

School Improvement Plan 2022-2023

Our Mission: Arkansas Connections Academy (ARCA) will offer families throughout the state access to a quality education by providing the personalized learning inherent in a high quality online school. ARCA will provide a complete public school experience for students in grades K-12 focusing on the students' academic growth, social and emotional needs, and post-secondary goals.

The school will embody multiple hallmarks of excellence: a rigorous curriculum aligned to the Arkansas Curriculum Frameworks; licensed teachers actively engaged with students and families; and an educational management system designed to provide accountability through data collection, analysis, and reporting.

Goal: 100% of Arkansas Connections Academy students in grades 3rd-10th will meet or exceed the state average on the ACT Aspire.

Action: All ARCA teachers will conduct monthly performance reviews and make modifications/adjustments as needed. They may include assigning interventions, additional resources/live lessons, team support planning and/or enrichment.

Action: All ARCA teachers will participate weekly in a Professional Learning Community to explore and collaborate on best practices to help our students succeed.

Action: The Leadership Team will monitor progress through PLC IAs, Grade Distribution Data, and Section Performance Data.

Goal: 100% of ARCA students in grades 3rd-10th will show growth on the ACT Aspire in all subjects.

Action: All ARCA teachers will monitor student progress for mastery of objectives by utilizing the data from benchmark assessments, the Assessment Objective Performance Report, and Curriculum Based Assessments.

Action: All ARCA teachers will make adjustments and provide personalization as needed for students not showing progress or mastery.

Action: The Leadership Team will monitor progress through PLC IAs, Grade Distribution Data, and Section Performance Data.

Goal: 80% of ARCA high school students will be on cohort by the end of the school year.

Action: Advisory teachers will complete credit checks each semester in conjunction with our Manager of School Counseling.

Action: A plan will be created for students not on cohort that may include the addition of courses or a credit recovery course.

Literacy in the Elementary Curriculum

ARCA implements research-based curriculum and strategies for students who are reading at, above, or below grade level. Students reading or writing below grade level will receive additional support through increased frequency of targeted LiveLesson sessions and Connections multi-tiered instructional support program. Teachers use formative assessment data to determine a student's greatest area of need. A variety of supplemental instructional support programs are available to support student learning in the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, comprehension, fluency, and writing. Teachers regularly monitor student performance in these programs and make adjustments as needed based on Connections guidelines for implementing multi-tiered instruction.

Arkansas Connections Academy plans to focus on literacy in the early grades using Connections' research-based curriculum. The elementary literacy program spans Kindergarten to Grade 5, and is carefully scaffolded with a combination of high quality, engaging instruction and resources. Language arts courses, supported by Pearson Education's Reading Street reading program (kindergarten), McGrawHill's Wonders reading program (grades 1–5) explicitly support the five main components of literacy instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and text comprehension. Reading and writing instruction is prevalent throughout the language arts program, and is supported by core content area courses. Literacy will also be encompassed in professional development opportunities for teachers using the Pathways for Science of Reading prescribed by the ADE.