

EVALUATION NARRATIVE SUMMARY

2023



Karen Kay McMahan, Director
South Central Service Cooperative

South Central Service Cooperative

Board of Directors

Name	Position	School District
Mr. Denny Rozenberg	Superintendent	Bearden
Mr. Johnny Embry	Superintendent	Camden Fairview
Mr. Jim Tucker	Superintendent	El Dorado
Mr. David Downs	Superintendent	Emerson-Taylor-Bradley
Mr. Doug Worley	Superintendent	Hampton
Dr. Albert Snow	Superintendent	Harmony Grove
Mrs. Joy Mason	Superintendent	Junction City
Mr. John Ward	Superintendent	Magnolia
Mr. John Gross	Superintendent	Parkers Chapel
Mr. Robby Frizzell	Superintendent	Smackover Norphlet
Mrs. Kimberly Thomas	Superintendent	Strong Huttig

South Central ESC Demographics

South Central Service Cooperative has served our regional districts for over thirty years. The cooperative became a state-funded agency through ‘The Education Service Cooperative Act of 1985’ (Act 349 of 1985). The first offices were established on Maul Road in an old school building rented from the Camden Fairview School District. In 2010, a new building was erected at the 2235 California address through a USDA Rural Development loan. Then, later in 2018, an additional wing of two classrooms and two office areas were added to expand training opportunities. The cooperative employs 55 employees, with 20 employees housed at the 2235 California address. In addition, we house an APSCN representative and a Community Health Nurse. South Central serves 11 school districts in 5 counties in South Central Arkansas.

Section 6-13-1003	Requirement	Documentation
1	ESC regions include at least three (3) but no more than nine (9) counties	South Central serves 11 school districts in 5 counties.
2	ESC regions include at least (10) but no more than thirty-five (35) school districts	South Central serves 11 school districts in Arkansas.
3	ESC region comprises at least twenty thousand (20,000) pupils in K-12 average daily membership (ADM)	The number of students in South Central Cooperative per SIS, ADE Data Center is 14,658.
4	ESC region includes at least one (1) postsecondary education institution	There are three (3) postsecondary education institutions within the South Central ESC region: Southern Arkansas University (4-year), Southern Arkansas University Tech (2-year) and South Arkansas Community College (2-year)
5	ESC region covers no more than fifty (50) miles distance or approximately one (1) hour driving time to the area’s main offices for ninety (90%) of the school districts. (Google Maps)	South Central ESC serves 11 school districts, with 81% (9 districts) of those within 50 miles of driving distance. 19% (2 districts) are located more than 50 miles but less than 70 miles of driving distance.

Section 1: User Satisfaction and Service Adequacy

22.2 Section 1A-1B: Annual User Satisfaction Survey and Summative PD session evaluation responses

1A. SCSC utilizes User Satisfaction Survey and Professional Development Surveys in multiple ways, in both real-time and in the annual review process. The User Satisfaction Survey is a tool designed in collaboration with the co-ops statewide and distributed as a Google Form to the school districts each spring (April/May). This year, the User Satisfaction Survey was emailed directly to co-op area administrators, and committee members, and shared by content specialists with their respective educator groups. It was also discussed and shared at our SCSC Board of Directors Meetings, SCSC Teacher Center Committee, SCSC Professional Development Committee, and other various job-alike committees facilitated by the Teacher Center Coordinator and Cooperative Specialists. In addition, we shared the link to our form on our co-op website, Facebook page, Instagram Page, and at the bottom of our email signature.

Furthermore, in an effort to share information and connect with our districts, we initiated the SCSC Professional Development Roadshow Tour in the spring of 2022. Educators were asked to complete the User Satisfaction Survey before our informational meetings began. SCSC staff provided a QR code to access the survey with a device, and we also provided Chromebooks for those that needed technology in order to complete the survey. We explained to the staff of the districts that we valued the importance of the User Satisfaction Survey and how our staff used the results to plan professional development to best meet their needs as individuals and as districts. Data from districts/schools are also obtained from face-to-face meetings, informal conversations, emails, texts, and content-specific surveys.

The Summative Professional Development Evaluations are electronically generated through escWorks to participants after a session has concluded. Once they are marked as attended, the survey is delivered to their registered email address. South Central Service Cooperative Specialists who conduct trainings use both escWorks electronic evaluations and the User Satisfaction Survey to reflect on their practice.

Annually, the South Central Professional Development staff, which includes the SCSC Director, Teacher Center Coordinator, literacy, mathematics, science, novice teacher, technology, G/T, and CTE specialists, have access to the results of all surveys. During the weekly “Power Hour” meetings, staff debrief and reflect on the results of surveys, cooperative data, PLC data, and state data. Staff is provided an opportunity to share and celebrate the happenings of the departments. In addition to these key surveys, we collect data regarding technical assistance visits with our schools. Recommendations to identify the needs of our districts are also collected from in-district observations, content specialist-created surveys, face-to-face discussions with members, and committee meetings (job-alike, Teacher Center Committee, Professional Development Committee, and Monthly SCSC Leadership Meetings.). All data is analyzed by each department to determine the support and continuing education that our districts need. Differentiation between our districts is also considered to best meet their needs.

The South Central Annual User Satisfaction Survey was distributed beginning in March 2021, and we received a total of 503 responses from our co-op area (with representations from all 11 districts) with the following data. See the disaggregated data below.

South Central User Satisfaction Survey

(**NOTE:** In survey directions, participants were instructed to use N/A if the question pertained to a service area with which they were not familiar. In the table below, N/A responses are removed from the final calculations of the percentages of user satisfaction). See the disaggregated data below.

	Area of Service	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Not Satisfied	Very Satisfied + Satisfied Subtotals
Support Services	Administrative Support	57%-184	41%-132	2%-7	98%
	Support for State Initiatives	55%-211	43%-165	2%-9	98%
	Support for Federal Programs, ESL, Curriculum, GT, etc	50%-162	46%-149	4%-13	96%
	Helpfulness of Staff when Seeking Info as an Educator	66%-285	33%-145	1%-4	99%
Literacy	RISE K-2	64%-126	36%-70	0%-0	100%
	RISE 3-6	52%-101	44%-87	3%-7	96%
	SoR Stand-Alone Days	54%-86	43%-69	3%-5	97%
	Critical Reading	49%-72	44%-64	7%-10	93%
	Literacy Content Training	51%-94	44%-82	5%-9	95%
	Dyslexia Support	46%-83	47%-85	8%-14	92%
	Writing Training	50%-80	43%-69	7%-11	93%
Math	Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI)	51%-66	47%-61	2%-3	98%
	Mathematical Content Trainings	52%-94	44%-80	4%-8	96%
	Quantitative Literacy	46%-52	47%-54	7%-8	93%
	AR Math QuEST	52%-70	42%-57	6%-8	94%
	Illustrative Mathematics	51%-72	41%-58	8%-11	92%
	Mathematics Programs	49%-63	45%-58	6%-8	94%
Science	Grasping Phenomenal Science K-4	53%-60	42%-47	5%-6	95%
	Grasping Phenomenal Science 5-8	51%-57	44%-49	5%-5	95%
	Grasping Phenomenal Science 9-12	52%-55	42%-45	6%-6	94%
	STEM	52%-80	44%-67	4%-6	96%
Novice Teacher	Classroom Management	52%-142	46%-127	2%-6	98%
	Support through use of Digital Platform	51%-137	46%-124	3%-9	97%
	Support by R & R and/or Cooperative Specialists	52%-120	44%-103	4%-9	96%
	PD on relevant topics	53%-142	45%-121	3%-7	97%
Digital Learning	Digital Learning Resources/Tools	47%-144	47%-142	6%-18	94%
	Support on Digital Platforms	47%-145	47%-144	6%-18	94%
	In-district support for Digital Learning	47%-130	44%-122	9%-22	91%
	IT Support	47%-117	42%-105	11%-27	89%

Covid-19	Assistance to transition to Blended Learning	50%-136	43%-117	7%-17	93%
	Regular Communication/Updates	56%-188	41%-135	3%-11	97%
	PD Offerings during Covid-19	54%-186	43%-150	3%-12	97%
	Support with AR RfL Plan	53%-136	42%-108	5%-13	95%
Special Education	LEA Supervisors	54%-82	40%-60	6%-9	94%
	Behavior Support Specialists	50%-89	43%-76	7%-12	93%
	Other SPED Services	55%-82	40%-60	5%-8	95%
Early Childhood	ABC Program	57%-68	41%-49	2%-3	98%
	Early Childhood Special Education	58%-75	40%-51	2%-3	98%
	HIPPY	50%-45	46%-41	4%-4	96%
	Other Early Childhood Services	53%-69	45%-58	2%-3	98%
Other Services	Student Services (Quiz Bowl, Chess, Spelling Bee, etc.)	47%-68	46%-64	7%-9	93%
	Career/Technical Education(CTE)	45%-64	51%-72	4%-6	96%
	Gifted and Talented	43%-63	50%-73	7%-10	93%
	Instructional Technology	49%-90	44%-80-	7%-12	93%
	Community Health Nurse	42%-51	50%-60	8%-10	92%
	Facilities Consortium	47%-58	47%-58	6%-8	94%
	Purchasing Programs (Warehouse)	46%-61	45%-59	9%-12	91%
	Teacher Center and/or Print Shop	55%-137	42%-102	3%-8	97%
Overall Average		51%	44%	5%	95%

17.00 Section 1C: Annual Surveys and Needs Assessment

South Central Service Cooperative administers a Needs Assessment Survey via Google Forms to administrators each year (November/December) to determine service focus for both the summer and school year professional development. In addition to the Needs Assessment, we also gather information via our job-alike groups. SCSC Board of Directors, Leadership Groups, MST(STEM) Consortium, Technology Coordinators, Library Media Specialists Support Group, GT Coordinators, Dyslexia Specialists, Novice Teachers and Mentors, Professional Development Committee, SPED, Counselors, Teacher Center Committee, and our CTE Consortium are asked to contribute to the conversation about what support they feel that teachers and staff need. This may be done in meetings, through surveys, school visits, emails, and/or discussions.

The results of the Needs Assessment Survey are shared and reviewed at our SCSC Board of Directors Meeting, our Teacher Center Committee Meeting, our Professional Development Committee Meeting, and with our specialists at our “Power Hour” Meetings. Cooperative staff compares and discusses what we are planning to currently offer for continued learning and compares those selections based on the feedback of the Needs Assessment.

The following are some examples of how South Central responded to the needs survey given in November 2021:

- Mental Health was a top concern among our districts. There was a need for providing resources and training for educators. Based on this need, we offered several sessions on Youth Mental Health First Aid. Committees and job-alike groups were introduced to the resources that Arkansas TRIS provides to all schools in the state. Additionally, trainings were held regarding Secondary Trauma, Social Emotional Learning, and Trauma Informed Classrooms. We also hosted workshops with nationally known presenters, such as Dave Opalewski, Kris Shinn, and the Ozark Guidance Center, on mental health and trauma to assist educators from all content levels and grade levels. SCSC promoted the work of Arkansas A.W.A.R.E, the State Behavior Support Specialists, and their designated trainings. Specifically, BX3 and Thrive Arkansas were promoted via committees and social media. Sonia Hartsfied, our Behavior Support Specialist, was invited to speak at committee meetings to share information about the positive impact that other school districts had with these initiatives. Our GT Specialist, Chad Morris, presented trainings on Secondary Trauma, and our Community Health Nurse, Rhonda McDonald also provided trauma support training.
- SCSC coordinated PLCs and Essential Standards professional development with Solution Tree K-6 and 7-12 educators. These trainings focused on the beginning processes of PLCs and understanding the basics of Essential Standards. Solution Tree associates worked with the SCSC Teacher Center Coordinator in differentiated trainings for our cooperative needs and they presented the training in the Summer of 2022.
- SCSC continued to offer a variety of in-person and virtual training based on the feedback from the Needs Survey. Some of these trainings consisted of state-required Science of Reading Pathways, virtual book studies, technology training, and asynchronous learning with The Autism Helper Courses.
- Classroom Management for new and veteran educators, has continued to be a need for many of our educators across our region according to our Needs Assessment. We offered a variety of courses throughout the summer. Most recently, courses offered have included Everyday Behavior Tools, Classroom Management for the Trauma Informed Classroom, and Breakaway Lanyards (hosted by Arkansas Behavior Support Trainings). As we continued into the school year, we found that our Superintendents and Principals needed to have more assistance in providing continuous classroom management support to educators throughout the school year. This continued with trainings hosted by our Behavior Support Specialist and two sessions of Behavior Tools.

State Cooperative Teacher Center Coordinators meet monthly with DESE personnel to coordinate services and support. Coordination with the Department of Education was seamless. Duplication is shared via email to the department and in monthly meetings with DESE personnel.

4.2 Section 1D: Provide Assistance

South Central Service Cooperative regularly assists our member districts in meeting and exceeding accreditation standards, equalizing educational opportunities, and providing saving opportunities for our schools. Some of these various forms of assistance include:

- Hosts annual school board member training
- Hosts annual Tier 1 training and legislative updates
- Provides Entry Level Driver Training for all new bus drivers

- Support and training on the new Educator Effectiveness System
- Supports schools in curriculum development and review
- Dyslexia audits
- SoR walkthroughs with principals and instructional facilitators
- Partners with ERZ to provide and host professional development
- Fingerprinting for staff
- ParaPro exam testing
- Content specialists provide onsite support to districts throughout the year.
- Assisted with coordination and participation of monthly and/or quarterly literacy support with DESE and member districts in Level 3 and 4 support.
- Provides Early Childhood Special Education services and related speech, behavior, and occupational therapy services to children ages 3-5.
- Our ABC Pre-K Program has 11 classrooms in 5 districts providing opportunities for children ages 3-4 to enroll in an approved early childhood program. The average ECRES score is 5.57/7 for all eleven classrooms. Ten of the classrooms are designated 3-star programs with Arkansas Better Chance with the eleventh classroom submitting an application this spring for the 3-star rating.
- Provide ACT Test Prep Courses for area high school students

9.00 Section 1E: Teacher Center Committee and Other Necessary Committees

South Central Service Cooperative's Teacher Center Committee was established by Act 349 of 1985. The Teacher Center Committee is composed of at least one (1) representative from the staff of each school district and shall advise the director/TCC and the governing body on the staffing, programs, and operation of the teacher center. At least one-half, but not more than two-thirds of the members are classroom teachers. The committee shall meet at least three times per year. The meeting dates for the 2021-2022 school year were: September 30, 2021, December 2, 2021, and March 10, 2022.

Committee Member	District	Position
Renee McKelvin	Bearden	Administrator
Tara Armstrong	Camden-Fairview	Administrator
Callie Kittle Black	El Dorado	Administrator
Jennifer Henderson	(ETB)	Teacher
Tara Gates	Hampton	Teacher/Administrator
Terri Davis	Harmony Grove	Teacher/Instructional Facilitator
Shanna McClelland	Junction City	Teacher
Kim Wyrick	Magnolia	Administrator
Gina Taylor	Parkers Chapel	Teacher/Counselor
Megan Preston	Smackover-Norphlet	Teacher/Instructional Facilitator

Sirl Wright	Strong-Huttig	Teacher
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The Teacher Center (SCSC Print Shop) is located in our main building and is available for educators Monday through Friday during our regular business hours. Our Print Shop provides resources and materials for curriculum development and is responsible for purchasing equipment to provide educators with various resources. These include die-cut letters, shapes, machines, copy systems and printing supplies, laminators, book binding machines, paper cutters, vinyl machines, heat presses, canvas printing, framing, engraving, and sublimation. In addition, our Print Shop Coordinator assists in creating graphic designs for a variety of projects. Some of these include t-shirts, notepads, coffee mugs, school posters, and promotional materials. We also offer a variety of paper and poster boards for educators to purchase. The print shop employee conducts fingerprinting on Mondays and Thursdays for all educators, paraprofessionals, substitutes, and student teachers. On the first Friday of each month, ParaPro exams are given.

In addition to the Teacher Center Committee, the following committees and groups meet to respond to various district needs/concerns.

Committees: Professional Development Committee

Groups: Region 7 Federal Program Coordinators, SCSC Leadership Group, Counselors, ESOL Coordinators, GT Coordinators, Instructional Facilitators, Dyslexia Interventionists, Technology Coordinators, Special Education, and Novice Teachers, Library Media Specialist Support Group, Homeless II Consortium

The South Central Service Cooperative Leadership Meetings are held monthly during the school year. These meetings are hybrid (offering virtual or in-person meetings) for the flexibility of our administrators. Building principals, assistant principals, federal program coordinators, curriculum coordinators, and other district stakeholders are invited to attend. These meetings are held to share information from DESE on initiatives and assist districts in navigating new programs. There is also time for networking, discussing best practices, and providing our districts a chance to share with one another. For each meeting, an agenda is shared with the group, and meetings are also recorded for those who cannot attend. Monthly Teacher Center Updates are sent out to area leaders as well including administrators and central office staff.

16.00 Section 1F: Liaison with Postsecondary Institutions

The South Central Service Cooperative has three postsecondary education institutions within its boundaries. SCSC has formed active partnerships with Southern Arkansas University (4-year), SAU Tech (2-year), and South ARK (2-year) institutions located in our region. SCSC also has an excellent working relationship with Arkansas State University, Grand Canyon University, the University of Central Arkansas, and the University of Arkansas Pulaski Technical College.

- SAU specialists/coordinators provide professional development for teacher interns and help to host mock interviews, teacher fairs, and regional science fair support. Training opportunities have included: Dyslexia, Ethics, TESS, and Technology for Educators. The SAU Agriculture department works closely with the SCSC CTE coordinator to provide unique opportunities for CTE students and teachers.
- SAU ERZ specialists/coordinators work to promote the initiatives of ERZ professional development. Many partnerships have centered around the Professional Learning Community processes. Staff support and regularly attend the Advisory Council Meetings. During the pandemic, the local ERZ, Southwest, DeQueen Mena, and South Central cooperatives combined efforts to provide technology training for teachers. Lower Arkansas friED Technology Fest (LARK) gave our educators the chance to attend a

national, virtual technology conference During this virtual training, we were able to provide additional training to support teaching in a virtual atmosphere.

- SAU Tech- SCSC CTE Coordinator and SAU Tech Rachel Gaston combine efforts to honor and distribute completer certificates and diploma seals to area Career and Technical Education completers. SCSC Coordinator acts as a liaison between participating area schools and SAU Tech Career Academy monitoring course code alignment and career pathway approvals. Lastly, the Coordinator and SAU Tech Career Coach support area schools by providing vital data to the state to support DCTE Perkins V initiatives. SAU Tech provides our staff with opportunities for professional development, including obtaining a Child Development Certificate (CDA) needed for continued employment as a 3-Star Arkansas Better Chance program. SCSC Arkansas Better Chance partners with SAU Tech to provide a preschool program on campus for student access eliminating the childcare barrier for students. In addition, we serve as an area for the early childhood education program to observe best teaching practices. This site also serves several interns working to complete their Associate's Degree in Early Childhood education.
- South ARK specialists/coordinators provide professional development for staff as needed. The majority of training included classroom management strategies and technology tips and tricks. SCSC CTE and South Ark support area schools with Career and Technical information and courses that are in compliance with DCTE program pathway alignment. The SCSC Coordinator supports South Ark by receiving completer and certification data and reports back to the state.
- Grand Canyon University-SCSC participates in the Participants in Learning, Leading, and Serving (PLLS) program. This program provides alternatives to students and employees with flexibility for classes and scholarships. South ARK provides our staff with opportunities for professional development, including obtaining a Child Development Certificate (CDA) needed for continued employment as a 3-Star Arkansas Better Chance program.
- The University of Central Arkansas-Arkansas Transition Services hosts; College Bound Arkansas at UCA in Conway. This program provides an increase in knowledge of accommodations and supports available on a college campus, as well as assistive technologies, leadership skills, and other aspects of college life.
- The University of Arkansas Pulaski Technical College-Arkansas Transition Services hosts Film Camp at UAPTC, where juniors and seniors who reside in Arkansas and have a disability can attend a three-day camp. Students participate in learning the ins and outs of photography, script-writing, editing, interview skills, and self-determination and advocacy skills.
- Arkansas State University-Provides professional development training and support for the Arkansas Better Chance programs at SCSC.

South Central ESC shares best practices with collaborating partners and publicly via social media:

- Best practices are shared with the other cooperatives via monthly meetings (TCCs and Directors), bi-monthly Zoom meetings (Directors), and the annual Fall retreat (TCCs and Directors).

- South Central ESC and the other 14 cooperatives make a concentrated effort to share policy/procedural information that will help all of the co-ops work more effectively and efficiently. During the annual retreat at Petit Jean, cooperatives held an Unconference Conference where different programs were highlighted. The directors learned more about Dawson's Public Relations position, SCSC shared Innovating General Operations, Crowley's Ridge shared Financial Coding and Indirect Costs, and lastly, Arkansas River and Great Rivers shared a presentation on Building Better Relationships. The TCCs time was centered around sharing more about Team Building Ideas, Print Shop and Teacher Center and Better Ways To Serve Schools, and Organizing Job Alikes. Most recently SCSC technology coordinator has been sharing scamming information that is causing problems for business managers, superintendents, principals, and now even teachers.
- Open discussions and presentations from post-secondary institutions allow for sharing of information and better alignment between PreK education and post-secondary institutions.
- The staff of SCSC supports partnership ideas and needs by serving on many committees and professional organizations. .

Committee and Professional Organizations List: Arkansas STEM Coalition, Arkansas Leadership Coordinating Council, Arkansas STEM Model Program Leadership Team, Vice Chair of the Arkansas Cooperative Technology Coordinators, Arkansas Cyber Threat Response Team, Southwest Arkansas Development Alliance, Ouachita Work Ready Community Initiative Team, Southwest Arkansas Youth Committee, ForwARd Arkansas engagement committee, Arkansas Council of Teachers of Mathematics (Regional Representative), Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, Arkansas Association of Gifted Educational Administrators (Board member and Public Relations Committee), Arkansas School Counseling Association, Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators, Arkansas Association of Curriculum and Instruction Administrators, Arkansas Science Performance Assessment Learning Collaborative, Arkansas Literacy Association.

Section 2: Staff Qualifications

11.00, 12.00, 14.00 21.00 Section A: Director, personnel, general policies and reports

The South Central Service Cooperative currently employs a staff of 55 employees. The employment consists of approximately 25 certified positions and 30 classified positions. All employees who hold positions requiring licensure in the appropriate area. The documentation is handled via the bookkeeping department, Tammy Williams, the business manager, and Jocelyn Walker, the assistant bookkeeper. The bookkeeping department maintains and monitors the personnel files, keeping track of licensure, certification credentials, professional development fingerprinting, and background checks for all staff. All employees are evaluated in the spring by their direct supervisor(s). Evaluation conferences are held for all employees. The co-op director is evaluated by the South Central Board of Directors in January each year. The Personnel Policies Handbook is sent out via an email with a link to the website with an update of new policies, A hard copy of the Personnel Policies Handbook is sent to each off-site location, also at

the beginning of each year in August the new policies are addressed in a “Back to School Staff meeting.”

South Central Service Cooperative’s Annual Report is compiled each spring and reported to the SCSC board of directors in the June meeting. The Annual report is then sent to Stacy Smith via email as per the ADE directive and then posted on our website under State Required Information for public viewing. A few highlights addressed in the 2020-2021 Annual Report include:

- A unique partnership with DeQueen Mena and the Southwest Educational Service Centers to provide more services for Career and Technical students centered around nontraditional career exploration for girls and boys. In November 2021, this unique partnership hosted “Be A Model, Break the Mold!” events across Southwest AR. The cooperatives partnered with UAHT Hope & Texarkana Campuses, UA Cossatot, UA Rich Mt., and SAU to provide non-traditional career exploration for high school girls in manufacturing-related fields. Girls experienced hands-on instruction in welding, Industrial Maintenance, Industrial Electrical, CNC Machining, Diesel Technology, Powerplant and Solar Power Management, Business, IT, Power Tools, and Vehicle Maintenance. This event was featured in AAEA's "The Administrator" in their December 2021/January 2022 addition. All three CTE Coordinators were asked to present at the event at AACTEA in Pine Bluff in March. The event was funded with a DCTE Non-Traditional Grant of \$38,400.00 written jointly by all 3 CTE Coordinators and submitted by DMESC through the GMS system. Then in May 2022, SCSC partnered again with SWAEC & DMESC to host the Next Man Up! -Boys in Education event which targeted high school boys to promote careers in education. The cooperatives partnered with DCTE, UAHT, U of A, Teacher Cadet, and local universities with education programs. Keynotes were U of A Athletes/Education Majors, Tyler Tarver, and breakout sessions presented by Tyler Tarver, LaDarius Bishop, and DCTE Director, Ross White. This event was funded with DCTE Innovation Grant funds of \$25,500. Again this grant was written jointly by the three CTE Coordinators and submitted by SWAEC through the GMS system. In February, 2023, these cooperatives wrote a \$143,000 innovation grant Girl Power To the Max. In this event, each cooperative held a local event where girls were invited to bring a project completed individually or as a team using one of the many pieces of equipment purchased through this innovation grant. Through this grant, coordinators elevated the CNC cutting and lasering skills among girls. Winners at each of the local events went to a regional event.
- Gifted and Talented support has been a struggle for SCSC in years past due to the fact that the ABC coordinator was also the GT coordinator. We have worked to provide more for our Gifted and Talented by entering into a partnership with Southwest Educational Service Center to partner on an employee. This grant is only funded at \$30,000 which presents a problem in securing a quality employee for half-time. Additional funds are provided by the eleven districts at SCSC and SWAEC to secure this employee. With this partnership, Chad Morris works a schedule between SCSC and SWAEC. This program has had phenomenal success this year and the district GT coordinators are extremely supportive of the new programs being provided. The main goal this year was to try to present opportunities for our gifted learners to feel that school was getting back to "normal." Although COVID had something to say about that, SCSC still provided some great opportunities for gifted learners to share their talents at numerous GT-centered

events. Beginning in September, we challenged our 3rd-9th grade gifted and talented students in our school districts to compete in our fourth annual Vlog Competition. Over 70 gifted and talented students across our districts participated in this competition. This gave GT students an opportunity to debate issues, explore their talents in using video, and research, and use their creative talents utilizing technology. The Vlog Competition Award Ceremony was held on December 14th, where all students who participated were invited to join us via Zoom and discuss what they learned from the competition, and the winners were awarded. Also this year, COVID presented a major issue regarding how we would conduct quiz bowl competitions for the students. SCSC ended up holding our Senior High, Junior High, and 7th-grade quiz bowl virtually for the students of our 11 school districts. The virtual format ended up being a great success and the students and their coaches were able to compete in their grade-level tournaments.

SCSC held the 5th/6th and 3rd/4th-grade quiz bowl face-to-face. On 10/21/2021 we were able to hold a face-to-face Chess Tournament for our Senior High GT students to show off their awesome chess skills. We were also able to hold our Junior High and Elementary Chess tournaments face-to-face on 11/8/2021 and 11/10/2021. One of the biggest events we provided for our GT students this year was the Rubik's Cube Competition that we held on 12/3/2021. We held a team event and an individual event for the students to show off their cube-solving skills. Lastly, we had a great interest from GT teachers across our eleven districts, as well as from around the state, to hold an "Eerie Arkansas" session with GT students. We held four virtual Eerie Arkansas sessions with GT students from all over the state (including our districts) where they were presented with information about the Gurdon Light. Their task, after doing some research on their own, was to come up with possible theories of what this strange phenomenon could be and then present their theories back to the group. The information that was presented was excellent, and it turned out to be not only a great time for all that were attending but an awesome learning experience for both the students and the educators. These highlights are proof of how successful this partnership has been for SCSC and SWAEC as evidenced at many of these events there were more SCSC schools participating than SWEAC schools.

SCSC's last audit report showed one audit finding. Three employees were paid an insurance supplement twice. The corrective action has been taken and corrected. The audit, board agendas, and minutes can be found on the cooperative website.

SCSC communicates effectively with the eleven member districts, DESE, and other cooperatives through monthly meetings. We are flexible and provide a Zoom option for those that prefer.

The SCSC Teacher Center Coordinator shares monthly updates with district stakeholders and administrators. These include DESE Commissioner's Memos and other important updates from DESE or from our cooperative area.

We have worked this year to update and revamp our website to make communication easier to find. We work smarter and not harder by using Google Groups. We have compiled a list of Google Groups for superintendents, principals, asst. Principals, LEAs, federal program coordinators, dyslexia specialists, leadership teams, and any other special group can be used by all employees for better communication. These are updated in August each year to effectively be

able to communicate with the districts. We use Canva to effectively promote the happenings at SCSC via social media Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. To ensure the efficiency of operation with requisitions, reimbursements, leave, and travel permits SCSC has made tremendous improvements from a folder that was distributed to each department to an online electronic process “Flo” created by Kilroy Blockchain.

Applications for employment with the Cooperative and the ABC student application have also been updated and placed on the cooperative website for efficiency.

3.00, 8.00 Section B: Board of Directors and Executive Committee

South Central Service Cooperative’s Board of Directors met eleven times during the 2021-22 school year. Holding board meetings every month with the exception of July. Each month the board approves the monthly financials which include the check register report, board reports for the current month, the summative board report, the minutes, and any purchase of \$10,000 or greater. In addition, the audit report is approved within 10 days of the next regularly scheduled meeting. The annual report is approved in June and the annual budget is in September of each year. Lastly, an administrator’s retreat is held at DeGray in June or July.

Section 3: Extent of Local Financial Support

18.00, 19.00, 22.2 Section 3A: Program, Services, local participation, and local support

South Central Service Cooperative provides a variety of consortia for our eleven districts. The consortia include Professional Development, Gifted and Talented, Facilities, STEM, Entry Level Driver Training, Career and Technical Education, and Homeless and Early Childhood Special Education Services. The breakdown of participation is as follows:

- Professional Development services are provided for all eleven districts (100%) based on their request and the state's priorities. An example of requests from the districts this last year was the need for mental health training. In the summer of 2022, 14 total trainings were offered, 3 with the state and 11 offered at SCSC. There were 189 participants trained in some mental health training at South Central.
- SCSC also has options for Nurses and Paraprofessionals. Nine (82%) Schools take part in the Paraprofessional professional development consortium while (100%) of schools take part in the Nurses consortium.
- Gifted and Talented services are provided by all eleven districts (100%) This is provided through a partnership with SWAEC.
- Facilities consortia are provided to 10 of the eleven (91%) SCSC districts and three in the SWAEC cooperative. In this consortium, School Dude training is conducted, the master plan is updated and partnership cycle reports are prepared and presented to the state for funding. Below is the data for the last 5 years.

	# of					
Partnership	Projects	# of	# of	# of	# of	Amount of State
Funding Year	Submitted	Approved	Funded	Disapproved	Rescinded	Share Approved
2018	7	7	2	0	0	\$1,716,852.18

2019	3	2	2	1	0	\$672,333.73
2020	5	4	4	1	0	\$1,701,276.29
2021	6	6	4	0	1	\$1,641,043.21
2022	3	3	3	0	1	\$885,649.86

TOTAL \$6,617,155.27

- Math/Science/Technology (STEM) consortia are provided for those districts that want to train technology integrationists. Six of the eleven districts (55%) participate in this consortium each year. When schools pivoted to online learning in 2020, we saw that the teachers and districts that participated struggled very little. These teachers were able to take the lead in their buildings to teach other teachers quickly to make online learning very doable for all students and teachers. In the 22-23 years we have changed this consortium's focus to STEM. This year participants are learning how to implement Project Based Learning.
- Entry Level Driver training services are provided for all eleven (100%) districts participating. The use of local funds provides the training curriculum and online portal. Four of the eleven districts ask for SCSC to provide every aspect of the training protocol expected by the Federal government as of February 2022. The other eight districts use the online theory training provided for all districts free of charge and use SCSC for portal support.
- Career and Technical Education consortia are utilized by 9 SCSC districts (81%). Strong Huttig has been a member of the Southeast Cooperative consortium for years, and Magnolia chooses to be a single LEA. This consortium has grown in the last four years as the new CTE coordinator has worked tirelessly to grow this consortium by providing innovative projects and training.
- The Homeless consortia are run also by our CTE coordinator. Six districts (50%) have chosen to partner their monies with this consortium. While this isn't the biggest consortia, the group has done some amazing work in educating our schools on identifying homeless students and providing support for these students.
- The Early Childhood Special Education Services consortium is the largest consortium at SCSC. This consortium serves 200+ students each year. Nine districts (81%) participate in this consortium. The districts depend on SCSC to conduct child find, screen, evaluate, and serve these students in developmental, behavioral, occupational therapy, and speech therapy to ensure these students are ready to transition to kindergarten.

South Central Co-op utilizes several ways to glean data from the regional schools for the consortia. The annual Needs Assessment is the primary way data is collected. Other informal ways are from the many groups (job alike) such as leadership committees, LEAs, Federal Programs, Superintendent face-to-face meetings, Professional Development, and Teacher Center Committees, emails, texts, and phone calls. Lastly, specialists will send out very specific forms to collect data in the many content areas.

Cost analysis of services provided by the cooperative is done each year. This year three schools were conducted. A cost analysis is performed on an annual rotation schedule of one-third of our schools each year, with all of our schools analyzed over three years. After the analysis has been conducted a face-to-face meeting will be held with the superintendent to share the details. South Central Service Cooperative publishes an annual report on all programs/positions. The report is submitted to the Arkansas Department of Education, shared at the June Board of Directors' meeting, and posted on our website under State Required Information.