

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

Annual Report of Activities 2022-2023



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GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

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GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

Message from the Director

The Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative has served the schools of western Arkansas for 40 years. The Co-op is constantly changing to meet the needs of our schools and assist with the education of the students of western Arkansas. I am both pleased and excited to be involved in this outstanding program as we assist local school districts with the education of their students and staff as well as assisting districts in the maximization of their limited funds through Co-op activities.

This report of activities was prepared by the Co-op staff for the purpose of informing our member schools, the ADE and others, about the services that are provided by the Co-op and to satisfy the requirements of Act 349 of 1985. I feel very confident that it satisfies those objectives.



Roy Hester
Director, GFESC

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.

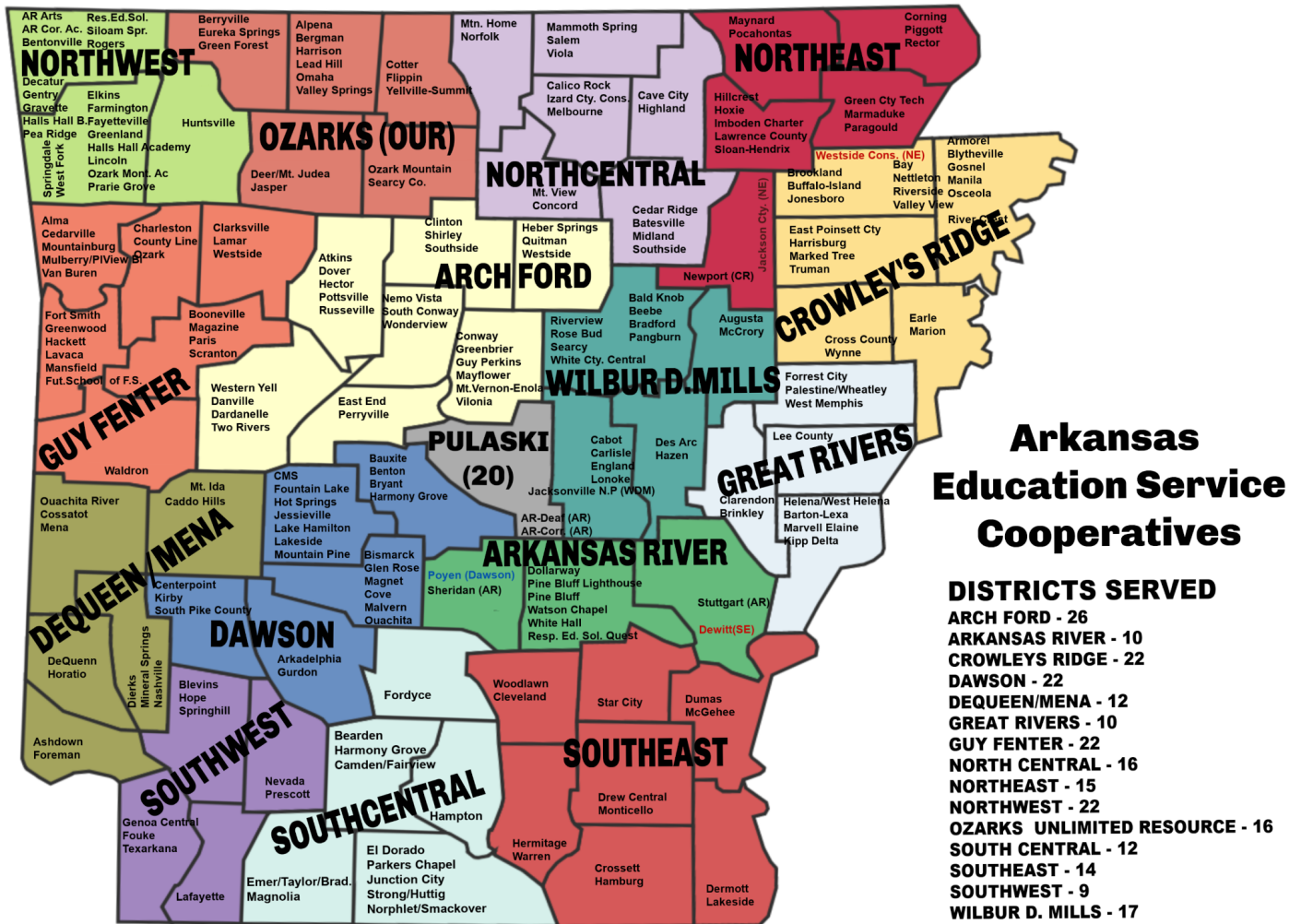
The cooperative shall strive to make services to all interested districts as equally accessible as possible.

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.

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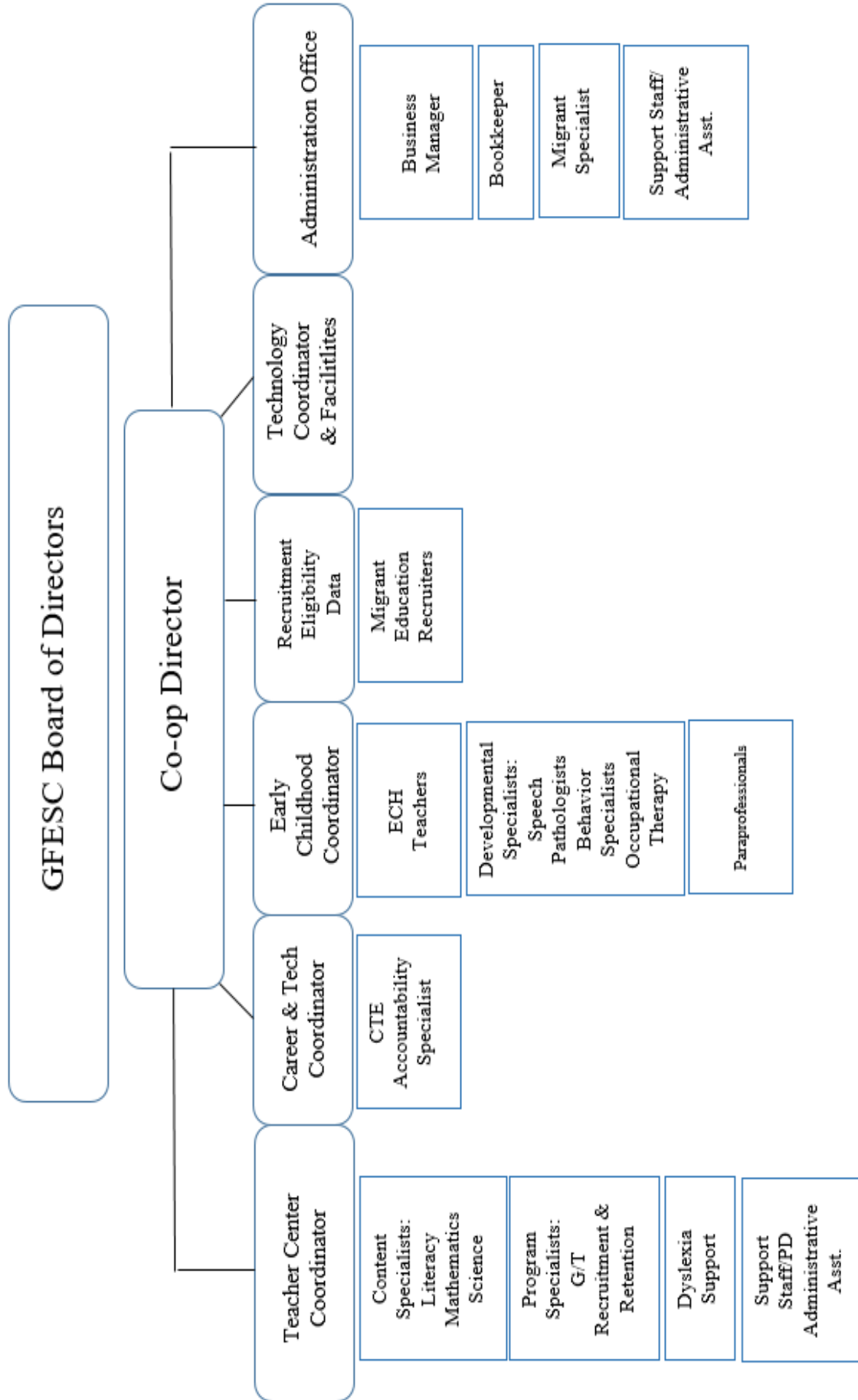


The Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative serves the following counties:

- 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. Kerry Schneider	Executive Committee - Vice Chair	Cedarville
Jim Ford	Executive Committee	Ozark
Taylor Gattis	Executive Committee	County Line
Dr. David Hopkins	Executive Committee - Chair	Clarksville
Jim Loyd	Executive Committee	Paris
John Ciesla	Executive Committee	Greenwood
Steve Rose	Executive Committee	Lavaca
Daniel Fielding	Board Member	Waldron
Trent Goff	Board Member	Booneville
Missy Moore	Board Member	Charleston
Dr. Terry Morawski	Board Member	Fort Smith
Eddie Ray	Board Member	Hackett
Jay Holland/Randall Williams	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
Dr. Bryan Duffie	Board Member	Alma
Toby Cook	Board Member	Scranton
Dr. Harold Jeffcoat	Board Member	Van Buren
Brad Kent	Board Member	Westside

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Teacher Center Committee

Committee Member	District	Position	Term Expires
Zach Thomas	Alma	High School Teacher	Aug- 23
Kristin Fennell	Booneville	High School Teacher	Aug- 24
Dr. Sarah McPhate	Cedarville	Administration, Middle School	Aug- 23
Jessica Holt	Charleston	High School Teachers	Aug- 23
Kathy Howell	Clarksville	High School Teacher	Aug- 25
April Shaw	County Line	High School Teacher	Aug- 24
Courtney Eckles	Future School Fort Smith	High School Teacher	Aug-23
Dr. Katie Kreimer-Hall	Fort Smith	Administration, Elementary	Aug- 23
Rick Clow	Greenwood	Elementary School Teacher	Aug- 25
Marisa Thornburg	Hackett	High School Teacher	Aug- 25
Judith Little	Lamar	High School Teacher	Aug- 25
Caitlin Kilbreth	Lavaca	Elementary School Teacher	Aug- 24
Traci Schlinker	Magazine	High School Teacher	Aug- 25
Lisa Henson	Mansfield	Elementary School Teacher	Aug- 25
Bryson Bradley	Mountainburg	High School Teacher	Aug- 25
Dr. Lonnie Myers	Mulberry/Pleasant View	Superintendent	Aug- 23
Jennifer King	Ozark	Administration, Elementary	Aug- 24
Maranda Pfeffer	Paris	Middle/Junior High Teacher	Aug- 24
Leigh Vonderheide	Scranton	Middle/Junior High Teacher	Aug-24
Kathy Wheeler	Van Buren	Elementary School Teacher	Aug- 24
Lauren Hearron	Waldron	Middle/Junior High School	Aug- 23
Christina Payne	Westside	High School Teacher	Aug- 24

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

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

Date: May 19, 2023 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. Roy Hester

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? Yes

How many members are on the Board? 21

Executive Committee? 7

How many times did the Board meet? 10

Executive Committee? 7

When is the regular meeting?

August 18, 2022

Sept. 19, 2022

Nov. 17, 2022

Dec. 15, 2022

Jan. 19, 2023

Feb. 24, 2023

March 16, 2023

April 28, 2023

May 18, 2023

Date of current year's annual meeting: October 19-21, 2022 (Superintendent's Fall Conference)

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

If yes, then:

How many are on the Teacher Center Committee? 22

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How many members are teachers? 15

How many times did the Teacher Center Committee meet? 3

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

When was the most recent survey/needs assessment conducted? November 2022 - January 2023

Have written policies been filed with the ADE? Yes

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Staffing 2022-2023

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	
	Ballard	Rebecca	Early Childhood Behavior Intervention Specialist	D		6/30/23
	Barrientos	Ilda	Migrant Recruiter	F	7/7/22	
	Beauchamp	Amanda	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
	Beavers	Evan	AEM Technology Coordinator	F		
	Brannin	Jamie	Ark Rehab Business/Logistics Instructor	S		
	Brewer	Tammy	Recruitment & Retention Specialist	S		
	Brotherton	Chandra	Literacy Specialist	S		6/30/23
	Brown	Whitney	R & R Assistant/Fingerprint Tech	S	7/1/22	10/14/22
	Bucella	Katie	Literacy Specialist	S		
	Camp	Yadira	Migrant Recruiter	F	7/1/22	
	Carlton	Robin	Career Coach	S/D	12/5/22	
	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	10/10/22	
	Couthren	Gwen	Early Childhood Coordinator	D		
	Cumbie	Candice	Math Specialist	S		
	Cupples	Glenda	ESVI Administrative Analyst	F		8/31/22
*	Curbow	Miranda	Community Health Nurse			
	Dawson	Robyn	UA Fort Smith ERZ Director	S		

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	Dean	Melanie	Career Coach	S/D	7/25/22	
	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		
	Grady	Karen	Gifted & Talented Specialist	D/S		
	Hays	Hannah	Career Coach	D/S	7/25/22	
	Haynes	Gina	PDC Support/Tech Support/Migrant Support	F/S		
*	Tomlison	Damaris	Migrant State Director			
	Hertlein	Trena	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
	Hester	Roy	Director	B		6/30/23
	Heydenreich	Kayla	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
	Huff	Elizabeth	Early Childhood Teacher	D	7/1/22	
	Hulan	Ashley	Migrant REDS	F		
	Irby	Candace	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
	James	Mindy	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
	Joy	Christena	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
	Kelley	Susan	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
	Kennedy	Cheyenne	Administrative Assistant	B		
	Lamb	Patricia	Early Childhood Support Staff	D		
	Lee	Ashley	ESVI Administrative Analyst	F	7/1/22	
	Lewallen	Kim	Virtual K-6 Paraprofessional	D		6/30/23
	Likens	Erin	Math Specialist	S	7/1/22	
	Lyle	Rebekah	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D	8/4/21	

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Lyons	Stefan	Migrant Specialist	F	7/1/22	
McClure	Melinda	Bookkeeper	B		
McKee	Jeanna	Literacy Specialist	S		
Mendez	Cindy	Early Childhood Support Staff/Interpreter	F		
Michael	Angie	Business Manager	B		6/30/23
Miller	Angela	Teacher Center Coordinator	B		
Musick	Whitney	ESVI Consultant	F		
Nava	Lourdes	Migrant Education Student Support Specialist	F		
Nelson	Amber	Virtual 4-6 Teacher	D		6/30/23
Nichols	Harvie	Information & Consultation Specialist	D		
Nicklin	Christi	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
Niemczyk	Sharon	ESVI Consultant	F		
Pearson	Julaine	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
Pipkins	Matthew	Technology Coordinator	S		
Price	Cristin	Specialists/PD Administrative Assistant	S		
Reames	Katherine	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
Robertson	Kristi	Career Coach	D/S	7/25/22	9/7/22
Smart	Cathy	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
Smith	Stephanie	ESVI Consultant/AT Specialist/Transition Coord.	F	7/1/22	
Staton	Caitlin	Literacy Specialist	S		
Strozier	Crystal	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
Tate	Jennifer	Early Childhood Paraprofessional	D		
Turner	Jennifer	Career & Technical Ed Coordinator	S/F		
Trusty	Taira	Virtual K-3 Teacher	D		6/30/23

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	Varnell	Curtis	Science Specialist	S		
	Vest	Joshua	Migrant Recruiter	F		4/11/23
	Whitman	John	CTE Accountability Specialist	F		
	Whitman	Sarah	Migrant Parent Engagement Liaison	F		

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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. 40

(The GFESC Teacher Center was closed for renovation May-June 2023)

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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
Evaluation Procedures
Fingerprinting Services
Gifted and Talented Support
Grant Writing Assistance
Instructional Facilitator Training
Literacy/Science/Math Support Services
Medicaid Billing
Novice Teacher/Recruitment and Retention
Migrant Student Identification
Principals' PLCs
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

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

Science Olympiad

Transition Assistance

Other (Please specify):

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Anecdotal Reports

ACT Prep

This grant in partnership with SWESC is designed to provide additional support to students in grades 7-12 in preparing for the ACT. Many students lost valuable instructional time during the pandemic, causing them to perform lower on the ACT. During the pandemic, the ACT was not given as often as in a non pandemic year. Research proves that the more a student is exposed to the ACT the better they perform. This program allows for all districts in Arkansas to opt-in for additional support for their students in taking the ACT. The support is intended to be implemented school-wide, allowing all students access and resources to improve ACT scores. The increased ACT scores could lead to additional financial and educational benefits for the students. The Chad Cargill group and CW Prep, in collaboration with DESE, provided GFESC participating schools with an event to promote ACT testing and provide resources to assist students in improving scores. The event was held twice during the 2022-2023 school year with about 100 students in attendance.

GFESC Support of Level III & IV School Districts (Act 1082)

Act 1082 is designed to provide specific levels of support to public school districts based on ACT Aspire reading scores. The Teacher Center Coordinator and Literacy Specialists met virtually and quarterly with the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, and the seven districts in our region who are in Level III Coordinated Support Status and the one district in our region who is in Level IV Targeted Support Status. Literacy specialists provide support in the form of onsite professional development, Professional Learning Communities, and Science of Reading classroom walks with administrators and instructional coaches. GFESC, the DESE team and school leaders formulated plans to assist the educators in assessment of learning, analysis of data, and implementation of plans for the remediation of learning loss. Specialists assisted districts in designing and implementing rigorous instruction aligned with the Science of Reading. Guy Fenter ESC specialists aided districts with the review of and selection of curriculum aligned with the Science of Reading, as well as reviewing literacy topics: Assessments, Dyslexia, and Writing Revolution.

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 2022-2023 school year.

Professional Learning Communities: Boardroom to Classroom

In support of the DESE's PLC Initiative, Co-ops have been participating in the Boardroom to Classroom training monthly with Janel Keating from Solution Tree. As part of this process, Janel Keating guided educators in developing successful districtwide professional learning communities to ensure high levels of learning for every student. High-performing districts develop when collaborative teams at every level align their concepts, practices, and vocabulary. Aligning this work is a top-down, bottom-up cyclical process, starting with the district level and ending with collaborative teacher teams. This session provided district and school leaders with the tools and strategies needed to create a districtwide culture of continuous

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improvement. Co-ops are an integral part of this work, and have been supporting districts involved in these sessions through Specialist support, and working with administrators who are implementing PLC processes.

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' Professional Learning Community 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. Three of the 2022-2023 meetings were a joint session between the Elementary and the Secondary Principals. The three meetings were combined to bring in speakers/trainers on SmartData, Title IX, and the new ATLAS Assessment.

Marvell-Elaine Instructional Support

The Marvell-Elaine School District was placed on Level 5 in November 2022. Subsequently, their waiver for student enrollment size was denied in December 2022. With these two events, a report of a high percentage of teachers not being licensed in their teaching assignment, and a realization that the district was in need of high quality instruction for secondary students, the Office of Coordinated Support and Service requested Education Service Cooperatives assist in providing direct instruction in the English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies classrooms at Marvell-Elaine High School. The subject-area leads for the project were: Terri Guy, OCSS (ELA); John Hoy, OCSS (Math), Patrick Quattlebaum, Great Rivers (Science), Kelsey Riley, Great Rivers (Social Studies). The goal of this project was to provide high quality instruction to the seventh through twelfth grade students during the third and fourth nine weeks of the 2022-2023 school year. GFESC had three literacy specialists, two math specialists, 2 science specialists, one GT specialist, a Mentoring specialists, the Teacher Center Coordinator, and the Director to support this district in April 2023.

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, AAEA, 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.

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The GFESC Leadership Conference was held October 19-21, 2022.

GFESC and Local School District Partnership - Arkansas Professional Educator Pathway (ArPEP)
GFESC and the Van Buren Public School District are partnering for the Arkansas Professional Educators Pathway (ArPEP) grant. The Arkansas Professional Educator Pathway (ArPEP), is an affordable two-year, work-based, alternative certification program that is administered by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education. Enrollment in this program allows a candidate with a bachelor's degree or higher to be licensed and employed as a classroom teacher while completing the necessary requirements for a Standard Arkansas Teaching License. ArPEP's goal is to prepare day one ready teachers to meet the growing demand of the teacher pipeline in Arkansas. GFESC will be providing support to the VBSD facilitators and performing all duties related to the grant itself.

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Employment Policies and Practices 2022-2023

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

EMPLOYED

Number of new males employed by the cooperative for the 2022-2023 school year:

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

White 1

African American 0

Hispanic 0

Asian 0

American Indian/Alaskan Native 0

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander 0

Number of new females employed by the cooperative for the 2022-2023 school year:

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

White 11

African American 0

Hispanic 1

Asian 0

American Indian/Alaskan Native 0

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander 0

TERMINATED

Number of males terminated by the cooperative during the 2022-2023 school year:

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

White 0

African American 0

Hispanic 0

Asian 0

American Indian/Alaskan Native 0

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander 0

Number of females terminated by the cooperative during the 2022-2023 school year:

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

White 0

African American 0

Hispanic 0

Asian 0

American Indian/Alaskan Native 0

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander 0

SEEKING EMPLOYMENT

Number of males seeking employment by the cooperative during the 2022-2023 school year:

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

White 0

African American 0

Hispanic 0

Asian 0

American Indian/Alaskan Native 0

Number of females seeking employment by the cooperative during the 2022-2023 school year:

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

White 10

African American 0

Hispanic 1

Asian 0

American Indian/Alaskan Native 0

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Program: Accounting 2022-2023

Funding Source: Base

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
Angie Michael	Business Manager	HSD
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

2022-2023 State Funding Source:

TEACHER CENTER 911.00
EDUCATOR RISING GRANT 5,000.00
CAREER COACH LOCAL 42,155.00
STAFF DEVELOPMENT WS 281,564.00
APSCN 3,600.00
INFORMATION SPECIALIST 47,250.00
G T LEA 41,411.00
SCIENCE WS 500.00
EARLY CHILDHOOD LEA 1,649,834.00
DCE ARK REHAB SVCS 136,012.00
K-6 VIRTUAL 127,400.00
UA FORT SMITH - ERZ 103,480.00
ADE NBCT SUPPLEMENTAL 8,073.00
SP ED EXTD YEAR 296.00
RECRUITMENT & RETENTION 381,000.00
GT STATE 30,000.00
WORKFORCE ED COORDINATOR 55,000.00
CAREER COACH GRANT 109,700.00
EDUC SVC COOPERATIVE 743,000.00
TECH STATE 80,000.00
CONTENT SPECIALISTS 720,000.00
AR PEP 76,700.00

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2022-2023 Federal Funding Source:

MIGRANT 790,015.00

CARL PERKINS 753,577.00

CP RECRUITMENT & RET 3,000.00

CTE VIRTUAL REALITY 76,212.00

CP MENTORING STIPEND 3,300.00

VI-B MENTORING 20,000.00

VI-B ESVI GRANT 691,360.00

VI-B INCLUSIVE PRACTICE 19,142.00

VI-B INCLUSIVE PRACTICE 5,265.00

AEM GRANT 139,372.00

MEDICAID PRESCHOOL 63,561.00

ARMAC 36,160.00

ARP TECHNOLOGY GRANT 20,241.00

ADH-ELC 1,007,317.00

ACCELERATION THRU COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE 210,000.00

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Program: ADE/APSCN Student Management Systems 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

Personnel:

Name	Position	Degree
Debbie Featherston	APSCN SMS Field Analyst	AS

Goal:

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

Program Summary:

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

Major Highlights of the Year:

- Training of the eSchool Software
- 23 Total Training/Workshop 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

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

Personnel:

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

Major Highlights of the Year:

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

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State Level

- ATS is continuing 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.
- Arkansas Transition Services, Career and Technical Education, and Inclusion Films is continuing to partner to provide The Inclusion Film Camp for students with disabilities. The 2023 camp will be held on-site this year April 24-28 at University of Arkansas Pulaski Technical College in North Little Rock. 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. The 2022 Camp had 27 students from across the state.
- 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.
- CIRCLES (Communicating Interagency Relationships and Collaborative Linkages for Exceptional Students) obtained a Federal Grant and ATS has been helping recruit more schools to participate in this program. Training will be held in June of 2023 for the participating schools who will begin implementing the program fall of 2023. The district leadership teams (Harrisburg, Rogers, and Magnolia) will attend to provide feedback and guidance in the implementation process. CIRCLES is a multilevel model that involves three levels of interagency collaboration: Community Level Team, School Level Team, and IEP Team. The approach supports youth with disabilities who may need support from multiple adult service agencies to experience successful post-school outcomes.
- College Bound Arkansas 2023 will be held June 26-28, 2023, 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 2022 had 12 students, 4 parents, and 2 professionals attend.
- Arkansas Transition Services and the DESE-Special Education Unit 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 conjunction with the Division of Career Development and Transition (DCDT) International Conference held in Little Rock November 2022. 83 attendees got to hear national speaker Dr. Zach Smith talk about Universal Design for Learning in Transition. Many of the participants stayed to participate in the conference.
- ATS held a Cadre in January and brought in nationally known speaker, Dr. Paula Kluth, to talk about Inclusion. 67 attendees from across the state came to the all-day presentation.

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- 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 the knowledge of agency services around the state. Agencies are also invited to participate in IEP meetings and on local transition teams.
- ATS continues to collaborate with the Division of Career and Technical Education and has continued, with the help of the Arkansas Co-Teach Project, to partner with a high school in southeast Arkansas to implement a co-taught Agriculture class. This intervention allowed students with disabilities to participate in a general education class with the appropriate support needed to succeed. We are in the process of discussing this model with Southside High School in Ft. Smith.
- CASYI Pilot: Arkansas Transition Services partnered with the CASYI Project on a pilot program on improving Transition Planning for students who are Deaf/Blind. We have worked with nine students and their IEP team from schools in Arkansas. We also provided additional training in the Discovery process which allows a team the strategies to really get to know students and their families in an effort to develop more meaningful plans for their future.
- ATS continues to support teachers in implementing the SDLMI (Self-Determined Learning Model of Instruction) within at least one class and then collect data to look at the effects of implementing the model. The SDLMI provides instruction and support for students to set a goal, act, and adjust their goal or plan, so they can successfully reach goals. Training of teachers was conducted by the University of Kansas staff and facilitated by Arkansas Transition Services in the summer of 2022, and implementation of the intervention continued in the Fall of 2022. Data collection and analysis is in process.
- Post School Outcomes Data Collection Pilot - In May 2022, Arkansas Transition Services recruited six school districts to participate in a three year pilot for post-school outcomes data collection. Students who left in May 2021 were surveyed last summer with an 84% response rate. The surveys will continue with an added district, Springdale School District, the remaining years, 2023, 2024. All participants have been trained and will be paid for their work. The hope is to show a better response rate when school personnel ask former students questions about what they are doing for work, training, and education one year after high school.
- State Level Organizations Served:
 - Arkansas Council on Exceptional Children (AR-CEC) sub-division Division of Career Development and Transition (DCDT) - State President
 - Local Planning Team for DCDT International Conference in Little Rock, AR November of 2022.
 - Member of the State Core Team for National Technical Assistance Center Transition (NTACT) Intensive Technical Assistance State

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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: NWA Classical Academy, Rogers, Gravette, Pea Ridge, Bentonville, and Springdale hosted a Virtual Transition Fair. It opened with an evening of live speakers, specific live sessions, and then had an on-line center for students/parents/teachers to get information on a wide variety of transition resources.
 - NWAESC: Springdale-Transition Night
 - NWAESC: Fayetteville Transition Fair
 - Guy Fenter: Van Buren-2 Transition Parent Nights
- Coop Trainings – 1 day of training (2 half day sessions) were offered at all 3 Co-ops.
 - “Secondary Transition Compliance Basics and Best Practices”
 - 26 attendees
 - NWAESC-Pea Ridge, Springdale, Bentonville, Gentry, Lincoln, Gravette, Huntsville
 - Guy Fenter-Hackett, Paris, Waldron, Boonville, Van Buren, Ozark
 - OUR-Cotter, Valley Springs, OUR staff
 - “Promoting Inclusive Practices through the PISA”
 - 23 attendees
 - NWAESC-Pea Ridge, Springdale, Gentry, Bentonville, Gravette, Rogers
 - Guy Fenter-Paris, Waldron, Boonville, Mansfield, Van Buren, Ozark
 - OUR-Cotter, Valley Springs, OUR staff
 - Additional Trainings
 - ”Secondary Transition Compliance Basics and Best Practices”-8 attendees-Gravette, Future School of Fort Smith
 - “All in for Transition” modified-10 attendees-Bentonville
 - “PISA Inclusion in General Education”-7 attendees-Fayetteville
 - “Indicator 13 Walkthrough”-108 attendees-Mountainburg, Mansfield, Oark, Rogers HS, Premier HS, Rogers Heritage HS, Fayetteville, Elkins, Ozark Mountain District, Green Forest, Yellville, Huntsville, Berryville, Harrison, Siloam Springs
 - Technical Assistance was provided on a variety of Transition related subjects to over 100 teachers/staff in districts across the 3 co-op areas.
 - NWAESC – Bentonville, Pea Ridge, Rogers, Gravette, Springdale, Huntsville, Prairie Grove, Farmington
 - OUR – Harrison, Omaha, Green Forest, Eureka Springs, Berryville
 - GFESC – Mulberry, Mansfield, Hackett, Fort Smith, Van Buren, Waldron
 - Other - Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, Pathfinders
 - Other presentations
 - SEAS State Conference-”Promoting Inclusive Practices Through the PISA”

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- Statewide “Executive Functioning Skills” trainings-Guy Fenter, NWAESC, OUR, and Crowley’s Ridge
- DCDT International Conference-”How Video and ‘Pop-Up’ on Targeted Professional Development”
- CAYSI Person Centered Planning Presentation
- NWAESC Curriculum Committee-College Bound and Film Camp
- Presentations to Students
 - NWAESC –
 - UARK Undergraduate Transition Class
 - UARK Undergraduate Inclusive Technology Class
 - Rogers New Tech HS-College Bound and Film Camp
 - Pathfinders Transition Class
- 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
- Trainings/Conferences Attended:
 - NTACT National Capacity Building Virtual Institute
 - Arkansas LEA Academy
 - Division of Career Development and Transition International Conference
 - Parental Involvement Training
 - Arkansas Collaborative Consultants Convening
 - NWA Education Expo
 - Tier 1 Financial Overview
 - LEA Academy
 - CTE Gap Analysis
 - Poverty Simulation
 - CAYSI Discovery Training
 - Temple Grandin

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

Program: K-12 Behavior Specialist

Funding Source: The K-12 Behavior Support Specialist Grant is funded through the Arkansas Department of Education/Special Education Unit with federal grant funds that are provided for within the scope of the annual state application under Part B of the IDEA. The annual Part B application requires a description of the proposed use of federal grant funds reserved under 20 U.S.C.A. 1411(e)(2)(A) for both required and authorized activities that support the State Performance Plan (SPP) under IDEA.

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
Jennifer Brewer	Behavior Support Specialist	Ed.S.
Julie Butterworth	Behavior Support Specialist	M.C.D, CCC-SLP, BCBA
Sandy Crawley	Behavior Support Specialist	M.S.E.
Kelly Davis	Behavior Support Specialist	M.Ed., BCBA
Sonia Harsfield	Behavior Support Specialist	M.Ed.
Audrey Kengla	Behavior Support Specialist	BSE, M.S.,CCC-SLP
Amanda Kirby	Behavior Support Specialist	M.S.E.
Kat Lancaster	Behavior Support Specialist	M.A., CCC-SLP
Lindsey Lovelady	Behavior Support Specialist	M.S., BCBA
Allison Mears	Behavior Support Specialist	LPC., BCBA
Sarra Petray	Behavior Support Specialist	Ed.S.
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

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.

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

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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 offers at least 6 coaching sessions (one per month) for each BX3 team. Professional learning opportunities are offered as needed based on the SMART goal(s) and action plan.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF 2022-23:

- Accepted Cohort 3 with 20 building-level teams across the state
- 97% of participants in Cohort 3 agreed or strongly agreed that the coaching session on the topic covered was beneficial.
- 96% of participants in Cohort 3 agreed or strongly agreed that the BX3 Coaches helped their team plan action steps toward meeting our SMART goal(s).
- 98% of participants in Cohort 3 agreed or strongly agreed that the interactions with and methods used by BX3 coaches were positive and acceptable.
- 94% of participants in Cohort 3 agreed or 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 technical assistance and support to local school personnel in the identification and educational programming for students identified with autism
- To provide professional development to local school district administrators and personnel on evidence-based behavior supports

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

The Behavior Support Specialist (BSS) provides 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 for the referring school district to identify and provide needed support for students with disabilities. Services include:

- On-site consultation, student observation, record review and written recommendations with follow up and training as needed
- Assistance with Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA) and Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP) development
- Assistance with autism identification and programming
- Professional development opportunities on evidence-based interventions

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF 2022-2023:

- Provided on-site coaching and consultation, student observation, record review, conference attendance, specialized evaluations, assistance with functional behavior assessment, safety and

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behavior intervention planning for student teams for 148 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 2022-2023:

- Offered 25 of the 5 Essential Components of School-Wide Behavior Supports professional developments and trained 84 building-level teams. In June, Springdale will train all of their buildings (30+ teams) with approximately 300 participants.
- Added 13 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/>
- Provided over 170 professional learning opportunities in person or virtual to school districts in all Education Service Cooperatives with over 3233 participants
- Scheduled 61 additional professional learning opportunities by the end of 6/30/23

ADDITIONAL BSS HIGHLIGHTS OF 2022-2023:

- Presented at Arkansas School Psychology Association Conference
- Presented at SEAS Conference
- Presented at Arkansas Association of Alternative Educators Conference
- Contracted with an outside agency to provide the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS-2) training at no cost to school personnel qualified to administer assessments
- Facilitated 6 regional Community of Practices monthly (September, October, November, January, February) to school personnel to assist with the practice scoring or administration of the ADOS-2
- 9 BSS attended the PBIS Leadership Forum
- 2 BSS attended the LRP Institute Convention
- Served on DESE Leadership Team for Arkansas THRIVE
- Supported the launch of DESE THRIVE Academy Cohort 1 including providing professional development during the academy (6/2022, 7/2022, 9/2022)
- Supported the DESE THRIVE Academy Cohort 2 including providing professional development during the academy 1/2023, 3/2022, 6/2022)

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, Pea Ridge, 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:

The GFESC Carl Perkins Consortium hosted 2 FFA Sub Area Leadership Career Development Events for students and teachers to explore the opportunities in Career and Technical Student Organizations. The event was located at GFESC with over 100 students participating and cooperatively working together. It was student led and driven. All participating students and teachers felt a special connection and asked to participate again in the future. An Advanced Leadership FFA Chapter Conduct Management with schools

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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 and Paris School district seniors at each school separately. All students prepared resumes with over 50 Business/Industry representatives attending the event. 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. All students received at least one job offer and several had multiple interviews. Each school in GFESC was contacted and with WIOA partners given the opportunity for assistance with a reverse career fair.

One of GFESC Carl Perkins Schools was chosen by DCTE to "Showcase" their model CTE programs during CTE month. Van Buren hosted showcase events where Business/industry, parents, students, educators and State DCTE staff experienced the programs available for students. Programs showcased include: Air Force ROTC, Agriculture Plant Science and Natural Resources, Business Accounting, Family and Consumer Sciences Food Production, Consumer Services and Pre Educator, Computer Science Programming, Biomedical PLTW, Pre Engineering PLTW, Automation Robotics Technology.

GFESC hosted an Empower Rise Up intense PD for educators with national trainers that provide engaging learning activities, training and professional development, to help support every student to achieve an education they deserve. It helps students to discover and develop their own, unique skills and truly prepare them for life ahead. Allows educators to explore the Principles + Markets = Mindsets (PMM) Instructional Strategy to unlock student potential and enhance any lesson. Each teacher will receive a start-up kit with supplies for the classroom and access to 115 customizable activities with an electronic Rocketbook for notes.

Through grant writing assistance from the program, the following schools received a total of \$249,545.89 in CTE State start-up grants:

Cedarville High School	Marketing and School based store	\$37,187.50
Ozark High School	Consumer Services FCS	\$27,301.66
Scranton High School	Animal Science	\$25,653.43
Van Buren High School	Plant Science	\$90,534.52
Pea Ridge High School	Advanced Graphic Design	\$41,753.78
	Digital Marketing	\$27,115.52
	Total	\$249,545.89

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Innovations grants were obtained for:

Alma Agriculture UAV Drone	\$2500.00
Cedarville Marketing Business Enterprise	\$12,075.00
Lamar CNC Literacy Project	\$28,643
Scranton Virtual WBL Business Management Simulation	\$1295.00
Total	\$44,513

DCTE State Start Up for 23-24

Greenwood Pre Educator	\$39,566.41
Magazine Banking	\$36,465
Mountainburg Criminal Justice	\$19,472.25
Total	\$140,016.66

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
Kelly Griffin	CS Director	Ed.S
Alex Moeller	CS Specialist	
Ashley Kincannon	CS Specialist	
Jim Furniss	CS Specialist	
John Hart	CS Specialist	MLIS
Leslie Leber	CS Specialist	MSE
Adam Musto	CS Specialist	
Tammy Glass	CS Specialist	
Zachary Spink	CS Specialist	MSE
Mark Barnes	CS Specialist	
Stacy Reynolds	CS Specialist	MSE

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.

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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.

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.

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: Teaching K-4
- Computer Science: Intro to Block Based Coding
- Computer Science: Teaching 5-8
- Computer Science: Transition to Text Based Coding
- Middle School Intro to Coding: Learn to Text Based Code (Formerly Coding Block)
- Teaching Middle School Intro to Coding (Former Coding Block Resources)
- High School Computer Science and Certification Preparation
- High School Computer Science and Certification Preparation - Fall 5 Saturdays
- High School Computer Science and Certification Preparation - Spring 5 Saturdays
- Physical Computing training (Raspberry, Arduino, etc.)
- App in A Day
- AP Computer Science Principles Student Day
- AP Computer Science A Student Day

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- Introduction to Unity and Virtual Reality
- Creating Embroidery Designs with Turtlestitch
- Intermediate Artificial Intelligence
- Intermediate Mobile Application Development
- Intermediate Robotics
- Intermediate Cybersecurity
- Intermediate Python
- Intermediate Game Design
- Intermediate Java
- Intermediate Networking
- Intermediate Data Science
- Advanced Python
- Advanced Java
- Advanced Networking
- Advanced Cybersecurity
- Advanced Data Science
- Advanced Artificial Intelligence
- Advanced Robotics
- Advanced Mobile Application Development
- Advanced Placement Computer Science A
- Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles
- Advanced Game Development and Design
- Administrator Supporting Computer Science Education in Their Schools

Conferences Presented at:

- State TSA Conference

Events/Committees/Projects Assisted with:

- Women in Cybersecurity – October 2022
- TechFest October 2022
- Family Code Day at Innovation Hub December 2022
- National Computer Science Education Week – Scheduled daily activities with local districts - December 2022
- CS Education Week Activities December 2022
- Read, Code, Create – January 2023
- TSA State Conference – March 2023
- CS Educator of the Year April 2023
- Support of Robotics Competitions (VEX, FIRST) March 2023
- Great Arkansas History Video Game Coding Competition March 2023
- Allstate Coding Competition April 2022
- Innovation Grant May 2023

Major Highlights of the Year:

- Growth and Development in Accessibility in Computer Science
- Mentoring students across the state in Unity game development.
- Assisted with regional Stakeholder Meetings
- Provided training to annual ADE Counselor sessions

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- Provided CS training to over 1432 education professionals and 3195 students.
- Lead Judge and Coding Challenge Creator for All-Region and Allstate Coding Competition.
- Administration statewide site visits for implementation of ACT 414
- Continued growth, development, and support of TSA
- Computer Science Completer Cards
- State of Computer Science Education Report - Code.org

ONGOING SUPPORT:

- Specialists have increased the number of intermediate and advanced offerings as well as developed and will deliver 2 new trainings this summer. This is in addition to the other 25 training sessions to be taught this summer.
- Specialists are currently working to visit all 264 districts to help support their implementation of ACT 414. This work will continue through the remainder of the year and summer.
 - o 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
Roy Hester	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
John Ashworth	Executive Director
Dr. Brandie Benton	Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Dr. Michael Lar	Director of Operations
Candice McPherson	Director of Design and Development
Amy Kirkpatrick	Director of Technology
Jason Bohler	Core Campus Director
Ellora Hicks	Concurrent Credit Campus Director
Christie Lewis	CTE Campus Director
Dr. Nic Mounts	Off-Campus & Faculty Online Program Principal

MISSION: Our mission is to equip, engage, and empower students through unique, digital opportunities.

VISION: We are the premier digital source delivering opportunities and building foundations for students achieving their dreams.

CORE VALUES: Students, Relationships, Integrity, Collaboration, Innovation, Quality

GOALS:

If we were to summarize why Virtual Arkansas is in existence it would be this: to provide affordable and equitable educational access and opportunity for Arkansas students. According to *Act 2325 of 2005*, distance learning opportunities were employed:

- To help alleviate the teacher shortage
- 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	2022-2023 Results
Help Address the	- Virtual Arkansas provided access to Arkansas certified,

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

Arkansas Teacher Shortage	trained, and evaluated FTE teachers to 35,886 Content + Teacher course enrollments over two semesters and summer school from the following campuses: Core Campus = 73 teachers; CTE Campus = 16 Teachers; CC Campus = 11 Teachers
Provide a Wide Range of Courses for Arkansas Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - VA provided access to 175 total courses and 35,866 Content + Teacher course enrollments.
Ensure Educational Options for Economically Disadvantaged Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Virtual Arkansas made courses available to all high-poverty districts and was utilized by 93.3% of all Arkansas districts with a 70%-100% free and reduced lunch population. - 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.
Ensure Educational Options for Rural Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 60% of all Virtual Arkansas Content + Teacher Enrollments were from districts designated as rural - Virtual Arkansas had 21,671 enrollments from Districts designated as rural - VA provided educational options and opportunities to all rural districts and utilized by 99% of all districts designated as rural - 85% of all Concurrent Credit enrollments were from districts designated as rural
Provide Educational Options for Students with Scheduling Conflicts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All VA courses can be taken at any time during the day which provides flexibility in scheduling local course options to avoid scheduling conflicts - This is particularly important for smaller districts, as they have many courses only available during certain periods of the day
Increase the Number of Students Completing Career Focus Programs of Study and Participating in Work-based Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 34 CTE courses were provided to 6,620 CTE enrollments - VA provided opportunities to students throughout the state in 5 full completer programs and 7 partial completer programs
Reduce the Number of Students who Enter College and Must Enroll in Remedial Courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the latest data available, 9% of VA concurrent credit students had a remedial course compared to 63.5% of non-VA students

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

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

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 four 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

Major Highlights of the 2022-2023 School Year - Virtual Arkansas

- National Award; Virtual Arkansas awarded the Digital Learning Collaborative Unsung Super Star Award for the Department of Youth Services campus.
- Provided 100% virtual student options for local schools through the Off-Campus and Fully Online program.
- Conducted heart dissection labs with Anatomy & Physiology students.
- Provided parent orientation webinars and informational webinars throughout the school year.
- Offered daily support to schools in the implementation of Act 1280: Digital Learning Requirement.
- Implemented Computer Science course opportunities to Arkansas schools, per Governor's Initiative.
- Recognized as a national leader with the number of Quality Matters externally reviewed and quality assurance certified courses.
- Partnered with the Department of Youth Services (DYS) to provide high-quality online courses and opportunities to adjudicated youth.
- Partnered with ADE's Computer Science Unit to design and develop three additional Computer Science courses.
- Virtual Arkansas launched 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.
- Applied for and was granted to serve and an Educational Preparation Program (EPP) to train teachers to complete the Effective Online Teaching endorsement. Virtual Arkansas had 70 teachers complete the training and assessment and add this endorsement to their license. An additional 18 teacher endorsements are pending.
- Deputy Superintendent was a member of the national committee that developed a crosswalk of the National Standards of Quality (NSQ) of Online Teaching and the Charlotte Danielson framework of teaching.
- Virtual Arkansas worked through collaborative teams to identify essential standards and realign the curriculum in all courses.
- Executive Director served the role of Board President for the Virtual Learning Leadership Alliance (VLLA), a partnership of 20 state virtual programs dedicated to advancing quality online learning.

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

Virtual Arkansas Data (Based on 2022-2023 School Year)

- 224 Districts and 8 charter schools served by Virtual Arkansas
- 330 Arkansas Schools or Programs Utilized Virtual Arkansas Services
- 251,324 enrollments served since 2013-2014
- Virtual Arkansas Students had a 90% Pass Rate
- 14,319 Unique Arkansas Students Engaged in 35,885 Content + Teacher Enrollments
- 32,274 Credits Earned
- 78% of Virtual Arkansas teachers have Master's degree or above
- 146 Content+Teacher courses available to students throughout Arkansas
- 2,728 Concurrent Credit Enrollments Earned 8,124 College Concurrent Credit Hours
- 85% of Concurrent Credit Enrollments From Rural Districts
- Career and Technical Education: 6,847 Enrollments Over Two Semesters in 34 Courses; 5 Full Completer Programs and 7 Partial Completer Programs Offered to Arkansas Students
- 2,049 Computer Science Enrollments from 190 Arkansas Schools
- 1,827 Advanced Placement Enrollments
- 99% of all Arkansas Rural Districts Served by Virtual Arkansas
- 60% of all Virtual Arkansas Content + Teacher Enrollments From Districts Classified as Rural

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
Trish Lamb	Paraprofessional	BS
Christi Nicklin	Speech-Language Pathologist	MSE
Lisa Reames	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
Becky Ballard	Behavior Interventionist	MSE
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

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

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

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:

342 students returned in August.

December 1 Child Count was 610 students.

Transitioned more than 315 students to Kindergarten with special education services recommended.

More than 425 students received developmental screenings (by Coop employees)

More than 650 developmental and/or speech evaluations completed.

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

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:

Guy Fenter Educational Service Cooperative staff:

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.

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

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 hosted technology workshops for students, teachers, paraprofessionals and parents throughout the state, including several in northwest Arkansas. Students were able to use new technology in hands-on activities. This equipment is used by most of our visually impaired and blind students in the classroom.
- 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 8 professional development meetings/training sessions for teachers of the visually impaired.
- ESVI provided workshops for TVIs, PTs, OTs, special education classroom teachers and paraprofessionals on Inspiring Communication and Literacy for students with multiple disabilities with Easter Seals Outreach and the CAYSI (Deaf-Blind) project..
- 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.
- National White Cane Safety Day was observed with a variety of activities for students with visual impairments across the state. The event was held in NWA with several businesses and the Springdale Police Department participating in the event.

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

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
Nelda Scroggins	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:

- Twenty-two grandparents were added to our program this year. Two new school station sites were also added.
- Our program applied for and received an additional \$20,000 for funding of the program.
- Seventy-two foster grandparents tutored and mentored 507 students from preschool to middle school.
- Eight-seven percent of our students in grades K-12 assigned to a foster grandparent showed improvement in their delayed areas.
- Forty-eight hours of annual inservice training were provided to each foster grandparent enrolled in the program.

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

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
Karen Grady	Gifted and Talented Specialist	MAT, MSE

Goal:

Assist member districts to meet the State's Standards for Gifted and Talented Education and Advanced Placement. Serve as a liaison with the ADE, Office of Gifted and Talented and Advanced Placement, parent and professional organizations, and other public and private agencies. Promote gifted education through public awareness and advocacy.

Program Summary:

Assisted schools through monitoring their GT programs, with the program application process, and with policies needed to be in compliance. Hosted in-person GT Coordinators meetings for support and strategies to assist them in their local GT program. 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 (Grades 3-12), Theatre Squared (6-12). Provided professional development throughout the school, 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. Provided Zoom and in-person opportunities for GT educators to talk with speakers on identification tools, student opportunities, and regional library resources. Accompanied district GT educators and students on field trips, to awards ceremonies, and attended parent advisory meetings. Attended AAGEA and AGATE Conferences in Arkansas. Sits on the AGATE Board as Emeritus Chair and was elected Affiliate Director for 2023-25. Serves as the Conference and Awards Chair for AAGEA.

Major Highlights of the Year:

- Served on the board of AGATE as Membership Chair
- GT Specialist served as the Conference and Awards Chair for AAGEA
- Served over 1600 students through various competitions and enrichment opportunities.

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

- GT Specialist attended professional development virtually at AGATE, AGEAA and various state meetings throughout the year.
- GT Specialist was selected to present two sessions at AGATE Conference
- For the fourth consecutive year, one of Guy Fenter GT Programs was selected as the ACT 56 Award Recipient for small schools.
- One GT Coordinator from a member district was selected to receive a GT Educator Award.
- GT Specialist brought in-person and virtual professional development opportunities to the region on gifted characteristics, identification measures, student enrichment programs, and curriculum.
- GT Specialist served on the selection team for Arkansas Governor's School Developmental Engineering.
- GT Specialist served as a judge for Y.E.S. Arkansas
- GT Specialist served on the selection committee for AEGIS Programs
- GT Specialist served as a reviewer for NAGC Conference session submissions.

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

Program: Literacy

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
Chandra Brotherton	Literacy Specialist	EDS
Katie Bucella	Literacy/Dyslexia Specialist	MED
Jeanna McKee	Literacy Specialist	MED
Caitlin Staton	Literacy/Dyslexia Specialist	MED

Goal:

- To enhance teacher awareness and implementation of current best practices through high quality professional development
- To meet the needs of students through integrated assessment and responsive instruction
- To ensure that all students are meeting the state and national standards in literacy

Program Summary:

Critical Reading is a professional development designed for teachers of Critical Reading or Strategic Reading in middle and secondary schools. It consists of four days with objectives focused on Engaging the Reader, Comprehension Strategies, Vocabulary Development, and Response to Text. Critical Reading provides training for teachers of students who are struggling readers needing extra support with Language Comprehension.

Dyslexia training provides an awareness of dyslexia and how teachers can recognize the characteristics of dyslexia. Teachers are trained in evidence-based strategies in order to support students who demonstrate these characteristics.

K-2 R.I.S.E. is a year-long learning professional development with sustained support in-districts. The training will provide educators with an in-depth knowledge related to the science of reading, evidence-based instructional strategies, and making data-based decisions for ALL students. Participants will attend 6 days of face-to-face training, with coaching support from literacy specialists throughout the year through observations and PLCs.

3-6 R.I.S.E. is a year-long learning professional development with sustained support in-districts. The training will provide educators with an in-depth knowledge related to the science of reading, evidence-based instructional strategies, and making data-based decisions for ALL students. Participants will attend 6 days of

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

face-to-face training, with coaching support from literacy specialists throughout the year through observations and PLCs.

Science of Reading Stand Alone training- In order to meet proficiency through Pathway D and to reinforce training from RISE, the six Science of Reading Stand Alone training days were provided. Three days were delivered in person, and three days were delivered virtually in partnership with the DeQueen Mena and Northwest Arkansas ESCs.

Major Highlights of the Year:

The Literacy Department has supported schools in a variety of ways including:

- K-2 R.I.S.E. Training
- 3-6 R.I.S.E Training
- Science of Reading Stand Alone Training
- K-2 & 3-6 Literacy Screeners and Diagnostic Assessment Training
- K-2 & 3-6 Syntax Training
- Standards Alignment with Literacy Curriculum
- Literacy PD
- Dyslexia PD
- Novice Teacher PD
- Team Meetings / Professional Learning Communities
- Assessment and Data Analysis
- Classroom Observations
- Lesson Planning Support
- Modeling/Demonstration Lessons
- Online Book Studies supporting the Science of Reading
- Writing instruction for grades K-8.
- Small group instruction
- Sound Wall training

The Literacy Specialists have also provided targeted professional development as needed at the request of individual districts.

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

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, Hartford, 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
Erin Likens	Mathematics Specialist	MSE

Goals:

- Foster the implementation of student-focused education and the preparation of all students for college, career, and community engagement
- Develop and provide professional development to support teachers in implementing evidence-based math practices that support the implementation of the Arkansas K-12 Math Standards
- Promote equitable math instruction
- Provide professional development and support for math educators to employ purposeful pedagogy and discourse in math classrooms
- Increase communication with and between teachers, teacher leaders, administrators, and ADE
- Increase student achievement by increasing educator awareness and implementation of research-based instruction through high quality professional development
- Increase student achievement by increasing educator awareness and providing training on High Quality Instructional Materials
- Close the achievement gap for students in math by providing professional development that is focused on understanding the Arkansas math standards and how to help students meet them through differentiation and equitable math instruction
- Support schools in the PLC process

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 2022-23 school year included: support for AR Math QuEST, Illustrative Mathematics Curriculum and Instruction Training, Understanding Centers, Classroom Discourse, Number Talks, PLC Process, and Fundamentals of Fractions grades 3-5. In addition, classroom observations, lesson

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

planning support, model lessons, school site team meetings, PLC support, and school-based professional development linked to local school data were provided.

Major Highlights of the Year:

The Mathematics Specialists have spent a combined 636 hours in schools supporting teachers in a variety of ways including:

- Continued providing support for the state-initiated professional development AR Math QuEST. A total of 7 schools and 17 teachers participated in Cohort 1 & 2 of AR Math QuEST. Spring support for planning, carrying out, and reflecting on instruction was provided on-site in school districts.
- Supported schools through classroom observations, lesson planning, curriculum alignment and pacing, PLCs, novice teacher support, TNTP Coaching Cycles, etc.
- The Mathematics Specialist has also provided targeted professional development as needed at the request of individual districts.

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

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

Russellville (Pope Co.)

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, (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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Joshua Vest	Recruiter/Advocate	MED
Ilda Barrientos	Recruiter/Advocate	AD
Yadira Camp	Recruiter/Advocate	NA
Sarah Whitman	Parent Liaison	BS
Lourdes Nava	Student Support	AD

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 2022-2023 school year, a little over 700 children and youth ages three 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 (4) 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
- Drone Camp for grades 9-12
- Virtual Leadership Week (coordination of Alaska, Arkansas, Pennsylvania, Iowa, Nebraska)
- 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
Elizabeth Conway	Mentoring Program Assistant	HSD

Goal:

To provide all Early Career Professionals (Novice Teachers) with the foundational information and support to enable Early Career Professionals to become an effective first year teacher, to grow and develop as a second year teacher, and to empower a third year teacher to be a teacher leader. Our goal is to provide instruction and support during the formative years of a novice teacher's career.

Program Summary:

All Early Career Professionals are assigned to a cohort led by the Mentoring Program Specialist who has expertise in the content area or pedagogy area of the Novice Teacher. First year Early Career Professionals attended three days of face to face professional learning at the cooperative. Second year Early Career Professionals attended three days of face to face professional learning at the cooperative. Third year Early Career Professionals attended two days of training. 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. The main resources used in the professional development sessions were The New Art and Science of Teaching and The New Art and Science of Assessment by Marzano. Mentor teachers that are in school districts were also given training in how to assist the Early Career Teachers in their district.

In addition, assistance for passing tests necessary for licensure was established. This included creating a library of study materials at the cooperative and assisting teachers with their individual needs. There were also three Saturday study sessions to provide Early Career Professionals with additional protected time and support.

The Mentoring Program Specialist worked in member districts to support Novice Teachers through on-site coaching, modeling, observation/reflection, lesson planning, virtual office hours, etc. The Early Career Professionals also received coaching and/or support from the GFESC Content Specialists through PLCs and on-site coaching.

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Major Highlights of the Year:

During the 2022-2023 school year, 436 Early Career Professionals were supported through the GFESC Novice Teacher Mentoring Program. On-site visits provided necessary assistance on an individualized basis and all requests for support were provided.

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 2nd annual event held on-campus.

Recruitment: Our Mentoring Program Specialist worked closely with districts to support the high school teacher preparation programs, especially grow-your-own initiatives and Educator Rising. Included in this co partnering with Arkansas Tech University to support regional Educators Rising events.

Future Teacher Fair- Education interns from University of Arkansas at Fort Smith met at the Cooperative campus to talk about next steps in education. Administrators from various districts and Cooperative personnel were there to answer questions and for networking opportunities.

Special Education program- the Cooperative worked with Laura Sullivan at Arkansas Department of Education to assist novice special education teachers with navigating the special education program.

Praxis Test Reimbursement- 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. These study sessions received outstanding feedback from participants and will continue into the future. The program received an additional \$10,000 in grant funding specifically for Praxis assistance.

John Wink- Mr. Wink worked with Year 2 teachers in the summer to help with redefining their policies and procedures from their 1st year.

Mentors- The voluntary mentoring group had 102 mentors that worked with new teachers. They were given monthly checklists and tasks to complete with their novice teacher.

Our Mentoring Program Specialist, Tammy Brewer, attended several training sessions to improve her craft. She attended the PLC Summit, the DESE summit, training on the new Arkansas Residency Model and an eight day training on Cognitive Coaching.

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

Program: School Health Services

Funding Source: Arkansas Department of Health

Competitive Grant: No

Restricted: No

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

Charter Schools: Future School of Fort Smith

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

Personnel:

Name	Position	Degree
Miranda Curbow	Community Health Nurse Specialist	RN

Goal:

Provide education to school nurses as required through legislation and job requirements. Provide TA to school nurses on all issues that have to do with their jobs and school health. Assist all school wellness committees to complete goals, as required through legislation and district incentives. Provide TA to districts in the completion of SHI, and development of School Wellness Plans. Provide TA to CSH schools as well as wellness centers. Provide training to faculty, staff and administration on all health - related subjects and provide TA with physical fitness, nutrition, injury prevention, etc. Educate students in the classrooms on relevant health and safety related topics as requested by the district. Assist community health coalitions and other community organizations to educate the public. Provide legislative updates and training to school nurses in relation to the new laws enacted. Assist districts who are applying for a School Based Health Center, such as, giving TA to provider and district and TA to grant writers.

Program Summary:

Provided multiple workshops for hearing, vision, scoliosis and BMI. Also provided training on Paraprofessionals train the trainer for school nurses, as well as multiple trainings for the medical module required for paraprofessionals. Other pertinent trainings were provided in conjunction with local LEA's, Co-op behavior specialist and ADE staff, in order to meet the requirements, set forth for paraprofessional certifications. All trainings were provided in virtual format during the pandemic shutdown.

In accordance to law, training provided to all district RN's in order for them to provide appropriate staff training for insulin and glucagon administration. This training was offered multiple times and followed the law and rules and regulations set forth by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing. A virtual TOT for school nurses was also provided.

Major Highlights of the Year:

- CHNS trained CPR to anyone in districts as requested. Required BLS/CPR training for school nurses was also provided. In addition, students were trained in hands only CPR as required for graduation in Arkansas.

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- Provided full CPR/AED/First Aid certifications for multiple districts FACS students, as required for maintaining grant funding. Some CPR and First Aid was provided through blended courses. This was completed by online courses, followed with actual hands on check off sessions with Education Cooperative CHNS.
- Stop The Bleed training was provided in GFESC districts and to staff members who attended all first aid courses through GFESC. This included hands-on practice in the training experience.
- In addition, CHNS coordinated American First Response to provide a Train the Trainer CPR/AED/First Aid Instructor course that was taught at GFESC for nurses, FACS instructors, and classroom teachers. This was coordinated along with the CTE group at GFESC, ADH and the provider center.
- Youth Mental Health First Aid – Multiple sessions were provided throughout the school year and summer. These are mandated for school counselors, school resource officers and recommended for all nurses and classroom staff. Miranda Curbow and Tracy Starks, the Arch Ford CHNS have teamed up to present this mandated workshop to over 150 participants in the past 9 months.
- Suicide 101 – This was provided to over 500 students within the Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative over the 2021-2022 school year. These presentations included pre and post testing and time for questions and answers and private question and answer session availability. As a result, several students, after receiving the presentation, spoke with the presenters and counselor or classroom teacher and were referred for mental health services.
- Resiliency For All – Presentation provided for District staff and for parents and community groups. This is in partnership with the DESE AWARE grant. Resiliency is one of the most requested topics for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Vaping, Emerging Trends, Nicotine and Tobacco Harms – Educated students, and parents concerning the dangers of these products. This included addiction education within the presentation, as well as chronic disease, related to nicotine use.
- Parent Vaping was popular during the 2021-2022 school year and multiple sessions were done, along with TA provided to districts and materials given for use for parent outreach.
- Inclusive Tobacco/Nicotine/Vaping Policy for schools and Nicotine/Vaping Toolkit for schools provided, along with presentation to school wellness committees in, at least, 4 districts.
- In lieu of suspension education resources provided for these districts and to all GFESC districts.
- Provided TA to multiple districts in regard to the SHI completion, Indistar and the subsequent implementation of their improvement plans. Provided education to wellness committees concerning roles and responsibilities and district wellness plans.
- Served as a liaison between districts and the local health dept. units in regard to immunizations, including flu clinics and COVID immunizations and clinics.
- Provided TA to districts regarding COVID 19 regulations and guidance. Assisted with POC training and TA. Met with multiple district administrators to plan for response to COVID 19. Assisted districts with planning for COVID pandemic planning, including education plans during shutdown and return to learning plans.
- Educated multiple classrooms in several districts on topics that included, but were not limited to: STD's, teen pregnancy, puberty, shaken baby syndrome, effects of drugs on the fetus and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, Safe Sleep for Baby and general infant care.
- Included tobacco harms during pregnancy and Be Well Baby Program information.
- Provided TA to multiple school districts and community organizations for the purpose of securing grant funding throughout the year. Including funding for COVID 19 related needs.
- Stop The Bleed kits, AED's, Narcan, school gardens, JUA grants, physical activity assistance, Nutrition assistance, etc...

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- Partnered with multiple counties to provide opioid education and awareness trainings where we trained and provided attendees with Narcan nasal spray after completion
- Assisted all GFESC school nurses in securing Narcan for their district as a stock medication and educated them on opioid overdose awareness.
- Provided TA to school nurses regarding the following:
 - Medication in the schools
 - Paraprofessionals in the districts
 - Delegation in the districts
 - Mandated screenings
 - Reporting in eschool
 - Controlled Substances in the school
 - School Nurse Survey
 - Emergency Health Plans
 - Health Care Plans
 - 504/IEP for health care needs
 - Medical emergency response in the schools
 - School nurse budget
 - Planning for school year deadlines
 - Kindergarten physicals
 - Sports physicals
 - COVID 19
 - Flu
 - Policies and Procedures

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

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
Curtis Varnell	Science Specialist	BS, MED, PHD

Goals:

To support schools as they align standards to curriculum to assessment

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

Program Summary:

The science program at the 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.
- Outreach to area (4) boys/girls clubs to do science activities during the summer
- Summer school education programs: Alma and Logan County Libraries
- Young Astronaut program funded through an AAEEA grant- 5 districts - Westside, Clarksville, Waldron, Magazine, Paris St. Josephs, Montessori, County Line - 800 plus students and teachers

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- Dr. Seuss Science- 7 districts- over 1,500 students
- Continuing education grant for 12 teachers to participate in the NSTA regional science conference; many for the first time
- Starlab science- four participating school districts and over 2,000 students
- Ongoing program of working with regional private, educational, and governmental agencies to promote science education. These include the Arkansas Game and Fish, Janet Huckabee River Valley Nature Center, Arkansas State parks at Magazine Mountain, Petit Jean Mountain, the Arkansas Military and Aeronautics museum, ATU, U/A FS, and the University of the Ozarks.
- Bioblitz: partnered with area outdoor education providers to host a bioblitz at the River Valley Nature Center for middle school students and teachers. Participants attended mini-sessions on citizen science tools, botany, entomology, mammalogy, herpetology, ornithology, endangered species, etc. in preparation for the blitz. Classroom teachers had the opportunity to expand this learning via professional development using the Project Wet/Wild curriculum.
- Charleston Middle School was selected as a model school to host the first student centered event. Teachers Mrs. Missy Stubblefield and Mrs. Sabrina Ketter were co-organizers for the project, located at the district's outdoor classroom. On May 22, 2023, 5th and 6th grade students rotated through 4 stations led by the University of Arkansas Extension Office (Franklin and Johnson County offices) and the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. These stations consisted of hands-on specimen collection in the areas of dendrology, herpetology, aquatic macroinvertebrate biology, and entomology. Students used scientific tools to obtain information and contribute to discussions about the health of the ecosystem at Charleston Lake. Career cards including job description, education, and salary information were included at each station.

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

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

Participating Universities:

University of Arkansas Fort Smith

University of the Ozarks

Arkansas Tech University

Grand Canyon 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 2021-2022 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 to the Arkansas State Standards implementation process, the ACT Aspire and other assessment systems, Teacher Excellence Support System (TESS) and Leader Excellence And Development System (LEADS 2.0). These initiatives continue to be the driving forces for increasing student achievement. All GFESC districts

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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:

- **Collaborative Meetings:** GFESC continued to host K-12 Administrators, Curriculum Leaders and Federal Programs Coordinators. Curriculum and Federal Programs and K-12 Administrators leaders 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** Support Services and Quarterly Contact Meetings
- **Novice Teacher and Mentoring Training Programs:** Become a Teacher Event, EdRising Event, John Wink Consultant, Ambassador Academy, and numerous on-site visits and virtual sessions were provided to ensure support for novice teachers and mentors, especially as it relates to classroom management, special education, content, and virtual instruction.
- **Math:** AR Math QuEST Cohort 1 & 2, Coaching Ambitious Teaching, Illustrative Mathematics, Eureka Math, and on-site visits to schools to provide targeted assistance and support with mathematical practices, curriculum design and curriculum alignment.
- **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 2021-2022 school year. GFESC is hosting a Science of Reading Assessor training session, in addition to Critical Reading, Keys to Early Writing, Key Vocabulary & Comprehension Routines, Speech to Print, Small Group Instruction, and numerous other training sessions in Summer 2022. Workshops/trainings were held at both GFESC and on-site in districts on requested topics such as PLC data, 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:** 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. Assistance and support to districts with the implementation and support efforts of the Next Generation Science Standards for grades K-12 was also provided by the GFESC Science Specialists.
- **Gifted and Talented:** Specialist worked both on-site and virtually with school districts. GFESC hosted Battle of the Books & Rubik’s Cube Competitions, Quiz Bowl and Chess Tournaments, regular GT Coordinator meetings, brought in Guest Speakers from the TheatreSquared, NOAA, University of Arkansas Drone Program, the FBI, etc. for the benefit of the GT students in the GFESC region. The GT Specialist also continued to provide support to new GT Coordinators and TA for all districts in need.
- **Specific Groups:** The Library Media Group, Computer Science Group, 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

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Curriculum and Federal Program 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:

- Member of DESE's Cyber Response Task Force.
- Provided assistance to districts affected by Cyber Attacks.
- Assisted in providing training, support and vendor demos for Technology Coordinators.
- Hosted three on-site training sessions for District Technology Coordinators
- Hosted two Virtual (Zoom) collaborative meetings for District Technology Coordinators
- Assisted District Technology Coordinators with setting up software to provide phishing training for employees.
- 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.

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- Attended 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.
- Facilitating the ARP Technology grant awarded to GFESC for the updating of Infrastructure.

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: Arkansas Professional Educator Pathway (ArPEP)

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: GFESC Evaluation

Description:

Per Ark. Code Ann. § 6-13-1020 and [Rules Governing Education Service Cooperatives](#) Sections 21.00 and 22.00, all active Education Service Cooperatives must be evaluated at least once every five years and include the results in the annual report submitted to the Department of Education. The evaluation schedule is determined by the Commissioner of Education and conducted by an evaluation committee of no more than nine people. The committee is made up of local stakeholders, educators, representatives for higher education, and parents.

The evaluation process includes an investigation of user satisfaction, service adequacy, extent of local financial support, staff qualifications, and performance and administration effectiveness. This information is shared with the committee via a cooperative [NARRATIVE SUMMARY](#) and [EVALUATION RUBRIC](#) documents. The evaluation committee reviews the evidence for each component, as well as conducts interviews with a variety of stakeholder groups: administrators, cooperative employees, regional educators, and special focus groups determined by the cooperatives. The interviews allow regional districts the opportunity to express their satisfaction and concerns regarding the manner in which the cooperative is operating and fulfilling the needs of the schools.

At the conclusion of the on-site visit by the evaluation committee, the committee indicates the cooperative's levels of success in each category using the criteria outlined in the rubric found in Appendix 2 in the Rules document. Each section of the rubric is scaled from 1 ("in need of immediate support") to 5 ("excellence"), and the cooperative is assigned an overall rating of 1 to 5. The final report of the evaluation is presented to the cooperative, region districts, and the State Board of Education.

Our cooperative received an overall rating of 5 ("excellence"). Our [FINAL EVALUATION REPORT](#) was presented to the State Board of Education and accepted by the board on November 10, 2022.

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Program Name: GFESC K-6 Virtual School

Number Participating: 14 districts

Description:

The Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative established a K-6 Virtual School for GFESC districts that wanted the option of allowing students to attend school virtually. The GFESC K-6 Virtual School consisted of 70+ students, a Virtual Coordinator, 2 Classroom Teachers, and 1 Paraprofessional. The RedComet LMS was utilized for curriculum and instruction. A GFESC Virtual School Consortium was created to help participating districts with Digital Learning Plans and to provide funding for the GFESC K-6 Virtual School staff. The GFESC K-6 Virtual School will continue for the 2022-2023 school year.

Program Name: ARP Technology Grant

Description:

At the end of 2021 DESE approved a \$150,000 ARP grant to be used for Technology upgrades. Each project is subject to approval by DESE and requires a ten percent match by the coop for a total spending of \$165,000. Funds are intended to assist with educational technology upgrades in an effort to maintain high quality professional development, resources, and digital learning opportunities. Grant projects must address elements of need with justifications that are in accordance with COVID guidelines per ESSER/ARP funds. Grantees are charged with assisting schools and educators by delivering the necessary tools and resources to maximize support for teachers, students, and families.

Purchases made with the grant in 2023:

- Server System
- ScreenBeam Wireless Display and Collaboration Receiver
- Whole room microphone/speaker systems
- Interactive Displays for PD rooms
- Webcams for PD rooms

Program Name: Communities of Practice Grant (CoP)

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.

Program Name: PLC Inclusive Practices

Number Trained: East Hills Middle School Staff - Greenwood School District
Waldron Elementary Staff - Waldron School District

Description:

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The Arkansas Department of Education, Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and Solution Tree have established a partnership to develop and expand the Professional Learning Communities (PLC) at Work® process within select schools. These sites will serve as working laboratory schools for the PLC at Work® process, conducting action research and sharing best inclusive practices with other schools throughout the state.

This project will have an intentional focus on inclusive practices ensuring students who are IEP eligible as well as other groups of struggling learners have meaningful access to core instruction and established systems of intervention. Participating schools will be part of a collaborative evaluation process (Solution Tree and DESE) that gathers data regarding student achievement, teacher practices, and effective professional development. The GFESC Literacy and Math Specialists partnered with DESE, Solution Tree, and the Greenwood and Waldron School Districts to collaborate and support the East Hills Middle School and Waldron Elementary School during the 2022-2023 school year.

Program Name: Live2Lead

Description:

Education leaders participated in a full-day leadership and personal growth event. The simulcast is an annual leadership gathering developed by The John Maxwell Company where attendees learn from renowned leadership experts from a variety of industries, gain a new perspective on relevant topics, have the opportunity to collaborate with colleagues and get practical tools to take with them. Experts included: Dr. John C. Maxwell, Dr. Tim Elmore, Patrick Lencioni, and more. The fee includes training, lunch, and a hard copy of Tim Elmore's newly released book: A New Kind of Diversity: Making the Different Generations on Your Team a Competitive Advantage. Leave equipped and excited to lead and create change with renewed passion and drive!

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 one employee 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 **950** electronic fingerprints from **July 1, 2022 - June 15, 2023**.

**Professional Development
Summary Report
2022-2023**

[HERE](#)