

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## Annual Report of Activities 2024-2025



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# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

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# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## Message from the Director

I am pleased to present the Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative's Annual Report for the 2024-2025 year. We take great pride in the services we provide to our 21 school districts, charter schools, private schools, and all student populations within our six-county region of Western Arkansas. This report is prepared for school district personnel, school board members, area legislators, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education personnel, and the Governor's office.

Our team has worked diligently to capture a comprehensive overview of the many services and activities we offer to member districts across various program areas. The Guy Fenter ESC region encompasses six counties, 21 districts, 98 schools, over 40,000 students, and more than 4,000 teachers and administrators.

Guy Fenter ESC, like all Education Service Cooperatives, has grown significantly, with member districts increasingly relying on the services we provide. Personnel from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and other state-level education organizations frequently seek assistance from Guy Fenter ESC and other co-ops for their initiatives. This underscores our commitment to enhancing student-focused programs through collaborative efforts, cost-saving measures, and partnerships with member districts. By bringing statewide efforts to the regional level, co-ops contribute to significant cost and time savings for both the state and local districts, ultimately enhancing student outcomes.

Jim Ford, Director

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative is to assist the member schools in more effective and more equitable use of their shared resources and to provide shared services for the better education of their children and youth.

## **General Goals**

Service desires of the local school districts shall be the paramount influence on the design of the cooperative's services programs. Such programs will also be influenced by the State Department of Education's desire to make services available to local districts through the cooperative.

The cooperative shall endeavor to provide requested services more economically and/or more effectively than the same services could be provided on an individual district basis.

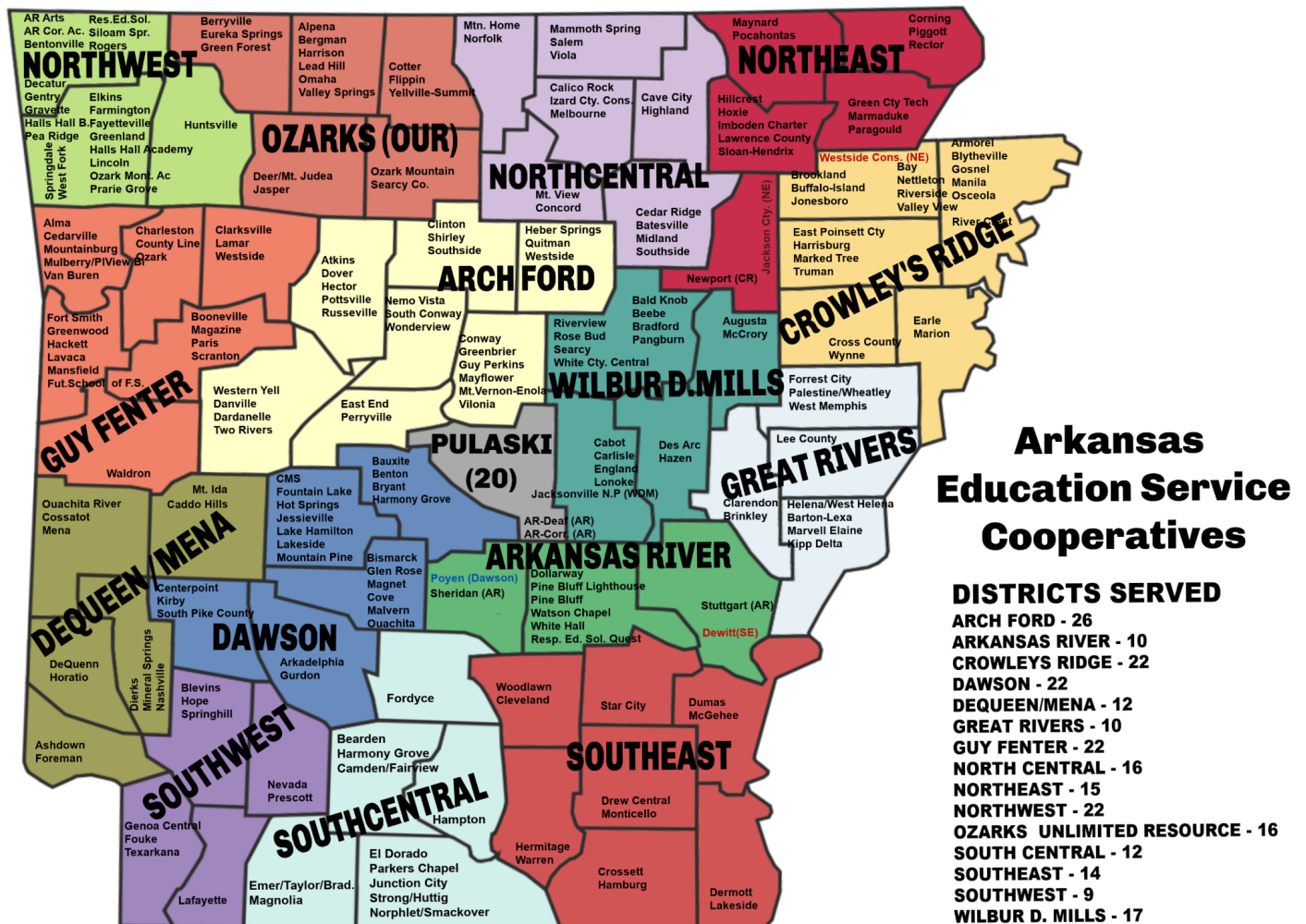
The cooperative shall strive to make services to all interested districts as equally accessible as possible.

## **Communications and Coordination**

The cooperative shall work with its local school districts, with other cooperatives and the State Department of Education to improve communication and coordination through the Arkansas network of local school districts.

This cooperative shall constantly strive to reflect the wishes of the local districts' representatives in its operation, consistent with the applicable provisions of statutes and state regulations.

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

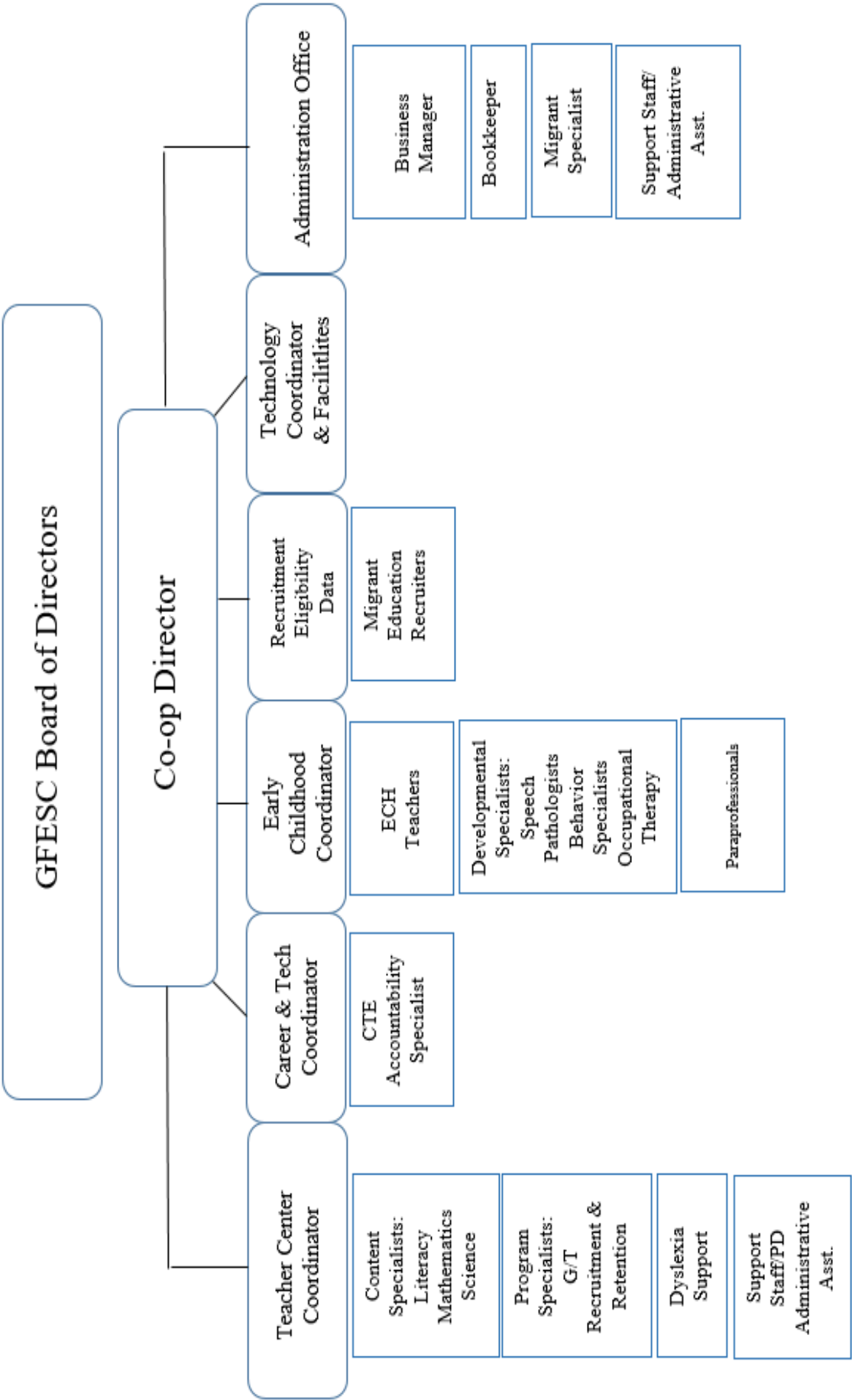


The Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative serves the following counties:

Crawford  
Franklin  
Johnson  
Logan  
Scott  
Sebastian

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

GFESC Organizational Chart



# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## School Districts served in the Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative

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

## Board of Directors

Name	Position	School District
Dr. Bryan Duffie	Board Member	Alma
Trent Goff	Board Member	Booneville
Dr. Kerry Schneider	Board Member - Vice Chair	Cedarville
Missy Moore	Board Member	Charleston
Dr. David Hopkins	Board Member - Chair	Clarksville
Taylor Gattis	Board Member	County Line
Dr. Terry Morawski	Board Member	Fort Smith
John Ciesla	Board Member	Greenwood
Michael Freeman	Board Member	Hackett
Mario Beshears	Board Member	Lavaca
Clint Jones	Board Member	Lamar
Dr. Beth Shumate	Board Member	Magazine
Joe Staton	Board Member	Mansfield
Dr. Debbie Atwell	Board Member	Mountainburg
Dr. Lonnie Myers	Board Member	Mulberry/Pleasant View
Zane Vanderpool	Board Member	Ozark
Brad Culver	Board Member	Paris
Toby Cook	Board Member	Scranton
Dr. Harold Jeffcoat	Board Member	Van Buren
Daniel Fielding	Board Member	Waldron
Brad Kent	Board Member	Westside



# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## Teacher Center Committee

<b>Guy Fenter Teacher Center Committee 2024-2025</b>			
<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Expires</b>
Chasta Parker	Alma	Elementary Teacher	Aug-27
Jessica Rogers	Booneville	Junior High Teacher	Aug-27
Rhonda Brown	Cedarville	Elementary School Teacher	Aug-26
Rachel Fisher	Charleston	Administration, Middle School	Aug-26
Kathy Howell	Clarksville	Elementary School Teacher	Aug-25
Tara Law	County Line	High School Teacher	Aug-27
Courtney Eckles	Future School of Fort Smith	High School Teacher	Aug-26
Nicole Franklin	Fort Smith	Elementary School Teacher	Aug-26
Rick Clow	Greenwood	Elementary School Teacher	Aug-25
Marisa Thornburg	Hackett	High School Teacher	Aug-25
Judith Little	Lamar	High School Teacher	Aug-25
Rachel Peevehouse	Lavaca	Elementary School Teacher	Aug-27
Traci Schlinker	Magazine	High School Teacher	Aug-25
Lisa Henson	Mansfield	Elementary School Teacher	Aug-25
Bryson Bradley	Mountainburg	High School Teacher	Aug-25
Sean Cline	Mulberry/PV	Middle/Junior High Teacher	Aug-26
Brad Ray	Ozark	Administration, Principal	Aug-27
Brad Culver	Paris	Superintendent	Aug-24
Lakaen Schluterman	Scranton	Administration, Elementary	Aug-27
Monika Berry	Van Buren	High School Teacher	Aug-27
Kim Soloman	Waldron	Administration, High School	Aug-26
Kasey Sisk	Westside	Elementary Teacher	Aug-27

### Guidelines:

1 representative from each school district must be on the committee

Balance of Elementary, Middle/JH, and High School personnel

1/2 to 2/3 of members must be classroom teachers

Members serve a 3 - year term, with the exception of the Superintendents that serve a 1 - year term

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## Arkansas Department of Education Education Service Cooperative (ESC) Annual Report

**Date:** May 30, 2025      **LEA#** 24-20      **ESC#** 14

**ESC Name:** Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative

**Address:** 3010 East Hwy 22, Branch, AR 72928

**Phone Number:** 479-965-2191

**Director:** Mr. Jim Ford

**Teacher Center Coordinator:** Angela Miller

**Names of Counties served:** Crawford, Franklin, Johnson, Logan, Scott, Sebastian

**Number of Districts:** 21 & 1 charter school      **Number of Students:** 43,287

**Number of Teachers:** 3,364

### **Governance:**

**How is the co-op governed?** Board of Directors

**Executive Committee?** No

**How many members are on the Board?** 21

**Executive Committee?** 0

**How many times did the Board meet?** 11

**Executive Committee?** 0

**When is the regular meeting?**

July 15, 2024

August 15, 2024

Sept. 19, 2024

Oct. 2, 2024

Nov. 21, 2024

Dec. 17, 2024

Jan. 16, 2025

Feb. 27, 2025

March 13, 2025

April 17, 2025

May 15, 2025

**Date of current year's annual meeting:** October 2-4, 2024      (Superintendent's Fall Conference)

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

**Does the co-op have a Teacher Center Committee?** Yes

**If yes, then:**

**How many are on the Teacher Center Committee?** 22

**How many members are teachers?** 16

**How many times did the Teacher Center Committee meet?** 3

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

November 6, 2024

February 12, 2025

April 30, 2025

**When was the most recent survey/needs assessment conducted?** November 2024 - January 2025

**Have written policies been filed with the ADE?** Yes

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## **Staffing 2024-2025**

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

*	Last Name	First Name	Position	Funding Source	New Hire	Resigned
	Atchely	Kristen	Career Coach – CTE	S/D		
	Ballard	Rebecca	Early Childhood Behavior Intervention Specialist	D		
	Beauchamp	Amanda	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
	Beathea	Crystal	SPDG Director	F		
	Beavers	Evan	AEM Technology Coordinator	F		
	Boen	Laiken	Career Coach – CTE	S/D	07/01/024	
	Bradley	Treva	Administrator Analyst	F		
	Bradford	Marc	Career Coach – CTE	S/D	07/01/2024	
	Brewer	Tammy	Recruitment & Retention Specialist	S		12/30/2025
	Brown	Jennifer	Early Childhood Teacher	D	07/01/2024	
	Bullard	Erica	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D	07/01/2024	
	Burns	Kassandra	Student Support Specialist	F	11/01/2024	
	Burks	Jason	Systems Specialist	F		
	Camp	Yadira	Migrant Recruiter	F		
	Carlton	Robin	Career Coach – CTE	S/D	07/01/2024	
	Carter	Angela	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist Assistant	D		
	Churchman	Elizabeth	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
	Cobb	Amber	Science Specialist	S		
	Conway	Elizabeth	R&R Assistant – Fingerprint Tech	S/D		
	Couthren	Gwen	Early Childhood Coordinator	D		
	Cumbie	Candice	Math Specialist	S		
	Dawson	Robyn	UA Fort Smith ERZ Director	S		

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

	Dean	Melanie	Career Coach - CTE	S/D		
	Debes	Ashley	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
	Dixon	Christi	ESVI Director	F		
	Euston	Elizabeth	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
*	Featherston	Debbie	APSCN Field Analyst			
	Floyd	Brittany	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
	Ford	James	Director	B		
	Freeman	Laura	Career Coach – CTE	S/D	07/01/2024	
	Fritsche	Shannon	Career Coach – CTE	S/D	07/01/2024	
	Grant	Autumn	Career Coach – CTE	S/D	07/01/2024	05/09/2025
	Handy	Rodney	DCE/ARKREHAB Instructor	S	12/02/2024	
	Hays	Hannah	Career Coach – CTE	S/D		
	Haynes	Gina	PDC Support/Migrant Support/Tech Support	B/S/F		
	Hertlein	Trena	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
	Heydenreich	Kayla	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
	Huff	Elizabeth	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
	Huffmaster	Lisa	Inclusive Education Specialist	F		
	Hulan	Ashley	Migrant REDS	F		
	Irby	Candace	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
	James	Mindy	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
	Johnson	Lindsey	Career Coach – CTE	S/D		
	Joy	Christena	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
	Jumper	Lindsey	Systems Specialist	F		
	Kennedy	Cheyenne	Administrative Assistant	B		
	King	Jennifer	Novice Specialist	S	07/01/2024	
	Laird	Kelsie	Early Childhood Teacher	D	07/01/2024	
	Lamb	Patricia	Early Childhood Support Staff	D		
	Lee	Ashley	ESVI Administrative Analyst	F		

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

Lyle	Rebekah	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
Lyons	Stefan	Migrant Program Director	F		
McClure	Melinda	Bookkeeper	B		
McIver	Becky	SSIP Program Coordinator	F		
McLendon	Melissa	Systems Specialist	F	07/01/2024	
Mendez	Cindy	Early Childhood Support Staff/Interpreter	F		
Miller	Angela	Teacher Center Coordinator	B		
Musick	Whitney	ESVI Consultant	F		
Nichols	Harvie	Information & Consultation Specialist	D		
Nicklin	Christi	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
Niemczyk	Sharon	ESVI Consultant	F		
Osborne	Desire	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D	07/01/2024	
Price	Cristin	Specialists/PD Administrative Assistant	S		
Pearson	Julaine	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
Pipkins	Matthew	Technology Coordinator	S		
Prado	Cameo	DCE/ARKREHAB Instructor	S	08/01/2024	
Riendeau	Tabitha	Inclusive Education Specialist	S	07/01/2024	
Rose	Tammie	Career Coach – CTE	S/D	07/01/2024	
Rowe	Caroline	Migrant Recruiter	F	11/01/2024	
Sanders	Sherrie	Business Manager	B		
Schluterman	Rachael	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
Shotzman	Holly	Career Coach – CTE	S/D		
Smart	Cathy	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
Smith	Stephanie	ESVI Consultant/AT Specialist/Transition Coord.	F		
Strozier	Crystal	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
Tate	Jennifer	Early Childhood Paraprofessional	D		
* Tomlison	Damaris	Migrant State Director			
Turner	Jennifer	Career & Technical Ed Coordinator	S/F		

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	Vest	Joshua	Migrant Recruiter	F		08/30/2024
	Whitman	John	CTE Accountability Specialist	F		
*	Whitman	Sarah	Migrant Parent Engagement Liaison			

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## **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?** No  
**Do districts contribute dollars to the media services?** No  
**Does the co-op operate a “make-and-take” center for teachers?** Yes

**If yes, then:**

**How many teacher visits have been made to the center? (Count all teachers who have visited the center, using duplicate counts for teachers who have visited the center more than once. 71**



# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## **Administrative Services**

Listed below are examples of the programs offered by the Co-op in partnership with our districts:

Administrators and Local School Board Members Training  
Assessment Data Analysis and Support  
APSCN Field Support  
Assist/Support with Evaluation procedures (OSR, Federal/Categorical Monitoring, GT Program evaluation, etc.)  
Behavior Support Services  
Bookkeeping Assistance  
Business Management Training  
Career and Technical Education/Perkins Consortium  
Community School Health Nurse Services  
Computer Science Support  
Conduct Annual Needs Assessment/Planning assistance  
Cooperative Purchasing  
Curriculum Support  
Dyslexia Support Services  
Early Childhood Special Education  
Education ESVI Services  
English Language Support  
E-Rate Applications  
ESC Works Support  
eSchool and eFinance Support  
ESOL Support/Migrant Education  
Federal Programs Support  
Evaluation Procedures  
Fingerprinting Services  
Gifted and Talented Support  
Grant Writing Assistance  
Instructional Facilitator Training  
Instructional Leadership  
Literacy/Science/Math Support Services  
Medicaid Billing  
Novice Teacher/Recruitment and Retention/Mentoring  
Migrant Student Identification  
Principal's Leadership Cohort  
Professional Development Opportunities for Teachers  
Special Education Services  
Teacher Center Services  
Teacher Evaluation and Support System (TESS)  
Technology Support and Training Services

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## **Direct Services to Students**

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

**Battle of the Books**

**Behavior Intervention Support Services – Behavior Support Specialist**

**Chess Tournaments**

**Computer Science Competitions**

**Debate Competition**

**GFESC Early Childhood**

**Foster Grandparent Mentoring Program**

**Gifted/Talented Programs:** 21 participating districts

**Itinerant Teachers – please list areas:** Early Childhood Special Education ages 3-5 year olds

**Low Incidence Handicapped** (vision/hearing)

**Migrant Education Services**

**Nursing Services**

**Occupational Therapy**

**Physical Therapy**

**Quiz Bowl**

**Rubik's Cube Competition**

**Speech Therapist**

**Transition Assistance**

**Other (Please specify):**

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## **Anecdotal Reports**

### **ACT Prep**

The ACT Prep Grant is designed to provide additional support to students in grades 7-12 in preparing for the ACT. Through this grant, all districts in Arkansas had the opportunity to opt-in for additional support for their students in taking the ACT. Fifteen GFESC school districts opted to participate in the ACT Prep Sessions held at GFESC in the spring of 2025. GFESC partnered with Cantrell and Waller Preparatory (CW Prep) and provided 2 sessions in March 2025. In these sessions, students spent six hours studying content from the ACT. CW Prep also shares strategies with students when taking the test. Students leave the training with a one-year log-in to all the resources that were shared so they can use them to continue studying for the ACT. GFESC hosted 45 high school juniors in the spring 2025 session.

### **GFESC Dyslexia Contacts Meetings**

Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative Dyslexia Contact meetings were developed in collaboration with the Arkansas Department of Education to support our GFESC member districts with their dyslexia needs. Each district selected a Dyslexia contact to attend quarterly sessions at GFESC. The Dyslexia sessions included guest speakers from ADE and other state agencies and focused on improving student learning by identifying and meeting the needs of students with characteristics of dyslexia, collaborating and training for the administration, analysis, and interpretation of initial screeners, level 1 screeners, and level 2 assessments including using various assessment tools. We believe that building capacity is crucial to providing appropriate learning experiences for all students. GFESC offered two of the four meetings virtually during the 2024-2025 school year. GFESC will be hosting Dyslexia specific training during the summer of 2025. GFESC worked closely with DESE's Ginger West during the 2024-2025 school year for Dyslexia support.

### **GFESC Federal Programs and Curriculum Coordinators' Meetings**

The Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative Federal Programs and Curriculum Coordinators' meetings in collaboration with the Arkansas Department of Education were established as a way to disseminate information regarding Federal Program guidelines and Curricula choices and implementation. The meetings provide opportunities for leaders to share and discuss various topics with their colleagues from other member districts. All 21 of the GFESC school districts participate in the monthly meetings. Federal Programs and Curriculum Coordinators' meetings serve as a venue for ADE to communicate new requirements, explain initiatives, rules, and the implementation of new guidelines and/or curriculum through the Teacher Center Coordinator and other school leaders. We use these meetings to provide support to the leaders in our area schools and to build capacity within our districts. GFESC offered all meetings face to face.

### **GFESC Principals' Leadership Cohort and Monthly Meetings**

The Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative Principals' PLC includes monthly scheduled Principals' meetings that are designed to provide updates and explanation/clarification of current educational initiatives for the principals in the GFESC region. Meetings are split into Elementary (K-6) and Secondary (7-12) sessions, and give an opportunity for principals and assistant principals to share information and/or suggestions with colleagues across the region. This allows for building leaders to stay informed and to build a better capacity for leading the teachers in new and innovative instructional practices. The focus of the 2024- 2025 meetings was ATLAS data, specifically LEA Insights, Classroom Walkthrough/Learning Walks, and Building-level student growth per subject. GFESC district principals brought data to each meeting to discuss and determine best practices. The data shared with Superintendents each month was also reported at each principals meeting and principals had the opportunity to discuss patterns, trends, and set goals. Topics

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

of the 2024-2025 Principals meetings included Data, CWs, LEARNs ACT, Title IX, ATLAS, CTE, LEADS, RTI, Master Scheduling, etc.

## **GFESC Annual Leadership Conference**

The Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative provides specialized professional development to Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents in the areas of Data Disaggregation, Ethics, Instructional Leadership, ESSA Score Report, Curriculum Updates, Facility Issues, Legislative Issues/Updates, and Acts 61 and 730 Fiscal Management Training. This Conference provides an opportunity for Superintendents from all member districts to collaborate and discuss current education trends/issues. School leaders from all twenty-one districts, AAEE, DESE, Western Arkansas Technical Center, Rural Education Association, etc. attend this conference to provide information and updates for the school district leaders in the GFESC region. The GFESC Leadership Conference was held October 2-4, 2024.

## **GFESC and University of Arkansas Partnership - Teacher Recruitment/Pre-Service**

GFESC and the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith partnered in both the fall of 2024 and the spring of 2025 to bring pre-service/intern students to the GFESC campus. The Pre-Service/Intern Students learned about the Early Career Educator Program and how the GFESC is able to support educators. The GFESC Novice Teacher Mentoring Specialist provided the future educators the opportunity to engage in an Administrative Roundtable with different administrators from GFESC districts to hear tips on best interview practices, professional development, professionalism, social media Do's and Don'ts, PLC/Collaboration, etc. The Pre-Service/Intern students were able to leave resumes to be shared with GFESC districts during these events. GFESC will also host a Pre-Service Teacher Recruitment event at our 2nd Annual Novice Teacher Conference in July 2025. Participants will have the opportunity to hear about programs for paraprofessional certification, paraprofessional to classroom teacher licensure pathways, and even Masters degree program options available.

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

**Program: Accounting 2024-2025**

**Funding Source:** Base

**Competitive Grant:** No

**Restricted:** Yes

**Participating Districts:**

Alma, Booneville, Cedarville, Charleston, Clarksville, County Line, Fort Smith, Future School of Fort Smith, Greenwood, Hackett, Lamar, Lavaca, Magazine, Mansfield, Mountainburg, Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County, Ozark, Paris, Scranton, Van Buren, Waldron, Westside

**Personnel**

Name	Position	Degree
Sherrie Sanders	Business Manager	HSD/CASBO Certified
Melinda McClure	Bookkeeper	HSD
Cheyenne Kennedy	Administrative Assistant	HSD

**Goal**

To provide financial support to all programs and participating districts of the cooperative.

**Program Summary**

**2024-2025 State Funding Source:**

TEACHER CENTER 3,563.77

SSIP COTEACH 6,296.05

CAREER COACH LOCAL 351,985.02

CAREER COACH GRANT 409,639.53

PRO LEARNING GRANT 296,530.89

STAFF DEVELOPMENT WS 312,384.00

APSCN 3,600.00

PERKINS WS 21,651.00

INFORMATION SPECIALIST 47,250.00

GT LOCAL 39,600.00

SCIENCE WS 5,886.70

EARLY CHILDHOOD LEA 1,744,618.00

DCE ARK REHAB SVCS 200,264.40

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST - TESTING 101,570.00

UA FORT SMITH - ERZ 107,149.00

ADE NBCT SUPPLEMENTAL 2,691.25

PROF QUALITY ENHANCEMENT 245,350.00

WORKFORCE ED COORDINATOR 6,000.00

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

NIET LEAD TEACHER 7,000.00  
LICENSURE ASSESSMENT SUPPORT 20,000.00  
EDUC SVC COOPERATIVE 408,618.00  
TECH STATE 80,000.00  
CONTENT SPECIALISTS 270,000.00  
PHONE FREE SCHOOLS 502,000.00  
NONTRAD LICENSURE (AR PEP) 124,422.81

## **2024-2025 Federal Funding Source:**

MIGRANT 577,174.89  
CARL PERKINS 563,221.32  
CP RECRUITMENT & RET 10,000.00  
CP MAGIC 18,600.00  
VI-B ESVI GRANT 607,000.00  
VI-B SYSTEMIC IMPROVEMENT 1,219,000.00  
AEM GRANT 129,000.00  
STATE PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT GRANT 1,481,398.38  
MEDICAID PRESCHOOL 60,000.00  
ARMAC 60,000.00  
EC LOCAL LEAD -OEC 150,000.00  
ACEL COMMUNITIES 303,072.67

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## **Program: ADE/APSCN Student Field Analyst**

**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Education

### **Participating Districts:**

Alma, Booneville, Cedarville, Charleston, Clarksville, County Line, Fort Smith, Future School of Fort Smith, Greenwood, Hackett, Lamar, Lavaca, Magazine, Mansfield, Mountainburg, Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County, Ozark, Paris, Scranton, Van Buren, Waldron, Westside, and Institute of Creative Arts

### **Personnel:**

Name	Position	Degree
Debbie Featherston	APSCN Student Field Analyst	AS

### **Goal:**

To provide end-user support to district personnel using the statewide student management system (SMS), Cognos BI Tool, PowerSchool Enrollment, and state-reporting system.

### **Program Summary:**

The APSCN Student Field Analyst offers training and technical assistance for various state systems, including eSchoolPLUS, Teacher Access Center, Home Access Center, Cognos, PowerSchool Enrollment, and state reporting to school districts and charter schools in their assigned areas. The analyst is responsible for providing software training (in-person and virtually), researching reported software problems for resolution, reporting software issues, and assisting, as needed, with testing software updates.

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

- Training of the eSchool Software

- 19 Total Training/Workshop F2F or Virtual Days at Guy Fenter Co-op

- Facilitate and implement eSchool trainings for new and/or existing users

- Implementation of eSchool (student management system) upgrade and PowerSchool Enrollment

- Kept all districts updated with new reporting changes

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## Program: Arkansas Transition Services

**Funding Source:** Federal Grant

**Competitive Grant:** No

**Restricted:** Yes

### Participating Districts:

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

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

**GFESC** – Alma, Booneville, Cedarville, Charleston, County Line, Fort Smith, Future School of Fort Smith, Greenwood, Hackett, Lavaca, Magazine, Mansfield, Mountainburg, Mulberry, Ozark, Paris, Premier High School - Fort Smith, Van Buren, Waldron

### Personnel:

Name	Position	Degree
Paul Johnston	Transition Consultant	MM, BSE, AAS

### 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 is a consultant group in affiliation with the Arkansas Department of Education, Division of Secondary and Elementary Education, Office of Special Education, that provides training and technical assistance related to secondary transition to special education teachers, other relevant school staff, and relevant agency personnel in Arkansas. Our services are not only related to ensuring secondary transition requirements in the Individualized Education Program (IEP) are in place, but also include building capacity of local transition teams, and information and assistance on research and evidence-based practices that improve transition programs and post-school outcomes for students with disabilities. We are available to assist at no cost to public schools in Arkansas.

### Major Highlights of the Year:

Arkansas Transition Services (ATS) has been spending this year out in schools consulting and providing on-site statewide and regional professional learning opportunities. ATS also has a YouTube channel and a website ([www.arkansastransition.com](http://www.arkansastransition.com)) as a resource to get our information out across the state.



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## State Level

- ATS continues to produce videos that are housed on both our YouTube channel and website that focus on specific areas of Transition. These are resources that can be accessed at any time. These provide educators and families the opportunity to access professional development and information on a variety of secondary transition topics.
- Arkansas Transition Services, Career and Technical Education, and Inclusion Films continue to partner to provide The Inclusion Films Film Camp for students with disabilities. The 2025 camp was held on-site this year April 21-25 at University of Arkansas Pulaski Technical College in North Little Rock. We had a full camp for 2025 with 47 students registered. Students write scripts, pitch proposals, cast characters, film, and produce a 7-10 minute short video. These experiences give students the opportunity to not only explore a variety of options in the film industry, but to experience team work, responsibility, accountability, and other pre-employment skills. The skills they learn and practice at camp are all transferable work skills.
- Arkansas Transition Services is continuing its work to encourage schools to implement The Predictors Implementation Self-Assessment (PISA) tool. This tool allows schools and/or districts to take a closer look at their transition programs and identify predictors of positive post-school outcomes supported by evidence-based practices. The tool then allows for action planning to include those predictors and evidence-based practices for program growth or improvement. ATS has been using the PISA to help districts focus on Inclusion in General Education as well as other areas for which the school determines a need.
- Arkansas Transition Services in partnership with the University of Kansas, are participating in a study to see the effects of interagency collaboration for students with disabilities. The CIRCLES (Communicating Interagency Relationships and Collaborative Linkages for Exceptional Students) model involves three levels of interagency collaboration: Community Level Team, School Level Team, and IEP Team. The approach includes youth with disabilities who may need support from multiple adult service agencies to experience successful post-school outcomes. Follow up trainings were held this year. NWAESC schools participating in CIRCLES are Bentonville HS and Bentonville West HS, Fayetteville, Pea Ridge, and Siloam Springs. Guy Fenter schools are Future School of Fort Smith and Hackett as well as Eureka Springs from the OUR Co-op.
- College Bound Arkansas 2025 will be held June 2-4, 2025, on the University of Central Arkansas Campus. This is an on-campus experience that offers sessions for students, parents, and professionals, that focus on the following areas: self-advocacy, transitioning, assistive technologies, mental health and college survival. This provides students with an opportunity to explore the expectations of college and what support could be available to help them succeed. College Bound Arkansas 2024 had 11 students and 7 parents/professionals attend.
- Arkansas Transition Services and DESE Office of Special Education, Monitoring & Program Effectiveness team are continuing to collaborate in an effort to educate each group on specific requirements and procedures and to improve monitoring outcomes in transition related indicators through reviewing state and federal requirements.
- ATS held its statewide Transition Summit for teams from across the state in Hot Springs October 15-17. The Summit is a chance for Transition Teams from across the state to work on plans to improve transition at their respective districts and attend breakout sessions on Transition.
- ATS also works with adult service providers around the state to share concerns and possible strategies to better connect with schools and their students. We continue to work collaboratively among districts, agencies and ATS, and help with both on-site and virtual Transition Fairs to increase

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

the knowledge of agency services around the state. Agencies are also invited to participate in IEP meetings and on local transition teams.

- State Level Organizations Served:

- Arkansas Council on Exceptional Children (AR-CEC) sub-division Division of Career Development and Transition (DCDT) - State President

## Co-op Level

- Transition Fairs – ATS promotes and provides technical assistance for districts and regions that want to have a Transition Fair. The fairs are opportunities for students, parents, and teachers to connect with state and local agencies that can provide assistance.
  - NWAESC: Fayetteville held a Transition Fair February 27th, 2025
- Coop Trainings – 1 day of training (2 half day sessions) were offered at all 3 Co-ops.
  - “Transitioning to Success”
    - 71 attendees
      - NWAESC-Springdale, Siloam Springs, Farmington, Rogers, Prairie Grove, Eureka Springs, Elkins, Gentry, Fayetteville, Lincoln
      - Guy Fenter-Fort Smith, Booneville, Greenwood, Westside, County Line
      - OUR-Jasper, Berryville, Harrison, Alpena, Kingston
  - “Expect, Engage, Empower”
    - 37 attendees
      - NWAESC-Siloam Springs, Greenland, Springdale, Farmington, Prairie Grove, Eureka Springs, Elkins, Gentry, Fayetteville, Lincoln
      - Guy Fenter-Booneville, Fort Smith Greenwood, Hackett, Westside, Bentonville
      - OUR-Alpena, Berryville, Jasper, Park, Valley Springs
  - Additional Trainings
    - “Indicator 13 Walkthrough”-111 attendees-16 districts
- Technical Assistance was provided on a variety of Transition related subjects to teachers/staff in districts across the 3 co-op areas.
  - NWAESC – Gentry, Pea Ridge, Arkansas Arts Academy, Bentonville, Decatur, Elkins, Springdale, Fayetteville, Springdale
  - OUR – Cotter, Yellville/Summit, Harrison, Omaha
  - GFESC – Greenwood, Ozark, Hackett, Waldron
- Meetings regularly attended
  - AASEA Area I and Area II (Special Education Supervisors)
  - AR-CEC Board Meetings
  - Project Search Fort Smith-Mercy Hospital
  - Project Search Rogers-Embassy Suites
  - Project Search-Springdale Arkansas Children’s NW
- Trainings/Conferences Attended:
  - Arkansas LEA Academy
  - Arkansas Collaborative Consultants Convening
  - Cognitive Coaching

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## Program: K-12 Behavior Specialist

**Funding Source:** Federal-Part B

**Competitive Grant:** No

**Restricted:** Yes

**Participating Districts:** Alma, Booneville, Cedarville, Charleston, Clarksville, County Line, Fort Smith, Greenwood, Hackett, Hartford, Lamar, Lavaca, Magazine, Mansfield, Mountainburg, Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County, Ozark, Paris, Scranton, Van Buren, Waldron, Westside

### Personnel:

Name	Position	Degree
Dr. Shelia Smith	Behavior Support Director	Ph.D., L.P., BCBA-D
Shanna Bailey	Behavior Support Specialist	M.S., BCBA
Jennifer Brewer	Behavior Support Specialist	Ed.S.
Sandy Crawley	Behavior Support Specialist	M.S.E.
Kelly Davis	Behavior Support Specialist	M.Ed., BCBA
Sonia Harsfield	Behavior Support Specialist	M.Ed.
<b>Audrey Kengla</b>	<b>Behavior Support Specialist</b>	<b>BSE, M.S., CCC-SLP</b>
Amanda Kirby	Behavior Support Specialist	M.S.E.
Kat Lancaster	Behavior Support Specialist	M.A., CCC-SLP, BCBA
Lindsey Lovelady	Behavior Support Specialist	M.S., BCBA
Allison Mears	Behavior Support Specialist	LPC., BCBA
Nicheyta Raino	Behavior Support Specialist	M.Ed., BCBA
Jenna Stapp	Behavior Support Specialist	M.A.T.
Connie Thomason	Behavior Support Specialist	M.Ed., BCBA
Mary Walter	Behavior Support Specialist	Ed.S, SPS, BCBA
Meagan Booe	Behavior Support Specialist	M.Ed., BCBA
Carla Knight	Behavior Support Specialist	M.S.E., BCBA

### Goal:

In an effort to support the DESE vision, mission, and goals, the Arkansas Behavior Support Specialists build local district capacity by providing educators with support and services needed to implement evidenced-based behavioral practices that meet the needs of all students.

### **BX3 PROJECT**

#### Goal:

- BX3 is a capacity-building project that provides coaching to school behavior teams working to develop tiered systems of positive behavior supports for all students.

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## **BX3 Cohort 3- Building level teams**

Alma Intermediate School Bryant Elementary Horatio Elementary Hurricane Creek Elementary - Bryant McRae Elementary - Searcy Mena Middle School	Mena High School Oscar Hamilton Elementary - Foreman Pottsville Jr High University Heights Elementary - Nettleton Asbell Elementary
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## **BX3 Cohort 4 - Building level teams**

Arkansas Arts Academy High School Magnolia Middle School Sidney Deener Elementary Westside Elementary - Searcy Southwest Middle School - Searcy Janie Darr Elementary - Rogers Arkadelphia High School Lake Hamilton New Horizons Washington Elementary - Fayetteville Lincoln Middle School Cedarville Elementary Glen Rose Elementary Flippin Elementary Beebe Elementary Bob Folsom Elementary - Farmington The Academies of West Memphis Westbrook Elementary - Harmony Grove	Elmdale Elementary-Springdale Louise Durham Elementary- Mena Manila Elementary K-8 Connect - Springdale Indian Hills Elementary - North Little Rock Newport Elementary East End Elementary Lakeside Primary - Allbritton Elementary- Hamburg Peak Elementary School Harmony Leadership Academy Rector Elementary School Wonder Jr. High- West Memphis Bayyari Elementary North Heights Community School Beebe Middle School Benton Jr. High
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## **BX3 Cohort 5 - Building level teams**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Waldron Middle School</li> <li>2. Mountainburg Elementary</li> <li>3. Mountainburg Middle School</li> <li>4. Mountainburg High School</li> <li>5. King Elementary-Van Buren</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13. Eureka Springs Elementary</li> <li>14. Eureka Springs Middle School</li> <li>15. McCrory Elementary</li> <li>16. Augusta Elementary</li> <li>17. Augusta High School</li> </ol> |
|--|--|

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<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>6. Fairview Elementary- Fort Smith</li><li>7. East Side- Magnolia</li><li>8. Central Elementary-Magnolia</li><li>9. Smackover-Norphlet Elementary</li><li>10. Hillcrest Elementary</li><li>11. East End Middle- Sheridan</li><li>12. Sheridan High School</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>18. Jerry "Pop" Williams Elementary-Farmington</li><li>19. Farmington High School</li><li>20. Arkansas Arts Academy Elementary</li><li>21. Clarendon Elementary</li></ol>
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## PROGRAM SUMMARY:

The Arkansas Behavior Support Specialists (BSS) affiliated with the Arkansas Department of Elementary and Secondary education (DESE) - Office of Special Education lead the state-wide initiative, the BX3 (Behavior eXtreme 3 - Training, Coaching, Empowering) Project. This BX3 project is designed to build capacity by providing coaching to building-level behavior teams that are working to develop tiered systems of positive behavior supports for all students. BX3 assists building level teams in developing and monitoring at least one SMART goal based on their assessment on the Tiered Fidelity Inventory (TFI). Additionally, the BX3 teams create and update an action plan focused on meeting their individualized SMART goal(s). The BSS offer 4- 6 coaching sessions for each BX3 team. Professional learning opportunities are offered as needed based on the SMART goal(s) and action plan.

## MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF 2023-24:

- Cohort 3 continued with 11 building-level teams across the state
- Cohort 4 continued with 34 building-level teams across the state
- Accepted Cohort 5 with 21 building-level teams across the state
- 99% of participants in Cohort 3, 4 and 5 agreed to strongly agreed that the coaching session on the topic covered was beneficial.
- 99% of participants in Cohort 3, 4 and 5 agreed to strongly agreed that the BX3 Coaches helped their team plan action steps toward meeting their SMART goal(s).
- 99% of participants in Cohort 3, 4 and 5 agreed to strongly agreed that the interactions with and methods used by BX3 coaches were positive and acceptable.
- 98% of participants in Cohort 3, 4 and 5 agreed to strongly agreed that they feel confident in carrying out the steps in their action plan.

## CIRCUIT

### Goal:

- To provide technical assistance and support to local school district administrators and school personnel in the development and implementation of evidence-based behavior supports for students receiving special education services
- To provide professional development to local school district administrators and personnel on evidence-based behavior supports

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## **PROGRAM SUMMARY:**

The Behavior Support Specialists (BSS) provide technical assistance in the area of behavior to all school districts within the state. The BSS receive requests for technical assistance through the CIRCUIT on-line referral system. Once a request for services is received, the BSS works in conjunction with the Special Education Supervisor of the referring school district to identify and provide needed support for students with disabilities. Services include:

- On-site coaching and consultation, student observation, record review and written recommendations with follow up and training as needed
- Coaching student team on Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA) and Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP) development
- Provide professional learning opportunities on evidence-based interventions

## **MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024-2025:**

- Provided on-site coaching and consultation, student observation, records review, conference attendance, assistance with functional behavior assessment, safety and behavior intervention planning for student teams for 155 CIRCUIT referrals across all Education Service Cooperatives

## **PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Goal:**

- To provide professional development to local school district administrators and personnel on evidence-based behavior supports

## **PROGRAM SUMMARY:**

The Behavior Support Specialist (BSS) position provides professional learning opportunities on evidence-based behavior practices via in-person, virtual, and online learning modules available to all school districts in all Education Service Cooperatives.

## **MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024-2025:**

- Offered 19 sessions of the 5 Essential Components of School-Wide Behavior Supports professional developments to building-level teams
- Added 10 Behavior Breaks which are short instructional videos to equip educators and parents with strategies that can be implemented quickly to improve student engagement and success.  
<https://arbss.org/behavior-breaks/>
- Offered over 140 professional learning opportunities in person or virtually to school districts in all Education Service Cooperatives with over 2655 participants

## **ADDITIONAL BSS HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024-2025:**

- Planning for the first annual Arkansas School Behavior Conference
- Partnered with DESE to support THRIVE Leadership Academy Cohorts 5, 6, and 7 and THRIVE Leadership Academy at DeQueen-Mena ESC, Dawson ESC, Southeast ESC, and Arch Ford ESC to improve the implementation of positive behavior supports in school buildings. Provided 21 professional learning opportunities to THRIVE participants
- Served on the DESE Leadership Team for Arkansas THRIVE

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- Served on the Arkansas Early Childhood Behavior Support Cadre'
- Served on the BehaviorHelp Kindergarten Transition Support Planning group
- Served on committee DESE staff and AETN to develop modules on Crisis Management and MTSS-B for AR IDEAS
- Facilitated BCBAs working in the school through ArPSBAN meetings (meet once a month either in person or virtual), connecting BCBAs across the state through a community of practice
- Newsletter is reaching nationally and internationally (8 countries)
- Several states are accessing our online modules including California, Colorado, Nevada and North Carolina
- Presented Multi-Tiered Behavior Support Resources at SEAS Conference
- Presented Mic Drop Sessions - Review of BSS Website at AAEA Conference
- Presented Increasing Student Behavior Supports at the Tier 2 Level: Student Intervention Matching (SIM) Form at the Transition Summit
- Presented Charting the Path to Tier 2 Behavior Interventions: Intro. to the Student Intervention Matching Form at LEA Academy
- Presented Navigating Tier 1 and Tier 2 Behavior Supports in the Inclusive Classroom at LEA Academy
- Presented The BX3 Journey Awaits! Building Capacity in School-Wide Positive Behavior Supports at LEA Academy
- Presented The Behavior Side of RTI with DESE- OCSS for New Administrators
- Presented Meaningful Access ToT: Behavior with DESE-OSE
- Presented Behavior Strategies and Resources at the The Teaching & Partnerships in Juvenile Detention Centers Workshop
- Presenting Supercharging Student Success: An Overview of Multi-Tiered Behavior Support at the ArSCA & DESE School Counselor Conference
- 14 BSS attended the Association of Positive Behavior Supports International Conference in St. Louis, MO
- 1 BSS attended the 23rd Annual NWPBIS Conference in Portland, OR
- 1 BSS attended the LRP Institute Convention in Phoenix, AZ

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## **Program: Career & Technical Education**

**Funding Source:** Carl D Perkins Funding

**Competitive Grant:** No

**Restricted:** Yes

### **Participating Districts:**

Alma, Booneville, Cedarville, Charleston, Clarksville, County Line, Greenwood, Hackett, Lamar, Lavaca, Magazine, Mansfield, Mountainburg, Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County, Ozark, Paris, Scranton, Waldron, Westside, and Van Buren.

### **Personnel:**

Name	Position	Degree
Jennifer Turner	CTE Coordinator	MSE
John Whitman	CP Accountability Specialist	BS

### **Goal:**

The GFESC Carl Perkins Program promotes reform, innovation, and continuous improvement in vocational and technical education to ensure that students acquire the skills and knowledge they need to meet challenging State academic standards and industry-recognized skill standards, and to prepare for postsecondary education, further learning, and a wide range of opportunities in high-skill, high-wage careers.

### **Program Summary:**

The GFESC Carl Perkins Program addresses and provides assistance to develop high-quality programs that:

- integrate academic and vocational education
- promote student attainment of challenging academic and vocational and technical standards
- provide students with strong experience in, and understanding of all aspects of an industry
- address the needs of individuals who are members of special populations
- involve parents and employers
- provide strong linkages between secondary and postsecondary education
- develop, improve and expand the use of technology
- provide professional development for teachers, counselors, and administrators

The CTE Coordinator is required to write the annual application and distribute/spend the funding for area schools on indicator projects approved by the Arkansas Department of Career Education. Required reports, technical assistance, professional development, state start up grant writing, and administrative assistance are other duties provided by the program.

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

GFESC CTE teachers came together for our second annual Girl Power Competition, showcasing female design concepts related to CNC technologies. 150 girls registered from 15 school districts in our consortia. Local Industry partners sent female representatives to judge (ABB, Farm Credit, Rheem) and talk to the girls about their non-traditional occupations. The girls rotated through educational stations and learned about Personality styles, aptitudes and programs related to those. Winners were selected and attended the second-



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state Girl Power takes State competition held at Saline County Career Center. GFESC had 5 state competition winners!

The GFESC Carl Perkins Consortium hosted a FFA Sub Area Leadership Career Development Event for students and teachers to explore the opportunities in Career and Technical Student Organizations. The event was located at GFESC with over 90 students participating and cooperatively working together. Industry partners judged and worked with the students to be prepared for FFA NW District competitions. Schools participating: Alma, Booneville, Cedarville, County Line, Greenwood, Hackett, Lavaca, Magazine, Mountainburg, Mulberry, Ozark, Paris, Scranton, Van Buren and Waldron. All participating students and teachers felt a special connection and asked to participate again in the future. An Advanced Leadership FFA Chapter Conduct Management was held with schools participating from several areas of Arkansas including: Siloam Springs, Lincoln, Cedarville, Huntsville, Vilonia, Jasper, County Line.

GFESC CTE and other Coop Specialists facilitated a Reverse Career Fair and Get Real-Here's the Deal life training event with the Magazine, Mountainburg, Mulberry, Waldron and Paris School district juniors and seniors at each school separately. All students prepared resumes with over 100 Business/Industry representatives attending. A Reverse Career Fair has the students prepare individually and are stationed by areas of interest. Representatives choose who they want to talk to/interview based on resumes submitted. 271 students received at least one job offer and several had multiple interviews. All schools were also invited to the state chambers "Be Pro Be Proud" Draft day with 75 employers attending to meet and interview prospective employees. A Draft day signing event

One of GFESC Carl Perkins Schools was chosen by DCTE to "Showcase" their model CTE programs during CTE month. Waldron High School hosted a showcase event where Business/industry, parents, students, educators and State DCTE staff experienced the programs available for students. Programs showcased include, Agriculture Animal Science, Plant Science and Ag Power Structural and Technical Systems, Business Marketing and Hospitality, Computer Science Programming, FCS Nutrition Science and Dietetics, PreEducator, Construction Technology, Sports Medicine, CNA, Automotive Services, and Work Based Learning. The Construction Technology program students renovated an old house and showcased the home with all the new features. They were showcased in Arkansas Renovators Magazine.

GFESC hosted CTE teams from all coop schools, counselors and Administrators with an intense PD for educators with a Deep data dive into CTE data on how to help support every student to achieve an education they deserve. Each school team disaggregated their own data and developed action plans for their schools. Stakeholder Engagement with local Business and industry were brought in to engage with the CTE teams. With the implementations of LEARNS, school teams developed implementation plans and schedules to be able to identify students.

MAGIC-Mentoring Arkansas Girls In Culinary through a DCTE Non-Traditional Grant allowed districts from all over the state to send girls who were interested in Culinary to a one day event where they were paired with a woman chef and developed and prepared a dish for the entire group. Seventy-five girls participated and left with a tool bag of culinary tools for each school participating.

2024-2025 CTE Program Grants	
<b>Carl Perkins(First Allocation)</b>	\$ 483,525.71
	<b>\$ 483,525.71</b>

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<b><u>Other Grants</u></b>	
Certification Grant	\$ 11,985.26
Recruitment Retention Grant	\$ 10,000.00
CTE State Grant	\$ 60,000.00
Perkins PD Grant	\$ 1,523.56
	<b>\$ 83,508.82</b>
<b><u>State Start Up Grants</u></b>	
County Line Pre Educator:	\$ 39,566.41
Alma Ag Mechanics:	\$ 62,905.27
Ozark Plant Sciences	\$ 90,534.52
Charleston Ag Mechanics	\$ 62,905.27
	<b>\$ 255,911.47</b>
<b><u>Innovations Grants</u></b>	
Alma Large Equipment Simulator	\$ 148,402.00
Girl Power	\$ 52,500.00
Lamar Vet Highway Project	\$ 31,534.00
	<b>\$ 232,436.00</b>
<b><u>Non-Traditional Grants</u></b>	
Guy Fenter Girls in Culinary MAGIC	\$ 18,600.00
	<b>\$ 18,600.00</b>
<b><u>Modernization Grants</u></b>	
Booneville Animal Science	\$ 29,996.00
County Line Ag Power	\$ 14,025.00
Greenwood Animal Science	\$ 11,007.50
Lamar Ag Power	\$ 12,495.00
Mountainburg Ag Power	\$ 39,950.00
Mulberry Ag Mechanics	\$ 32,187.00
Ozark Ag Power	\$ 59,078.00
Paris Accounting	\$ 24,225.00
Waldron Nursing	\$ 5,933.00
Alma Pre Engineering	\$ 26,180.00
Cedarville Ag Power	\$ 18,062.00
Hackett Ag Power	\$ 51,835.55
Westside Ag Power	\$ 6,035.00
	<b>\$ 331,009.05</b>

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<b>TOTAL ALL 2024-2025</b>	<b>\$ 1,404,991.05</b>
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# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## Program: Computer Science

**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Education Grant – Act 220 of 2017

**Competitive Grant:** Yes

**Restricted:** Yes

### Participating Districts:

Alma, Booneville, Cedarville, Charleston, Clarksville, County Line, Fort Smith, Greenwood, Hackett, Hartford, Lamar, Lavaca, Magazine, Mansfield, Mountainburg, Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County, Ozark, Paris, Scranton, Van Buren, Waldron, Westside

Name	Position	Degree
Alex Moeller	Statewide CS Specialist	
Ashley Kincannon	Statewide CS Specialist	Ed.S.
Joshua Rodgers	Statewide CS Specialist	
John Hart	Statewide CS Specialist	MLIS
Tammy Glass	Statewide CS Specialist	
Zachary Spink	Statewide CS Lead Specialist	MSE
Stacy Reynolds	Statewide CS Specialist	MSE
Brian Lawhon	Statewide CS Specialist	

### Goals:

The ADE DESE Office of Computer Science's established goals and associated tasks for computer science education implementation in Arkansas are divided into five categories:

**1. Standards, Curriculum, and Pathways** - Successful implementation of computer science education in Arkansas requires the development and periodic revision of a comprehensive and vertically articulated set of K-12 computer science curriculum standards and courses, the local creation of well-developed curriculum that supports student learning, proper alignment of the K-12 expectations and opportunities to industry needs, and appropriate K-20 pathway development for students seeking formal computer science education beyond high-school.

**2. Educator Development and Training** - Successful implementation of computer science education in Arkansas requires the ADE and its partner organizations to anticipate and address the needs of the Arkansas educational system with regards to knowledgeable and informed computer science teachers. ADE in collaboration with the Arkansas Educational Cooperatives and other partners must support quality computer science educator development and training opportunities for all Arkansas Educators and Administrators.

**3. Licensure** - Successful implementation of computer science education in Arkansas requires the ADE and its partner organizations to anticipate and address the needs of the Arkansas educational system with regards to licensed and endorsed computer science teachers. ADE will continue and further research and implement, when appropriate, flexible licensure pathways and practices, based on legislation and regulation.

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**4. Outreach and Promotion** - Successful implementation of computer science education in Arkansas requires the active use of a broad range of mediums, digital tools, and human networks to properly communicate about the Arkansas Computer Science Education Initiative and respond to the needs and concerns of Arkansas students, educators, community members, and industry leaders.

**5. Program Growth and Student Success** - Successful implementation of computer science education in Arkansas requires encouraging broad school implementation, supporting lighthouse schools to expand their programs, increasing statewide teacher capacity, growing student interest, and increasing stakeholder interest and support using innovative programs and outreach initiatives.

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## **Program Summary:**

Education Service Cooperatives, in partnership with the Arkansas Department of Education, administers the Computer Science Support Program for grades K-12 (Support for Integrating the Embedded K-8 Standards; Middle School Introduction to Coding: Grades 5-8; and High School CS). In the interest of providing Arkansas educators with access to quality computer science (CS) professional development (PD), the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) Office of Computer Science provided grants for ten Computer Science Specialists beginning in 2017. The computer science specialists each serve the CS PD needs state-wide for all ESCs, and Public School Districts. Assistance is provided to local school district educators through PD services including sessions (ADE developed & customized based on needs assessments) at the Cooperative as well as support on-site in living the mission and striving for the vision of Computer Science Instruction in Arkansas.

### **Vision**

*All Arkansas students actively engaging in a superior and appropriate computer science education*

### **Mission**

*To facilitate Arkansas's transition to becoming and remaining a national leader in computer science education and technology careers*

## **PD Offered:**

- Computer Science Impact Meeting
- High School Computer Science Certification and Preparation
- Autonomous Vehicle Workshop @ UCA
- Python Programming for Year 1 - High School CS Professional
- Python Programming for Year 2 & 3 - High School CS Professional Development
- Business Intelligence - High School CS/Business Professional
- Cybersecurity for Year 1 - High School CS Professional Development
- Cybersecurity for Year 2 & 3 - High School CS Professional
- Robotics for Year 1 - High School CS Professional Development
- Robotics for Year 2 & 3 - High School CS Professional Development
- Mobile Application Development for Year 1 - High School CS Professional Development
- Computer Science Planning and Pacing for Middle and High School
- Middle School Intro to Coding: Learn Text-Based Code (Formerly Coding Block)
- Computer Science: Teaching K-4
- Computer Science: Teaching 5-8
- Data Science for Year 1 - High School CS Professional Development
- Data Science for Year 2 & 3 - High School CS Professional Development
- Game Development and Design for Year 1 - High School CS

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- Game Development and Design for Year 2 & 3 - High School CS Professional Development
- Computer Science: Intro to Block-Based Coding
- Computer Science: Transition to Text-based Coding
- Computer Engineering for Year 1 - High School CS Professional Development
- Networking for Year 1 - High School CS Professional Development
- Precision Agriculture
- Introduction to AI
- EAST Raspberry Pi
- EAST Circuit Playground

## **Conferences Presented at:**

- State TSA Conference
- Arkansas Association for Career and Technical Education
- ADE Summit
- AEA PD Conference
- HSTI
- EAST Conference

## **Events/Committees/Projects Assisted with:**

- National Computer Science Education Week – Scheduled daily activities with local districts - December 2025
- Regional Capture the Flag Events
- TSA State Conference – March 2025
- Support of Robotics Competitions (VEX, FIRST) March 2025
- All-State Coding Competition April 2025
- SkillsUSA April 2025

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

- Revised pathways and standards across all CS courses
- Supported the work of the Data Science HIRED grant and the Cybersecurity HIRED grant
- Mentoring students across the state in Unity game development.
- Assisted with regional Stakeholder Meetings
- Provided training to annual ADE Counselor sessions
- Provided CS training to over 1853 education professionals and 8311 students.
- Lead Judge and Coding Challenge Creator for All-Region and All-State Coding Competition.
- Provided digital capture the flag events at schools and cooperatives around the state
- Administration statewide site visits for implementation of ACT 414
- Continued growth, development, and support of TSA
- Computer Science Completer Cords
- State of Computer Science Education Report - Code.org
- Partnered in the creation of new computer science related CTE courses

## **ONGOING SUPPORT:**

- Specialists are in the process of revamping trainings for the upcoming summer
- Specialists have increased the number of professional development offerings as well as developed and will deliver several new trainings this summer..

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- Specialists are currently working to visit all 260 districts to help support their implementation of ACT 414. This work will continue through the remainder of the year and summer.
  - For districts who already have computer science programs in place, specialists are working to identify ways to grow and develop their program to fit their needs.

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## **Program: Consolidated Purchasing Services**

**Funding Source:** Member Districts

### **Participating Districts (Paper):**

Alma, Cedarville, Charleston, County Line, Hackett, Lamar, Lavaca, Magazine, Mansfield, Mountainburg, Mulberry/Pleasant View, Ozark, Paris, Scranton, Van Buren, Waldron, Westside

### **Personnel:**

Name	Position	Degree
Jim Ford	Director	MED +

### **Goals:**

The goal of Consolidated Purchasing Service is to save money for member schools, to provide convenience and save time for member districts.

### **Program Summary:**

The GFESC seeks bids on instructional material, specifically types of paper, to provide member districts with savings on the materials that they would have to order from other sources.

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

17 member districts participated, along with GFESC, in the Consolidated Purchasing Services and secured materials from successfully bidding vendors.



# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## Program: Digital Learning – Virtual Arkansas

**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Education

**Competitive Grant:** No

**Restricted:** Yes

### **PARTICIPATING GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICTS:**

Booneville, Cedarville, Charleston, Clarksville, County Line, Fort Smith, Future School of Fort Smith, Greenwood, Hackett, Lamar, Lavaca, Magazine, Mansfield, Mountainburg, Mulberry/Pleasant View, Ozark, Paris, Scranton, Van Buren, Westside

### **Personnel:**

Name	Position	Degree
John Ashworth	Executive Director	EdS, MS, BS
Dr. Brandie Benton	Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction	Ed.D, MSE, BSE
Mindy Looney	Director of Operations	BS, MBA
Candice McPherson	Director of Design and Development	MS, BS
Amy Kirkpatrick	Director of Technology	MS, BS
Jason Bohler	Core Campus Principal	MA, BA
Samantha Carpenter	Core Campus Principal	EdS, MS, BS
Tye Bibby	Concurrent Credit Campus Principal	MS, BA
Christie Lewis	CTE Campus Director	BBA, MS
Rachael Walston	Learn Anywhere Academy (LAA) Program Principal	MS, BS

**MISSION:** Our mission is to equip, engage, and empower Arkansas schools, students, and teachers by providing equitable access to superior online education.

**VISION:** Leveraging local, national, and global partnerships to advance student and educator success through innovative technologies and services.

**CORE VALUES:** Teamwork, Relationships, Integrity, Quality, Innovation

### **GOALS:**

Virtual Arkansas exists to provide affordable and equitable educational access and opportunities for Arkansas students, teachers, and schools. According to *Act 2325 of 2005*, distance learning opportunities were employed:

- To help alleviate the teacher shortage

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

- To provide additional course-scheduling opportunities for students
- To provide an opportunity to access an enriched curriculum
- To develop and make available online professional development

Virtual Arkansas has specific goals that drive its operations. These goals are outlined in the chart below, along with the most recent results:

Goals	2024-2025 Results
Help Address the Arkansas Teacher Shortage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- VA made courses available in all critical academic licensure shortage areas</li> <li>- VA provided access to 101 full-time Arkansas-certified teachers for local schools</li> </ul>
Provide a Wide Range of Courses for Arkansas Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- VA provided access to 220 total courses; 160 courses with a VA teacher</li> <li>- These courses provided opportunities to 29,121 Content + Teacher enrollments and 6,482 Content Partnership enrollments</li> </ul>
Ensure Educational Options for Economically Disadvantaged Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- VA courses were made available to all high-poverty districts and were utilized by 88% of all Arkansas school districts with a 70% or higher FRL population</li> <li>- VA offered preferred automatic concurrent credit registration for high-poverty districts. 100% of high-poverty schools that submitted the necessary paperwork for enrollment during the early registration period were granted seats in the classes for which they registered</li> </ul>
Ensure Educational Options for Rural Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 60% of all Virtual Arkansas Content + Teacher Enrollments were from districts designated as rural</li> <li>- VA provided educational options and opportunities to all rural districts and was utilized by 97% of all districts designated as rural</li> <li>- 80% of all Concurrent Credit enrollments were from districts designated as rural</li> </ul>
Provide Educational Options for Students with Scheduling Conflicts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All VA courses can be taken at any time during the day, which provides flexibility in scheduling local course options to avoid scheduling conflicts</li> <li>- This is particularly important for smaller districts, as they have many courses only available during certain periods of the day</li> </ul>
Maintain Positive Customer Support Ratings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Virtual Arkansas had a 100% positive rating in customer support/service measures on the 2023-2024 perception survey to administrators and counselors.</li> </ul>

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## **PROGRAM SUMMARY:**

Virtual Arkansas is a supplemental State Virtual School (SVS) that partners with local Arkansas schools, the Arkansas Department of Education, and the local Education Service Cooperatives to provide 7th-12th grade online courses, resources, and services to Arkansas schools, teachers, and students who might not otherwise have access to these resources and opportunities. This initiative is guided by Act 2325 of 2005: An Act to Provide Distance Learning.

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

We are not an online high school or a diploma-granting institution, but a resource for supplementing education for students through their local school.

Virtual Arkansas is comprised of five campuses:

- Core Campus High School: Arch Ford Educational Service Cooperative
- Core Campus Middle School: Arch Ford Educational Service Cooperative
- CTE Campus: Dawson Educational Service Cooperative
- Concurrent Credit Campus: Southeast Educational Service Cooperative
- DYS Campus: Arch Ford Educational Service Cooperative

## **Major Highlights of the 2024-2025 School Year - Virtual Arkansas**

- Provided parent orientation webinars and informational webinars throughout the school year.
- Recognized as a national leader, including the second highest number of Quality Matters externally reviewed and quality assurance certified courses in the nation.
- Partnered with the Department of Youth Services (DYS) to provide high-quality online courses and opportunities to adjudicated youth.
- After designing, developing, and launching the pre-educator Arkansas Teacher Residency Certified Teaching Assistant Concurrent Credit pathway and partnership to provide concurrent credit pre-educator options to students throughout the state, saw a 65% growth in student enrollments within the concurrent credit program.
- Spearheaded and implemented the state effort to include a new Arkansas Military Service and Security Pathway for students interested in a military future.
- Implemented a large-scale assessment improvement initiative that aligned course curriculum and assessments with the ATLAS assessment.
- Executive Director continues to serve the role of President for the Virtual Learning Leadership Alliance (VLLA), a partnership of 20 state virtual programs dedicated to advancing quality online learning.
- Multiple Virtual Arkansas directors serve as national online learning workgroup chairs, demonstrating our commitment innovation and online learning leadership at the national level.
- Partnered with Arkansas Tech University to offer summer college courses
- Designed, developed, or enhanced 44 courses
- Designed and implemented 10 new Credit Recovery courses

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## Program: Early Childhood

**Funding Source:** Federal Grant, State Grant, Local School Districts

**Competitive Grant:** No

**Restricted:** Yes

### Participating Districts:

Alma, Booneville, Cedarville, Charleston, Clarksville, County Line, Greenwood, Hackett, Lamar, Lavaca, Magazine, Mansfield, Mountainburg, Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County, Ozark, Paris, Scranton, Waldron, Westside.

### Personnel:

Name	Position	Degree
Gwen Couthren	Early Childhood Coordinator	MED
Elizabeth Churchman	Early Childhood Teacher	BSE
Trena Hertlein	Early Childhood Teacher	MED
Mindy James	Speech-Language Pathologist	MED
Susan Kelley	Early Childhood Teacher	BSE
Jennifer Brown	Early Childhood Teacher	BSE
Trish Lamb	Paraprofessional	BS
Christi Nicklin	Speech-Language Pathologist	MSE
Erica Bullard	Speech-Language Pathologist	MSE
Cathy Smart	Speech-Language Pathologist	MSE
Ashley Debes	Early Childhood Teacher	MED
Beth Euston	Speech-Language Pathologist	MED
Cindy Mendez	Paraprofessional	HSD
Kayla Heydenreich	Early Childhood Teacher	BSE
Brittany Floyd	Early Childhood Teacher	BSE
Jennifer Tate	Paraprofessional	HSD
Julainne Pearson	Speech-Language Pathologist	MSE
Amanda Beauchamp	Speech-Language Pathologist	MSE
Rebekah Lyle	Speech-Language Pathologist	MSE
Candace Irby	Early Childhood Teacher	BSE
Angie Carter	Speech-Language Pathology Asst.	BSE
Christena Joy	Paraprofessional	HSD
Crystal Strozier	Early Childhood Teacher	MSE
Liz Huff	Early Childhood Teacher	BSE
Kelsey Laird	Early Childhood Teacher	MED
Desire Osborne	Speech-Language Pathologist	MED
Rachael Schluterman	Speech-Language Pathologist	MED
LaTonya Summers	Paraprofessional	HSD

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## **Goal:**

- To provide special education and related services for children with disabilities from age three to six.
- To provide transition services from Early Intervention Services to Early Childhood Services, and from Early Childhood to School Age programs.
- To participate in a local interagency coordination council (ICC), and a special education advisory committee.

## **Program Summary:**

The Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative Early Childhood Program provides special education and related services to eligible children, ages three to six, under Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Early childhood special education services are provided on an individual basis so that their developmental/educational needs are met. Services may include screening, evaluations, speech-language therapy, direct/consultative developmental instruction, behavior intervention, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and counseling. Special education services must be provided in the least restrictive environment. Services may be provided in homes, preschools, Head Start centers, early childhood operated classrooms, or on local school district campuses. All services are provided through a written Individualized Education program that details what each child's specific needs are, with the ultimate goal being to prepare that child for Kindergarten by bringing skills up to age level.

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

- The GFESC Early Childhood Program has grown from a child count of 150 in 1999, to serving 699 in 2024
- 382 students returned in August.
- December 1 Child Count was 699 students.
- Transitioned more than 310 students to Kindergarten with special education services recommended.
- More than 200 students received developmental screenings (by Coop employees)
- More than 570 developmental and/or speech evaluations completed.
- Served on Interagency Coordinating Council to ensure child find and preschool students are linked to community resources.
- Served on River Valley Head Start Health Services Advisory Committee to ensure students have access to health services needed so they are ready to learn.
- Served on the Local LEADS Committee
- GFESC ECH Program Coordinator served as the Arkansas Special Education Professionals Council - President
- Results from the 2023-2024 Annual Performance Report indicate that the GFESC Early Childhood Program meets expectations.

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## **Program: Early Childhood Local Leads**

### **Funding Source:**

Arkansas Dept. of Education

### **Competitive Grant: Yes**

### **Restricted: Yes**

### **Counties Served: Crawford, Franklin, Logan**

### **Participating Districts: Alma, Booneville, Cedarville, Charleston, County Line, Magazine, Mountainburg, Mulberry/Pleasant View, Ozark, Paris, Van Buren**

### **Personnel:**

Jim Ford	ESC Director/Grant Recipient
Gwen Couthren	Program Director
Elizabeth Churchman	Local Leads Captain
Sherrie Sanders	Business Manager

### **Goal:**

Local Leads will work collaboratively within the area to ensure every child has quality childcare. The Local Leads Captain, in collaboration with the Lead Team, will act as oversight of the Local Early Childhood efforts, raise awareness of the benefits of Early Childhood in their community, and serve as the point of contact for families and community partners. The strategic plan will include developing and generating support for a unified community plan that is aligned to the goals and vision of the state, while also accounting for the specific local context. The Local Leads Captain will coordinate and report an unduplicated count of children birth-to-five served by public-funded partners in the community to ADE as required. These measures are established to target all children in catchment areas to ensure all children are presented with the tools needed to succeed.

**Program Summary:** As a result of the LEARNS ACT, Local Leads is responsible for establishing a comprehensive locally-led plan for supporting early childhood programs and services. Local Leads will provide assistance to all area child care programs (regardless of funding) to ensure that gaps and barriers are acknowledged and addressed. Local Leads will encourage the advancements of high quality programs to all child care centers. Conducting a community child count and a needs assessment will result in a follow up to meet the needs of ALL children in the catchment areas. Launching an information campaign will include reaching area resources to ensure all children reap the benefits of Local Leads. Local Leads is THE program that will make quality education accessible to ALL children in early childcare.

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

The year started out with a survey to providers to assess their current strengths and needs to support early childhood in the area. In August, we held a Kick Off Celebration to begin the year with planning and

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collaboration between providers. Throughout the year, we have held monthly virtual meetings and quarterly in person meetings to address identified needs. The February meeting included a much celebrated Resource Exchange!

Another highlight was work on the first Coordinated Funding Request (CFR) which is a tool used to help all child care providers request additional funding or slots for funded child care. The Child Count was completed in October which serves to provide an unduplicated count of children in child care centers in the 3 county area that we serve at GFESC.

CLASS pilot implementation was the focus of the year as well as a huge highlight and accomplishment. The Local Leads Captain as well as 4 other staff attended CLASS assessor training for Pre-k, infant, and toddler assessments. A total of 27 CLASS observations were completed across 11 different centers. These pilot observations will help the Arkansas Office of Early Childhood begin the groundbreaking work of devising a new Quality Rating System for Arkansas providers.

Tiny Toy Tales was contacted for 5 days. During this time, the workshop traveled between providers in each county. Through modeling, teachers were able to see the impacts of interactive literacy experience. Multiple teachers have expanded this concept and created their 'toy tales'.

Local Leads is currently developing a shared substitute database to help providers mitigate staffing shortages. Multiple professional development opportunities have been shared, including the upcoming 2-Day Summer Conference.

Local Leads has joined the ARRAY Hub. Through ARRAY, providers are assessed through observations. Trainings are tailored to specific needs of the provider and offered on site at no cost.

Training offered for Providers:

- Behavior Management in the Early Childhood Classroom
- Arkansas Children's Week Workshop in collaboration with A-State
- Literacy Enhancement in collaboration with Child Care Aware
- CLASS Primers
- Tiny Toy Tales in-class workshops
- Conscious Discipline in collaboration with UAFS Local Leads (coming this Fall)
- Early Childhood Summer Conference (2 Days this Summer)
- Local Leads also strives to connect providers with existing professional development opportunities offered by partners.

**WHY LOCAL LEADS:** Local Leads stems from the LEARNS ACT to insure that ALL children receive the quality education that is required to be educationally prepared. With a completion of Child Count followed by the Needs Assessment ... every child enrolled in an early childhood setting will be accounted for and then provided a quality education. Local Leads will provide access to needed training for teachers and paras of all centers. The focus of Local Leads will be to connect providers to high quality training that will provide needed tools for success. Finding and filling the gaps for all children will be a focus of Local Leads. Barriers will be identified and addressed through community support. Local Leads will be the difference maker in today's educational system. Addressing, Assisting, Collaborating and Providing will be the tools used by Local Leads in order to reach every child to ensure that every child is equally receiving quality child care and increase overall kindergarten readiness.

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## **Program: Educational Services for the Visually Impaired (ESVI) and The Arkansas Project-Children and Youth with Sensory Impairments and additional disabilities (CAYSI)**

### **Funding:**

ESVI is a statewide educational consultative service program administered by the Arkansas Department of Education, Special Education Unit. CAYSI is funded by the Arkansas Department of Education, Special Education Unit

**Competitive Grant:** No

**Restricted:** Yes

**ESVI's regional vision consultants are funded through the following Education Service Cooperatives:**

### **Personnel:**

Name	Position
Christi Dixon	TVI/COMS, State Director of TSI/COMS
Ashley Lee	ESVI Administrative Analyst
Evan Beavers	Access Technology Specialist
Marsha Holder	TVI/COMS, ESVI Educational Vision Consultant
Cynthia White	TVI/COMS, ESVI Educational Vision Consultant
Whitney Musick	TVI/COMS, ESVI Educational Vision Consultant
Stephanie Smith	TVI/AT, Specialist
Sharon Niemczyk	TVI/COMS, ESVI Educational Vision Consultant
Melanie Birthright	TVI/COMS, ESVI Educational Vision Consultant
Paige Dillinger	TVI/COMS, ESVI Educational Vision Consultant

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



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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:**

- ESVI staff presented on a variety of topics for Teachers of the Visually Impaired and Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialists for students with visual impairments to the state AER members.
- ESVI hosted 2 professional development meetings/training sessions for Teachers of the Visually Impaired.
- ESVI provided tours at U of A for students that will transition into college.
- Public school students with visual impairments and blindness participated in the Arkansas Braille Challenge and Cane Quest.
- ESVI staff provided special education information during workshops to several coops throughout the state and at the LEA Academy in Hot Springs.
- ESVI provided information, embossers and support to districts that have students with Visual Impairment for the ATLAS testing. ESVI also provided technical assistance for many school districts across the state to help administer the tests. Paper, embossers and Windows computers were provided to assist school administrators in the testing process.
- ESVI and NanoPac coordinated a large group technology training and activity for blind and visually impaired students at the NWA Coop. Hands-on activities were provided to students as well as the experience of learning new apps, braille devices and low vision devices. Students will also participate in making their own lunch.
- Collaborative meetings with building district capacity regarding safety procedures for students with visual impairments was also addressed.
- Collaboration with ESRSS in supporting districts.

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## Program: Foster Grandparent Program

**Funding Source:** Corporation for National and Community Service (AmeriCorps)

**Competitive Grant:** No

**Restricted:** Yes

**Participating Districts:** Ashdown, Booneville, Charleston, Clarksville, Cossatot River, County Line, DeQueen, Foreman, Horatio, IBCEC, M.A.C. Mena, Mineral Springs, Nashville, Nashville, Ouachita River, Ozark, Polk County Development Center, Scranton, Van Buren, Westside.

### Personnel:

Name	Position
Terry Young	Project Director
Ann Frachiseur	Volunteer Coordinator

### Goals:

- Enable men and women 55 years and over to remain active and find ways to serve their community.
- Enable children with special needs to improve academically, developmentally, and socially.

### Program Summary:

The Foster Grandparent Program is a federally funded program whose purpose is to offer senior citizens the opportunity to serve as mentors and tutors for children with special needs. These senior volunteers provide 15 to 40 hours of weekly service to community organizations such as schools and preschool programs.

### Major Highlights of the Year:

- Eight grandparents were added to our program this year for a total of 73. One new school station site was added for a total of 25. Five of our grandparents retired due to health issues.
- Seventy-three foster grandparents tutored and mentored 384 students from preschool to middle school.
- Eighty percent of our students in grades K-12 assigned to a foster grandparent showed improvement in their delayed areas.
- 61,779 volunteer service hours were served.
- Forty-eight hours of annual in-service training were provided to each foster grandparent enrolled in the program.
- All of our grandparents contributed non-perishable food items as part of their 9/11 Service Project in September. We contributed food to food pantries in six of the bigger towns we serve.
- Over 70 blankets were made by our foster grandparents and donated to cancer centers and hospitals throughout Arkansas for Martin Luther King Service Day.

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- Forty-one of our grandparents are signed up to attend our annual Foster Grandparent Summer Conference at DeGray State Park and Lodge with the other FGP programs from our state.
- Our grandparents receive additional training at the State FGP conference in everything from helping students with behavior modifications to helping students with math and science.
- Our grandparents are recognized for their years of service and contribution to their communities in our annual Recognition Service in December. Two of our current grandparents have over 20 years of service to the Foster Grandparent Program.
- Our project director, Terry Young, and Volunteer Coordinator, Ann Frachiseur, will be attending the National Americorps Seniors Conference this summer in Baltimore, MD for additional training in our volunteer program.
- According to the Americorps National Service Report, our DMESC program serves 33 % of the participants in the Foster Grandparent Program in Arkansas and covers 38% of the locations in Arkansas.
- STUDENT PERFORMANCE DATA:
- For the 24-25 school year, 61,799 volunteer hours were served by foster grandparent volunteers directly to both school-age and preschool-age children within the DeQueen Mena service area.
- Our performance measures include tutoring, specifically in the area of school readiness and the performance measure of mentoring with a focus on K-12 success within this area. The children served are offered support in areas such as literacy, mathematics, life-skills, and general mentoring as recognized and assigned by local district personnel. The hours volunteered working with students/children for the present year, 61,779 is almost 12,000 more hours than were served a mere 2 years ago in 2023. Eighty percent of the students served this year made an improvement in end of year FAME codes compared to beginning of the year codes. Students were served in 25 different school locations.

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## Program: Gifted and Talented

**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Education

**Competitive Grant:** No

**Restricted:** Yes

### Participating Districts:

Alma, Booneville, Cedarville, Charleston, Clarksville, County Line, Fort Smith, Greenwood, Hackett, Lamar, Lavaca, Magazine, Mansfield, Mountainburg, Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County, Ozark, Paris, Scranton, Van Buren, Waldron, Westside

### Personnel:

Name	Position	Degree
Angela Miller	Teacher Center Coordinator	MED +
Cristin Price	Administrative Assistant	HSD

### Goal:

- Goal 1: Reduce the equity gap for students receiving gifted services •
- Goal 2: Increase opportunities for students to participate in enrichment in various forms.
- Goal 3: Increase the capacity of districts to meet the needs of gifted learners.

### Program Summary:

Provided student activities: Quiz Bowl (Grades 3-9), Chess Tournaments (3-12), Debate (Grades 6-12), Battle of the Books (Grades 3-6), Cube Competition x 2 (Grades 3-12), TheatreSquared (6-12). Provided professional development Summer 2024, including K-2 Primary Enrichment & Differentiation & Growth Mindset, Teaching Gifted in the Secondary, Common Obstacles and Practical Solutions to Differentiation in Secondary, History of Subiaco, Verbal and Non-Verbal Strategies for Preventing or De-escalating Situation, and Gifted Characteristics.

### Major Highlights of the Year:

- Served over 1600 students through various competitions and enrichment opportunities.
- Provided Professional Development (Summer 2024) and GT Coordinator Meeting opportunities throughout the 2024-2025 school year.

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## Program: Mathematics

**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Education

**Competitive Grant:** No

**Restricted:** Yes

### Participating Districts:

Alma, Booneville, Cedarville, Charleston, Clarksville, County Line, Fort Smith, Greenwood, Hackett, Lamar, Lavaca, Magazine, Mansfield, Mountainburg, Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County, Ozark, Paris, Scranton, Van Buren, Waldron, Westside

### Personnel:

Name	Position	Degree
Candice Cumbie	Mathematics Specialist	BSE

### Goals:

**Goal 1:** Collect, analyze, and update curriculum selections and recognize the curriculum-based professional learning vendors (CBPL) to update the regional data

**Goal 2:** Support HQIM implementation through coaching and professional development. Schools launching or implementing HQIM will receive targeted support, which includes coaching

**Goal 3:** Support the implementation of High-Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM) by offering training and utilizing the Math Leadership Walkthrough and collecting data using the Walkthrough Tool

**Goal 4:** Support educators in implementing the DESE ELEVATE Math Initiative through professional development sessions. The ESC Math specialist will provide support for districts/schools and ensure all stakeholders stay updated on DESE initiatives by attending required Math Unit Meetings.

### Program Summary:

Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative, in partnership with the Arkansas Department of Education, administers the Mathematics Program for grades K-12, established by Act 1392 of 1999 for the improvement of mathematics' instruction throughout Arkansas. Assistance is provided to schools through professional learning programs, demonstration lessons, teacher observations, technical assistance, and teacher/administrator conferences in order to improve the teaching and learning of Mathematics through increased understanding of content and improved instructional strategies across the curriculum. Professional Development offered during the 2024-25 school year included: Illustrative Mathematics Curriculum and Instruction Training, Understanding Centers, Elevate Math Fluency training, Curriculum/Unit and Lesson Internalization, Arkansas State Math Standards/Support Document/Fluency Document, Targeting Foundational Math Skills training for building leaders and Building Pathways to HQIM. In addition to the summer training, the specialists conducted coaching cycles, classroom observations, lesson planning support, model lessons, school site team meetings, and school-based professional development linked to local school data.

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## Major Highlights of the Year:

### The Mathematics Specialists:

- Supported schools through classroom observations, lesson planning, curriculum alignment and pacing, understanding the Arkansas Math Standards and support documents, ATLAS support, planning for interventions, novice teacher support, etc.
- Completed the Fall Coaching Cycle with 3 teachers (3rd grade) **(Goal 2)**
- Completed the Spring Coaching Cycle with 3 teachers (4th and 5th grade) **(Goal 2)**
- Provided HQIM training and support for the districts who have not adopted HQIM **(Goal 3)**
- Provided *Targeting Foundational Math Skills* training with 45 building leaders **(Goal 3)**
- Conducted math walk-throughs with 35 building principals to insure understanding and practice of the Math Walk-through tool. **(Goal 3)**
- Updated math curriculums used in all 22 districts in our region and offered support to districts who do not have HQIM **(Goal 1)**
- Provided Math professional development for over 100 novice teachers at the GFESC Novice Conference
- Had over 160 participants attend the 2 day- grade band math camps, 31 participants were in the Elevate Fluency kick-off **(Goal 4)** and 16 attended the Understanding Centers PD
- Spent over 400 hours in schools supporting teachers and administrators
- Attended all virtual and face to face DESE Math Unit Meetings **(Goal 4)**

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## Program: Migrant Education Program (MEP)

**Funding Source:** Title I, Part C-Education of Migratory Children

**Competitive Grant:** No

**Formula:** Yes

**Restricted:** Yes

### Participating Districts:

The Guy Fenter Migrant Education Program provides technical support to the following districts:

#### **GFESC**

Clarksville (Johnson Co.)

Fort Smith (Sebastian Co.)

Van Buren (Crawford Co.)

#### **AFESC**

None

### Non Participating Districts

Migrant Program eligible students in the following districts are provided services by the Guy Fenter Migrant Education Program staff.

#### **GFESC**

Mountainburg, Cedarville, Alma, Mulberry/Pleasant View (Crawford Co.)

Hackett, Mansfield, Greenwood, Future School of Fort Smith (Sebastian Co.)

Booneville, Magazine, Scranton, Paris, (Logan Co.)

Charleston, County Line, Ozark, (Franklin Co.)

Lamar, (Johnson Co.), Waldron (Scott Co.)

#### **AFESC**

Western Yell, Two Rivers, Dardenelle, Danville (Yell Co.)

Perryville, East End, Bigelow (Perry Co.)

Pottsville, Atkins, Dover, Hector, (Pope Co.)

Guy Perkins, Greenbrier, Mayflower, Vilonia, Conway (Faulkner Co.)

Quitman, West Side Greers Ferry, Heber Springs (Cleburne Co.)

Wonderview, Nemo Vista, South Conway, (Conway Co.)

Shirley, Clinton (Van Buren Co.)

### **Personnel:**

Name	Position	Degree
Stefan Lyons	Migrant Education Specialist	BS
Ashley Hulan	REDS	BS

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Caroline Rowe	Recruiter/Advocate/OSY Student Support	BS
Yadira Camp	Recruiter/Advocate	NA
Kassandra Burns	Student Support Specialist	BS

## Goal:

The Migrant Education Program is to identify all eligible migratory children and to provide supplemental services to improve educational opportunities for migratory children to help them succeed in the regular school program, meet the same state academic content and student academic achievement standards that all children are expected to meet, and graduate from high schools. Our measurable program goals address reading achievement, math achievement, and high school graduation.

## Program Summary:

During the 2024-2025 school year, approximately 935 children and youth ages zero through twenty-one were recruited and/or served in the Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative by the Migrant Education Program.

Technical Assistance is provided by MEP staff in the four (3) project schools. Services in non-project schools are provided by MEP cooperative staff.

Services provided include:

- Identification and Recruitment
- Advocacy for MEP families, including health referrals
- Provide parents with information to help their child prepare for kindergarten with readiness skills, and to support their child with graduation from high school/ prepare for college or enter the workforce.
- In home Pre-K Lessons for 3-5 year old MEP children not enrolled in a preschool
- Tutoring/Mentoring students during the regular school term
- Supplying students with supplemental books and magazines to read for pleasure
- Availability of free Red Comet online credit recovery courses
- ExCEL Challenge - AMESLA - 4-H Center Ferndale, AR
- High School students visit colleges and explore post-secondary opportunities
- Provide students with transportation to MEP sponsored activities
- Provide MEP staff with professional development (math, ELA, School Readiness, and ID&R)
- Provide student STEM activity days
- School supplies for new enrollments, and upon request
- Stem Camps and Trade School Camp for grades 9-12
- Summer reading program
- One on One summer instruction



# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## Program: Novice Teacher Mentoring Program

**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Education

**Competitive Grant:** No

**Restricted:** Yes

### Participating Districts:

Alma, Booneville, Cedarville, Charleston, Clarksville, County Line, Fort Smith, Hackett, Lamar, Lavaca, Magazine, Mansfield, Mulberry/Pleasant View, Ozark, Paris, Scranton, Van Buren, Waldron, Westside

### Personnel:

Name	Position	Degree
Tammy Brewer	Mentoring Program Specialist	EDS
Jennifer King	Mentoring Program Specialist	MED +
Elizabeth Conway	Mentoring Program Assistant	HSD

### Goal:

Our goal is to provide instruction and support during the formative years of a novice teacher's career and to focus on supporting and building the capacity of experienced mentor teachers.

The purpose is to provide all Early Career Professionals (Novice Teachers) with the foundational information and support to enable Early Career Professionals to become effective first-year teachers, to grow and develop as second-year teachers, and to empower third-year teachers to be teacher leaders, to build the capacity of licensed teachers, and to provide support and training for experienced mentor teachers.

### Program Summary:

Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative, in partnership with the Arkansas Department of Education, all Early Career Professionals are assigned to a cohort led by the Mentoring Program Specialist who has expertise in the Novice Teacher's content area or pedagogy area. Early Career Teaching Professionals attended three days of face-to-face professional learning at a conference hosted by the cooperative. The professional learning topics included: Classroom Management, Growth Mindset, Behavior Support, Lesson Planning, Ethics/Professionalism, Special Education Law, Dyslexia and Science of Reading Overview, TESS, and other needs as requested by the Novice Teacher or building principal.

Teachers needing licensure assessment support were assisted with a library of study materials at the cooperative, and Mometrix study materials were delivered to schools by a Mentoring Support Specialist at the teachers' requests. Monthly onsite Saturday study sessions were provided for Early Career Professionals with additional protected time and support, and 240-tutoring self-paced online Praxis study support at the teachers' requests. Teachers who participated in the ESC planned on-site sessions received exam reimbursement for meeting licensure score requirements.

The Mentoring Program Specialist worked in member districts to support Novice Teachers through on-site coaching, modeling, observation/reflection, lesson planning, virtual office hours, Mentor teachers in school districts were offered training on how to support the Early Career Teachers in their district, such as classroom walk-through tools through onsite team support. Mentor teachers were offered the

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opportunity to attend Cognitive Coaching at the cooperative and have access to the cooperative Mentoring Support Specialist in person, by email, by phone, and an open weekly Zoom session each Friday.

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

During the 2024-2025 school year, 495 Early Career Professionals were supported through the GFESC Novice Teacher Mentoring Program. This was an increase of 40 teachers from the previous year. On-site visits provided necessary assistance on an individualized basis, and all requests for support were provided. Also provided were monthly newsletters, end-of-the-month check-ins, and open Zooms each Friday.

Pre-Service Teacher Reception- during this event, prospective teachers met with districts to network and learn soft skills such as how to find and apply to job openings, interviewing tips and techniques, and best practices for following up after the interview. This was our 3rd annual event held on-campus.

Recruitment: Our Mentoring Program Specialist worked closely with districts to support the teacher preparation programs, especially grow-your-own initiatives.

Education interns from the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith met at the Cooperative campus for Ethics Training and a carousel of Administrator round table discussions. Administrators from various districts and Cooperative personnel were there to answer questions and for networking opportunities.

Praxis Test Reimbursement- Teachers who need Praxis support have a variety of options from the Co-op. The Mentoring Specialist delivered Mometrix flashcards to the teacher or provided 240 tutoring (an online study guide) to teachers requesting those aids. For the year 2024-2025, a total of 49 invites were sent to teachers. Additionally, if teachers came to one of the Saturday Praxis study sessions, they were placed on Study.com. If a teacher passed their test within one month of the study session, the novice program grant reimbursed them for the costs of the test. Over 50 teachers took advantage of these Saturday sessions. These study sessions received outstanding feedback from participants and will continue. The program received an additional \$10,000 in grant funding specifically for Praxis assistance. Fifteen teachers to date have been reimbursed for Praxis registration for meeting the licensing requirements.

John Wink (Consultant)- Mr. Wink worked with both novice teachers and mentors during Summer 2024 and throughout the 24-25 school year. He provided support at all levels to ensure that novice teachers effectively met students' needs and to help mentors work collaboratively with novice teachers to increase teacher effectiveness to promote student achievement.

Mentors- The voluntary mentoring group had 61 mentors that worked with new teachers. They were given monthly checklists and tasks to complete with their novice teacher.

Our Mentoring Program Specialists, Tammy Brewer and Jennifer King were part of the Guiding Coalition for PLCs team for GFESC. She also was on the advisory team for the updating the 2024-2025 Mentoring Manual updates.

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**Program:** School Health and Wellness - Tobacco Prevention, Nutrition, Physical Activity

**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Health

**Competitive Grant:** No

**Restricted:** No

**Participating Districts:** Alma, Booneville, Cedarville, Charleston, Clarksville, County Line, Fort Smith, Greenwood, Hackett, Lamar, Lavaca, Magazine, Mansfield, Mountainburg, Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County, Ozark, Paris, Scranton, Van Buren, Waldron, Westside

Charter Schools: Future School of Fort Smith

Private Schools: Subiaco Academy, Immaculate Conception, Trinity Jr. High, Union Christian Academy

## **Personnel:**

Name	Position	Degree
Kelli Butcher (interim)	Community Health Nurse Specialist	MSN, RN
Meggi Augustoksy	Community Health Promotion Specialist	MPH, RRT

## **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 training and technical assistance on School Health Index
- Provides technical assistance to Coordinated School Health grantees
- Provides technical assistance to tobacco prevention grantees
- 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

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- Provides technical assistance to communities regarding school health issues and current public health policy
- 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
- 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:

- Annual Back to School Nurse Workshop held in person, but in a virtual format, 75 participants. Cheria McDonald, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC, NCSN - State School Nurse Consultant, presented on new laws and rules and regulations for school nurses.
- Vision Certification Training for all new school nurses
- Hearing Certification Training for all new school nurses
- Scoliosis Certification Training for all new school nurses
- BMI Certification Training for all new school nurses
- Assisted with two school-based flu immunization clinics.
- Special Healthcare needs train the trainer class for all new nurses billing for Medicaid.
- Coordinated a CPR instructor class with an American Heart Association instructor trainer to increase the number of districts with trainers on their campus.
- In November, began sending monthly School Nurse Newsletters to nurses.
- Presented on School Nursing Documentation with Cheria McDonald on the Arkansas Children's Hospital live podcast for school nurses.
- Created and DESE approved – statewide training for schools and nurses.
- R.I.S.K – Recognition of Impairment from Substances in K12.  
<https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/Offices/learning-services/school-health-services/risk-training->

## Other Highlights of the Year:

- Tobacco prevention education, suicide prevention education, healthy relationship education, distress tolerance education, internet safety education, dental health education, nutrition education, opioid use prevention education, and teen

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- pregnancy/STI prevention education for students are presented on request.
- Presented CPR for staff every other month and nurses as needed.
- Facilitated Medicaid in the Schools workshop on training and billing for personal
- care done in the school setting.
- Assisted districts with Wellness Committee planning and requirements

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## Program: Science

**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Education

**Competitive Grant:** No

**Restricted:** Yes

## Participating Districts:

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

## Personnel:

Name	Position	Degree
Amber Cobb	Science Specialist	BS, MED

## Goals:

- provide awareness/ implementation support for district adoption of high quality instructional materials
- train and support administrations in use of the Science Classroom Walkthrough Tool
- act as a liaison between science teachers and DESE, including dissemination of information
- partner with local agencies to offer STEM engagement events for students/teachers
- host professional development tied to DESE science initiatives
- support teachers in preparation for the ATLAS via trainings and classroom visits

## Program Summary:

The science program at the Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative is based on the identified needs of teachers in the GFESC 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 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education's science initiative. The specialist is continuing to build relationships within districts in order to best support schools in the region. The GFESC Science Specialist is responsible for assisting local districts and teachers in improving the quality of science education throughout the region. The science specialist will provide training in inquiry-based science, model teaching, curriculum development and alignment, and techniques to prepare for science teaching.

## Major Highlights of the Year:

- Collaborated with multiple school districts this year to provide ongoing professional development and curriculum support for science teachers in the districts.
- Surveyed districts on their HQIM implementation plan
- Collaborated with districts to provide training for HQIM curriculum implementation
- Partnered with the Arkansas Game and Fish, University of Arkansas Food Science, Henderson University, Mount Magazine State Park, Air and Military Museum, Fort Smith National Historic Site, Massard WasteWater Treatment Plant, Fort Smith Landfill, and the National Energy Foundation to provide STEM opportunities for teachers and students

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- Offered 23 training sessions for area teachers
- Assisted classroom teachers with ATLAS preparation
- Carried out DESE science initiatives including training building principals on the Science Classroom Walkthrough Tool

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**Program: Teacher Center (Professional Development; Curriculum Development Assistance; Resources)**

**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Education

**Competitive Grant:** No

**Restricted:** Yes

**Participating Districts:**

Alma, Booneville, Cedarville, Charleston, Clarksville, County Line, Fort Smith, Greenwood, Hackett, Lamar, Lavaca, Magazine, Mansfield, Mountainburg, Mulberry/Pleasant View, Ozark, Paris, Scranton, Van Buren, Waldron, Westside

**Private Schools:**

St. Joseph's, Harvest Time Academy, Subiaco Academy

**Charter Schools:**

Future School of Fort Smith

Premier High School - Fort Smith

Institute of the Arts

**Participating Universities:**

University of Arkansas Fort Smith

University of the Ozarks

Arkansas Tech University

Grand Canyon University

REACH University

**Personnel:**

Name	Position	Degree
Angela Miller	Teacher Center Coordinator	MED +
Cristin Price	Administrative Assistant	HSD

**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:**

This office has the responsibility of surveying, organizing, and providing K-12 professional development that supports school improvement for our twenty-one member districts. During the 2024-2025 school year, Guy Fenter ESC offered professional development opportunities that aligned with district needs and state initiatives. A comprehensive list of professional development workshops is provided at the end of this report.

The Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative and the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education continue to work together to support districts in the state initiatives and mandates, particularly those related



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to the Arkansas State Standards implementation process, the ATLAS assessment and other assessment systems, Teacher Excellence Support System (TESS) and Leader Excellence And Development System (LEADS 2.0). These initiatives continue to be the driving forces for increasing student achievement. All GFESC districts have been involved in various professional development opportunities provided at the state and local levels. With the support of the Arkansas legislature, the Division of Elementary and Secondary 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.

## Major Highlights of the Year:

These opportunities include, but are not limited to, trainings such as:

- **Leadership/Collaborative Meetings:** GFESC continued to host K-12 Administrators, Curriculum Leaders and Federal Programs Coordinators. K-12 Administrators, Curriculum Leaders, and Federal Programs Coordinators met monthly for DESE updates and GFESC served as a liaison between DESE and districts. Topics for these groups were on an “as needed basis” due to the ongoing topics.
- **Dyslexia Intervention:** GFESC provided regular support services and training to area districts. GFESC hosted Sonday I, II, and Arkansas specific SoR training during the 2024-25 school year. GFESC also hosted Quarterly Contact Meetings for district Dyslexia Coordinators, Interventionists, etc.
- **Novice Teacher and Mentoring Training Programs:** GFESC Mentoring Program Specialist(s) provided on-site and in-school support of all Year 1, 2, and 3 Novice Teachers and Mentors. GFESC hosted over 470 Novice Teachers at the 1st Annual Novice Teacher Conference in July 2024. Cognitive Coaching and Mentoring All Teachers to Excellence were coaching options for mentors that GFESC hosted during the 2024-25 school year.
- **Math:** GFESC Math Specialist(s) provided support of HQIM implementation through coaching and professional development. Schools launching or implementing HQIM will receive targeted support, which includes coaching. Professional Development offered during the 2024-25 school year included: Illustrative Mathematics Curriculum and Instruction Training, Understanding Centers, Elevate Math Fluency training, Curriculum/Unit and Lesson Internalization, Arkansas State Math Standards/Support Document/Fluency Document, Targeting Foundational Math Skills training for building leaders and Building Pathways to HQIM. In addition to the summer training, the specialists conducted coaching cycles, classroom observations, lesson planning support, model lessons, school site team meetings, and school-based professional development linked to local school data.
- **Literacy:** R.I.S.E. Academy and other R.I.S.E. related training such as the Science of Reading Stand-alone training days were held on-site at GFESC during the 2024-2025 school year. GFESC is hosting Literacy Camp for K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12 grade bands in Summer 2025 in partnership with DESE SoR specialists. Workshops/trainings were held at both GFESC and on-site in districts on requested topics such as HQIM/Curriculum Implementation, RTI process, model lessons, 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.
- **Science:** Grasping Phenomenal Science, This is Arkansas, Science Assessment, NASCAR, NASA, AR Game and Fish, NOAA Fish Hatcheries partnered with GFESC and area districts to provide virtual field trips, STEM challenges, etc. for teachers and students. Science Specialists provided training for integrating literacy in the content area for science teachers, unit planning, lesson writing and examination of the Arkansas State Standards with embedding Next Generation Science Standards both on-site and virtually as requested. Specialists worked both on-site and virtually with schools.

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- **Specific Groups:** The Library Media Group, Computer Science Group, LEA's, etc. and 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 Guy Fenter ESC region. These groups were led and supported by content specialists in their specific areas, held both on-site and virtually. Specialists worked with Computer Science, Special Education Services, Social Studies/Arkansas History, Career and Technical Education, Health and Wellness etc. Additionally GFESC District and Building level Leaders met monthly for collaborative discussions and information updates, as well as listening to guest speakers of interest. These sessions were led by the Teacher Center Coordinator and an area Federal Programs Coordinator/Director.

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## **Program: Technology**

**Funding Source:** Arkansas Department of Education

**Competitive Grant:** No

**Restricted:** Yes

### **Participating Districts:**

Alma, Booneville, Cedarville, Charleston, Clarksville, County Line, Fort Smith, Greenwood, Hackett, Lamar, Lavaca, Magazine, Mansfield, Mountainburg, Mulberry/Pleasant View, Ozark, Paris, Scranton, Van Buren, Waldron, Westside

### **Personnel:**

Name	Position	Degree
Matt Pipkins	Technology Coordinator	BSE, MSIT

### **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, a computer training lab, Device Carts, over 150 PC's, servers, and other devices at GFESC. It is a further goal of the Technology Department to provide training and support for member district staff and internal GFESC 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 GFESC LAN including file server administration, desktop support and staff development training for Co-op staff is provided. In addition to the LAN the Technology Coordinator oversees phone systems, Wi-Fi, and cellular data service including Mifis. 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:**

- Supported GFESC staff with on site meetings and PD offerings
- Member of DESE's Cyber Response Task Force.
- Provided assistance to districts affected by Cyber Attacks. Examples include:
  - \* Cyber Incident Response: During the year, I have assisted with cyber incidents at area schools. Part of my role involves processing and analyzing data from these events. This assistance not only helps identify the source of the compromise during the incident but also aids in determining measures to prevent reinfection. Lessons learned from the incidents are shared with other schools to enhance their security posture.
  - \* Cyber First Responder software: During the year, I have modified the KAPE\_Menu program that I created the previous year to allow for collecting and processing more data during and after cyber incidents. Throughout the year, I have continuously updated the program, incorporating many new features as I uncover new methods and techniques in Cyber Incident Response. The program is now

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utilized statewide during K-12 cyber events that require data collection and has been showcased at many events statewide when discussing Cyber Incident Response.

\* Troubleshooting area school technology issues: During the year, I have answered questions and helped with troubleshooting problems dealing with cybersecurity, networking, and VoIP issues for multiple school technology coordinators in our co-op as well as across the state. This assistance was provided virtually as well as on site in some instances.

\* Email Security Auditor: After repeatedly hearing at conferences and webinars that email is the primary vector for cybersecurity infections, I decided to evaluate our co-op's implementation of basic email security measures. Upon discovering and resolving several issues, I expanded my assessment to examine email security protocols at other schools in our area. Since this process proved tedious and time-consuming, I developed a program that automatically scans, parses, and scores various email security factors for any specified domain. The program generates comprehensive reports with targeted recommendations for improvement. With this tool, I've successfully helped numerous schools in our district enhance their email security posture. The application is now being utilized by many technology coordinators at other co-ops to strengthen email security at their respective schools.

- Assisted in providing training, support and vendor demos for Technology Coordinators.
- Hosted six on-site training sessions for District Technology Coordinators
- GFESC Technology Coordinator attended 27 face-to-face or virtual meetings with other co-op Technology Coordinators and representatives from ADE, DIS, and/or other state agencies.
- Maintained groups for area school administrators to increase communication with the cooperative and between the member schools.
- Improved labs and conference facilities for participants attending sessions.
- Provided assistance to districts in the following areas: VoIP, Networking, and Cyber Security.
- Attended all State Technology Coordinator Meetings to keep informed about emerging Technology for the K-12 environment.
- Assisted in the evaluation and purchase of new equipment for our employees.
- GFESC Technology Coordinator facilitated 8 training opportunities focused on Cyber Security and Cybersecurity Legislation that helped to build capacity of technology coordinators, teachers, and administrators on topics in cybersecurity that will help them protect themselves and their networks against cyber threats
- GFESC Technology Coordinator presented at the Arkansas Conference of Technology (ACOT) in Nov. 2024, WRS Security Summit March 2025, and CIRT Training April 2025

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## Special Projects and Programs

Detailed below are special projects or programs in which state funding provided services regionally or statewide, give the Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative an opportunity to participate.

### **Program Name: AR Application (ArAPP)**

#### **Description:**

To better serve our member districts, Education Service Cooperatives, in collaboration with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, recognized the need for targeted support in the development and submission of the AR Application (AR App). In response, a structured support initiative was launched to assist districts and improve the overall quality of AR App submissions and in creating a district strategic plan.

Beginning in January and concluding each May, a series of monthly meetings has been established to guide districts through each component of the AR App. These sessions are designed to provide differentiated support tailored to the specific needs of schools, ensuring a more effective and high-quality application process.

Each month, participating schools receive training and guidance on a different element of the AR App. These components include:

- Conducting a comprehensive needs assessment
- Collecting and analyzing relevant data
- Forming an effective planning team
- Developing SMART goals
- Writing goals that align with both district-level data and the priorities outlined in LEARNS
- Aligning resource allocation with the goals identified in the district's strategic plan.

To ensure consistency and ease of implementation across all cooperatives, training modules and introductory communication materials were developed for shared use. This collaborative approach not only strengthens district capacity but also promotes alignment and accountability across the state.

This initiative reflects the education cooperative's continued commitment to supporting schools in achieving meaningful improvement through strategic planning and data-driven goal setting.

Lastly, in regard to recent legislation, education service cooperatives provided feedback on each district's AR App prior to the district's submission.

### **Program Name: Roster Verification (RVS)**

#### **Description:**

The ESCs in partnership with DESE, developed training to support building and district level administrators with the Roster Verification Process. The primary purpose of this work was to support DESE and districts with the accurate coding of students to teachers for ATLAS testing. As part of the training, districts were trained in matching teachers to students for the purposes of tracking student growth and progress in tested areas. The matching period for RVS took place in April through May, and included three levels of verification: teacher, principal, and superintendent. Co-ops also took the lead on troubleshooting and answering questions related to RVS in their region.

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## **Program Name: National Institute for Teacher Excellence (NIET) Lead Teacher Designation**

### **Description:**

GFESC was awarded a competitive grant for the past three years by DESE for the purpose of providing Lead Teacher Designation to area teachers. NIET is one of the DESE-approved pathways to Lead Teacher licensure designation. These teachers will be able to support more types of novice teachers, including those with aspiring teacher permits and those in the teacher apprenticeship program. This grant assists districts in increasing their teacher recruitment pipeline as well as building the skills of the lead teacher and increasing teacher retention. To date, GFESC has had 80 teachers complete the NIET Lead Teacher Designation Program, and has an additional 62 teachers entering a cohort in July 2025.

## **Program Name: Arkansas Professional Educator Pathway (ArPEP)**

**Number Trained: 30 ArPEP participants in Cohort 1**

**Number Trained: 33 ArPEP participants in Cohort 2**

**Number Trained: 34 ArPEP participants in Cohort 1**

### **Description:**

The Arkansas Professional Educator Pathway (ArPEP) is an affordable two-year, work-based training, alternative education route to obtaining an Arkansas standard teaching license for college graduates or career changers holding at least a bachelor's degree. ArPEP's goal is to prepare learner-ready teachers to meet the growing demand of the teacher pipeline in Arkansas. The primary objective of ArPEP is to train future educators on how to build classroom communities, design effective lesson plans, implement evidence-based instructional strategies, and use assessments to facilitate student learning.

The ArPEP facilitator will prepare educators who understand what accomplished beginning teaching looks like in a classroom, and more importantly, demonstrate how effective teachers design lessons, provide instruction, build classroom communities, and utilize assessments to facilitate student learning.

## **Program Name: Communities of Practice Grant (CoP) - Year 3**

### **Description:**

Building Communities of Practice (CoP) is focused around Identifying Learning Loss and Accelerating Learning using High-Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM). DESE, in partnership with a national partner, will bring together groups of Arkansas system leaders (district and school teams). The Community of Practice will explore the leadership practices necessary to implement math and/or literacy instruction and learning supports that meet the moment, while staying focused on long-term recovery and acceleration goals.

The CoP includes a series of sessions that includes research and evidence-based strategies to address and plan for acceleration of learning using HQIM.

Grantee will select vendors from those approved by Rivet Education to contract with for professional services to engage in content coaching, with emphasis on HQIM. GFESC collaborated with the vendor The Bailey Group as a partner in this grant for 2024-2025. Twelve GFESC districts participated in the work with The Bailey Group during the 2024-2025 school year.

## **Program Name: Praxis Study Sessions**

### **Description:**

The GFESC Mentoring Specialist offers Saturday Praxis Study Sessions for any pre-service, paraprofessional, or veteran teacher needing to pass an initial Praxis exam or an exam to add an endorsement to a standard teaching license. Participants are given the option to study using Mometrix, 240tutoring, or

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Study.com resources. The participants are given the opportunity to submit their passing Praxis exam scores for reimbursement from a grant provided through DESE. GFESC has hosted more than 50 participants in the Saturday Praxis Study sessions. Summer 2025 will offer 2 sessions this summer as well.

## **Program Name: Special Education Novice Teacher Training**

### **Description:**

The GFESC Behavior Support Specialist and local district LEA's provide targeted professional development for any teacher that is new to special education, or may need a refresher to special education instruction. This training includes topics such as Essential Behavior Concepts, Antecedent and Targeted Behavior Intervention, Zoning plans, Due Process from pre-referral to evaluation programming/placement, IEPs, Notice of Action, Exciting Data Review, Re-evaluation, Annual Review Process, ESY, and Transition. GFESC has provided support for more than 100 novice special educators through the Special Education Novice Teacher Training program.

## **Program Name: Electronic Fingerprinting**

### **Description:**

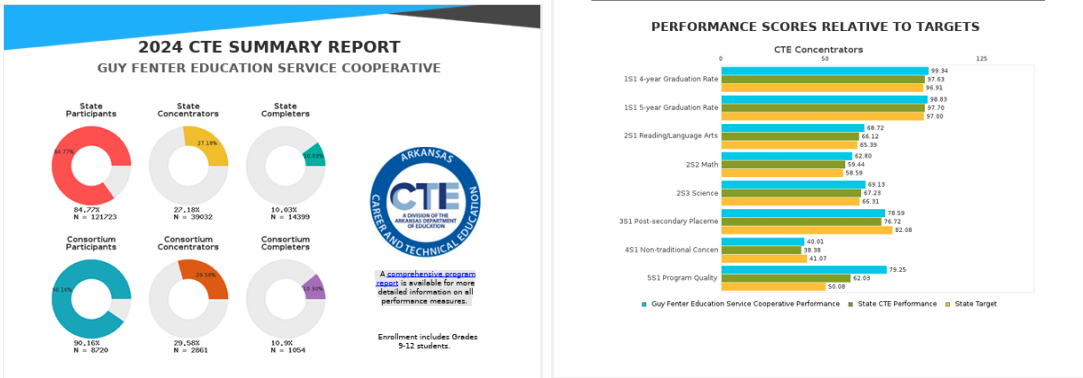
Arkansas State, FBI and Child Maltreatment Central registry background checks are required for student teaching internship, first time licensure and all licensure renewals, first employment or change of employment in public schools, charter schools or education service cooperatives. The Arkansas Department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

- GFESC 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.
- Currently, we have three employees trained to conduct fingerprints. This employee must work fingerprinting into their already full-time position. (i.e. Mentoring Program & Teacher Center Administrative Assistant).
- GFESC performed a total of **900** electronic fingerprints from **July 1, 2024 - June 15, 2025**.

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## Guy Fenter ESC Impact on Student Performance 2024-2025

In accordance with Act 802 (2023), the following data have been collected from GFESC Districts regarding the impact of the cooperative on student growth

Program	Impact
Migrant Program	The Guy Fenter Migrant Education Program has made progress in all three of the target areas (ELA and Math, School Readiness (PreK), and High School Graduation/OSY Services), as indicated on the annual FSI report. Each target area goal was exceeded for the performance period. We tutored and provided supplemental services to 100% of the Priority for Service migrant students, which indicates large gains and invested interest in our migrant students.
CTE	<p>CTE Consortium scores include graduation rates of 99.34% with 62.5% of concentrators earning an industry recognized credential. All performance scores exceeded state and federal targets. No improvement plans were required.</p>  <p>The image contains two charts. The left chart is titled '2024 CTE SUMMARY REPORT' and shows three donut charts for State Participants (84,775), State Concentrators (27,185), and State Completers (10,635). The right chart is titled 'PERFORMANCE SCORES RELATIVE TO TARGETS' and shows a bar chart comparing Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative Performance, State CTE Performance, and State Target across various metrics including 151 4-year Graduation Rate, 151 5-year Graduation Rate, 251 Reading/Language Arts, 252 Math, 253 Science, 351 Post-secondary Placements, 451 Non-traditional Career, and 551 Program Quality.</p>
Virtual Arkansas	GFESC students that participated in Virtual Arkansas courses had a 93.6% Pass Rate. 2,154 credits were earned. 1,595 college concurrent credit hours were earned. 2,302 students were enrolled in courses. 173 students were enrolled in advanced placement courses.
Early Childhood/Special Education	The Guy Fenter Early Childhood Special Education Program has made progress in each of the three early childhood outcome areas, including social-emotional, knowledge and skills, and appropriate behaviors, as indicated on the annual performance report. Each state target for the outcome area was exceeded, indicating substantial progress from the time the student entered the program through age six or exit from the program. The GFESC Early Childhood Program has grown from a child count of 150 in 1999, to serving 699 in 2024. The Early Childhood/Special Education has satellite offices to serve families and schools throughout the River Valley region with the home base in Branch.



# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

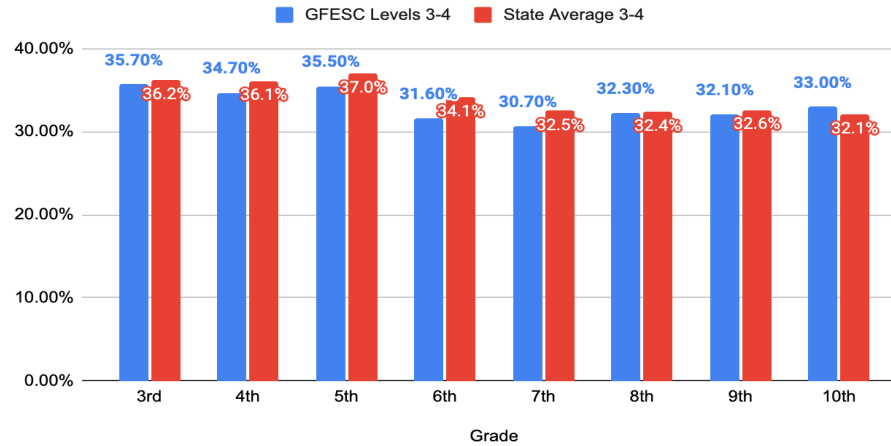
Foster Grandparent	<p>For the 2024-25 school year, Seventy-three foster grandparents tutored and mentored 384 students from preschool to middle school, Eighty percent of our students in grades K-12 assigned to a foster grandparent showed improvement in their delayed areas, 61,779 volunteer service areas were served, and Forty-eight hours of annual in-service training were provided to each foster grandparent enrolled in the program. The foster grandparents volunteers work directly with both school-age and preschool-age children within the GFESC service area for the performance measure of tutoring, specifically in the area of school readiness, and the performance measure of mentoring, with a focus on K-12 success within this area. The children served are offered support in areas such as literacy, mathematics, life-skills, and general mentoring as recognized and assigned by local district personnel.</p>
Math & Science	<p>The GFESC Math Specialist provided professional development to all districts/schools that included: Illustrative Mathematics Curriculum and Instruction Training, Understanding Centers, Elevate Math Fluency training, Curriculum/Unit and Lesson Internalization, Arkansas State Math Standards/Support Document/Fluency Document, Targeting Foundational Math Skills training for building leaders and Building Pathways to HQIM. The GFESC Math Specialist completed 6 Coaching Cycles, Targeted Foundational Math Skills Training with 45 building administrators, Math Walk-throughs with 35 building principals, and updated the Math Curriculum used in all 22 of the GFESC districts.</p> <p>GFESC Science Specialists provided professional development to all districts/schools that focused on HQIM curriculum implementation, ATLAS preparation, Science Classroom Walk-through too, etc. The GFESC Science Specialist also partnered with Arkansas Game and Fish, University of Arkansas Food Science, Henderson University, Mount Magazine State Park, Air and Military Museum, Fort Smith National Historic Site, Massard WasteWater Treatment Plant, Fort Smith Landfill, and the National Energy Foundation to provide STEM opportunities for teachers and students.</p>
Mentoring/Novice	<p>In 2023-2024, 463 teachers were identified as year 1, 2, or 3 novice teachers. In 2024-2025, 495 teachers were identified as novice teachers. This is an increase of 32 novice teachers over one year who were supported by the GFESC Mentoring Specialist. The increase of 32 novice teachers in the GFESC region was due to the novice teachers accepting positions in the GFESC region of Arkansas. The GFESC Novice Program retention rate of teachers in the profession is 98%.</p>
Dyslexia	<p>Total Number of Students Receiving Dyslexia Intervention Services in grades K-12 during the 2024-2025 school year: <b>3,160</b></p> <p>GFESC did not have a Dyslexia Specialist for the 2024-2025 school year. GFESC worked closely with Vicki King and Ginger West from DESE to continue Dyslexia support for the GFESC school districts. GFESC hosted training for Sonday System 1</p>

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

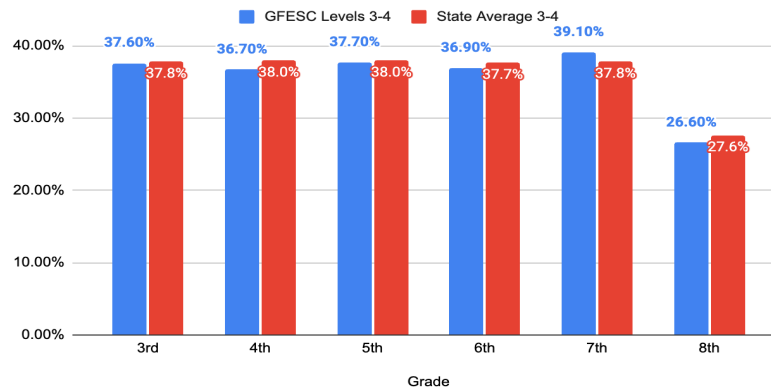
	<p>and Sonday System 2, as well as the 3-day SoR Sonday training specific to Arkansas. GFESC also hosted training for Level 2 Screeners and School Based ID. All twenty-one (21) districts have participated in Dyslexia training through GFESC.</p>
Data Tracking for Boardroom to Classroom work	<p>In 2024-2025, all Superintendents, Principals, Federal Programs, and Curriculum Coordinators monthly meetings have included a Data Component with an emphasis in Literacy and Math achievement on the ATLAS Interim assessments.</p> <p><a href="#">ATLAS Interim Data Fall 2024</a></p> <p><a href="#">GFESC ATLAS Overview of Data</a></p> <p><a href="#">GFESC School Value Added Growth 2024</a></p> <p><a href="#">GFESC Letter Grade Data 2023 &amp; 2024 Comparison</a></p>

## GFESC ATLAS Performance Data - Spring 2024

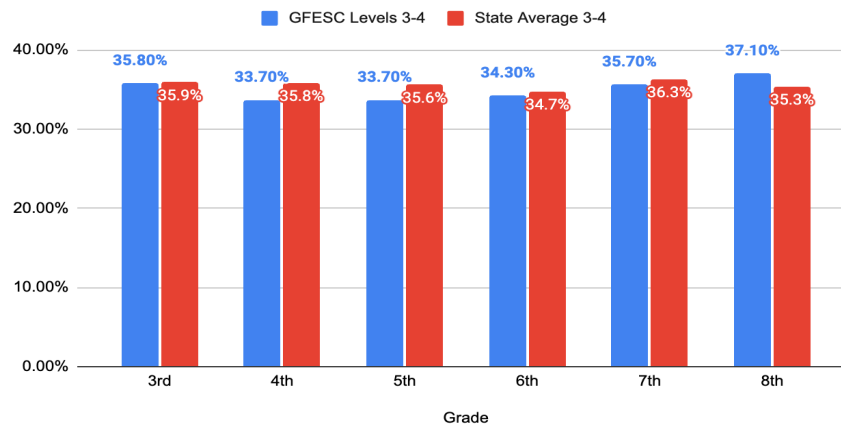
Reading: GFESC vs. State Levels 3-4



Math: GFESC vs. State Levels 3-4



Science: GFESC vs. State Levels 3-4



**Professional Development  
Summary Report  
2024-2025  
[HERE](#)**

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

## Education Service Cooperatives Financial Overview 2024-25

Arkansas Educational Cooperatives are funded from three primary sources: state, local, and federal. State funds are awarded to Educational Service Cooperatives through targeted grants. The grant budgets and goals originate from the Arkansas Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Grant funds are reimbursed by DESE after program appropriate expenditures occur. The grants include targeted funds for reading specialists/coaches, math specialists, dyslexia specialists, science specialists, technology specialists, special education, curriculum training, and other grants as determined by DESE. The funds are carried over only by special permission from the Department of Education. DESE also provides \$408,000 annually to each cooperative for general operations. State funds represented 34.54% of all cooperative revenues in FY24 or \$59,312,684.

Local revenue is money that comes to a cooperative from local school districts by agreement. The services associated with these agreements include staff shared between districts, professional development services, special education testing, interest income, cooperative operations, repair services, and other special projects as determined by participating districts and the cooperative. Local funds accounted for 37.05% of cooperative revenue or \$63,636,084 in FY24.

Federal funds are governed by federal & state laws and rules for each program. They are reimbursed by DESE after program appropriate expenditures are made. Balances are regulated by federal rules. Federal Programs operated through cooperatives include the Migrant program, Arkansas Better Chance, the Perkins Program, and Special Education ages 3-5. Currently cooperatives have ARP ESSER funds that are associated with ABC, Early Childhood Special Education, and the Homeless program. For the fiscal year 2024, the cooperative Federal revenue total was \$48,136,507 or 28.03% of all FY24 revenue.

Total revenue for 23-24 was \$171,741,194. This includes the broad categories above, plus revenue of \$655,920. Additional revenue occurred in select cooperatives and included insurance claims, food service programs for students, and other revenue streams not common to the group.

# GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

Aggregate Cooperative Revenues \_ Trend Data

## Local, State , Federal, Other and Total

