportunities are offered utilizing digital solutions to extend learning where local access may not exist. Virtual Arkansas also exists to provide relief for schools experiencing teacher shortages, to provide students a wide range of courses in all areas of the state, to ensure educational options for

economically disadvantaged students, and to provide educational options for students with scheduling conflicts.

---

### **Program Summary:**

Virtual Arkansas is nationally classified as a State Virtual School (SVC) 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 259 school locations and processed over 40,000 student enrollments during the 2018 – 2019 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. Districts that partner with Virtual Arkansas will be satisfying the requirements of Act 1280, the Digital Learning Act of 2013.

[www.virtualarkansas.org](http://www.virtualarkansas.org)

---

### **Major Highlights of the Year - Virtual Arkansas**

- Implemented an enhanced SIS for schools, facilitators, teachers, and students to track their academic progress in Virtual Arkansas courses
- Trained over a 225 High School counselors and administrators around the state on Virtual Arkansas updates and registration process
- Attended and presented at the 2019 Digital Learning Annual Conference (DLAC) national conference on online and blended learning
- Shared information at numerous statewide conferences
- Implemented Computer Science course opportunities to Arkansas schools, per Governor's Initiative
- Offered daily support to schools in the implementation of Act 1280: Digital Learning Requirement

- Presented at the National Rural Education Conference on the positive impact of digital learning on rural students and rural districts
- Presented at the Quality Matters (QM) National Conference on building a culture of quality within your organization
- [Article published](#) by Quality Matters (QM) regarding Virtual Arkansas' commitment to quality
- Virtual Arkansas featured on a Quality Matters (QM) webinar
- 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
- Laid the groundwork to increase Advanced Placement course offerings
- Partnered with the Department of Youth Services (DYS) to provide core courses and teachers to five DYS facilities
- Partnered with the Arkansas Department of Education to design and develop an online Art Course for special needs students

**Program:** Digital Learning – Team Digital, Arkansas Connect2Digital  
**Funding Source:** ADE Grant – Act  
**Competitive Grant:** No  
**Restricted:** Yes

---

**Participating Districts:**

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

---

**Personnel:**

**Name:** Junior Stormes  
**Position:** Team Digital Coordinator  
**Degree:** N/A

**Name:** Evan Patrick  
**Position:** Team Digital Member  
**Degree:** BS

**Name:** Lisa Russell  
**Position:** Team Digital Member  
**Degree:** BSE

**Name:** Tammy Manning  
**Position:** Team Digital Member  
**Degree:** MSE

**Name:** Gerard Newsom  
**Position:** Team Digital Member  
**Degree:** BA

**Name:** Steven Walker  
**Position:** Team Digital Member  
**Degree:** BSE, MSE

**Name:** Amanda Perry  
**Position:** Team Digital Member  
**Degree:** BA, MED, EDS

**Name:** Dexter Miller  
**Position:** Team Digital Member  
**Degree:** BA

**Name:** Sherry Kennedy  
**Position:** Team Digital Member  
**Degree:** BSE

---

**Goal:**

To provide expertise in personalized lesson design and innovative school models while helping educators transform system-centered practices into student-focused practices.

---

## **Program Summary:**

### **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](http://www.teamdigital.org)

### **Arkansas Connect2Digital:**

Arkansas Connect2Digital is a digital platform where Arkansas educational agencies house digital resources and implement blended professional learning. It supports 20,000 users and is managed by Team Digital. In addition to professional learning, Connect2Digital.org's platform is used to deliver the Arkansas Civics Exam. This platform supports over 100,000 users including administrators, teachers, and students.

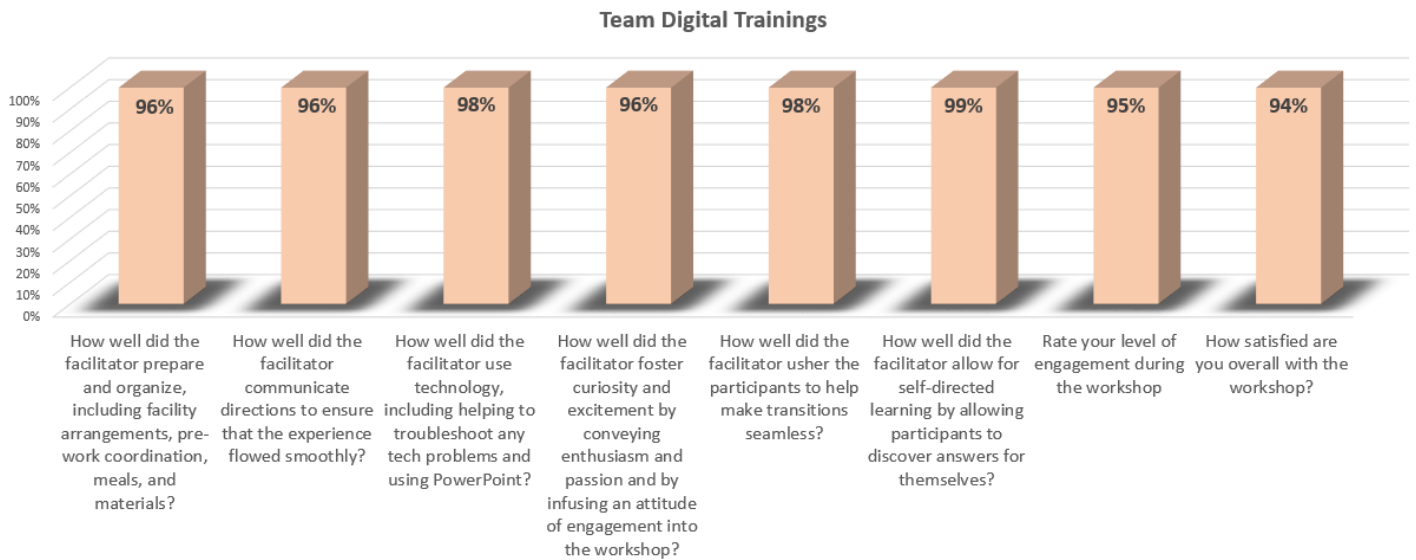
---

## **Major Highlights of the Year:**

- Held three regional “Blended Learning Live!” conferences in Arkansas for teachers and administrators with best practices in implementing blended learning in their schools. Over 70 school leaders representing 15 schools were in attendance.
- Presentations at 6 state education conferences and 12 Arkansas Leadership meetings.
- Held statewide school consultations on the planning and implementation of Blended Learning.
- Provided personalized professional learning plans for 10 schools.
- Supported visits to Virtual Arkansas’ participating schools as needed.
- Offer daily support to schools in the implementation of Act 1280: Digital Learning Requirement.

- Zoom webinars hosted for Arkansas educators - 59 total webinars hosted for ADE, over 67 hours offered, over 3,700 total participants.
- Several team members continued their education through Google Educator certification.
- Providing tech support and presentations for the 2019 ADE Summit.
- Launch of the Arch Ford Novice Teacher Mentoring program with support for their users.
- Redesign of professional learning sessions to optimize a blended learning format.

### Workshop Satisfaction Results:



Northwest Arkansas Education  
Cooperative  
2018-2019

*Professional Development Activities...*



# Professional Development Report

Beginning: July 1, 2018  
Ending: June 30, 2019



## **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***

Dr. Charles Cudney, Director  
4 North Double Springs Road  
Farmington, AR 72730  
479-267-7450