

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

Annual Report of Activities 2021-2022



**Roy Hester, Director
3010 E. Hwy 22, Suite A
Branch, AR 72928
479.965.2191**

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 39 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.

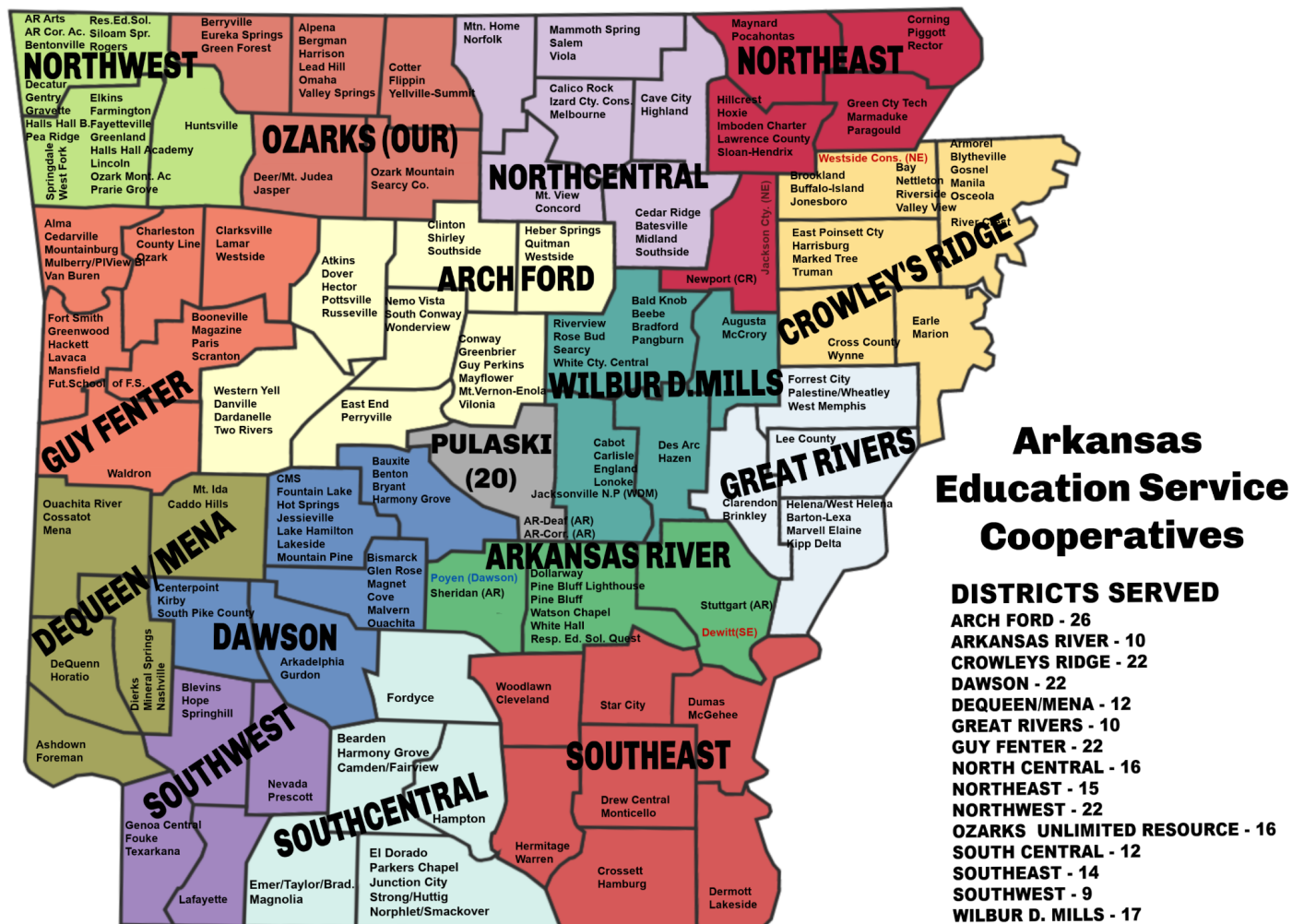
The cooperative shall strive to make services to all interested districts as equally accessible as possible.

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.

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

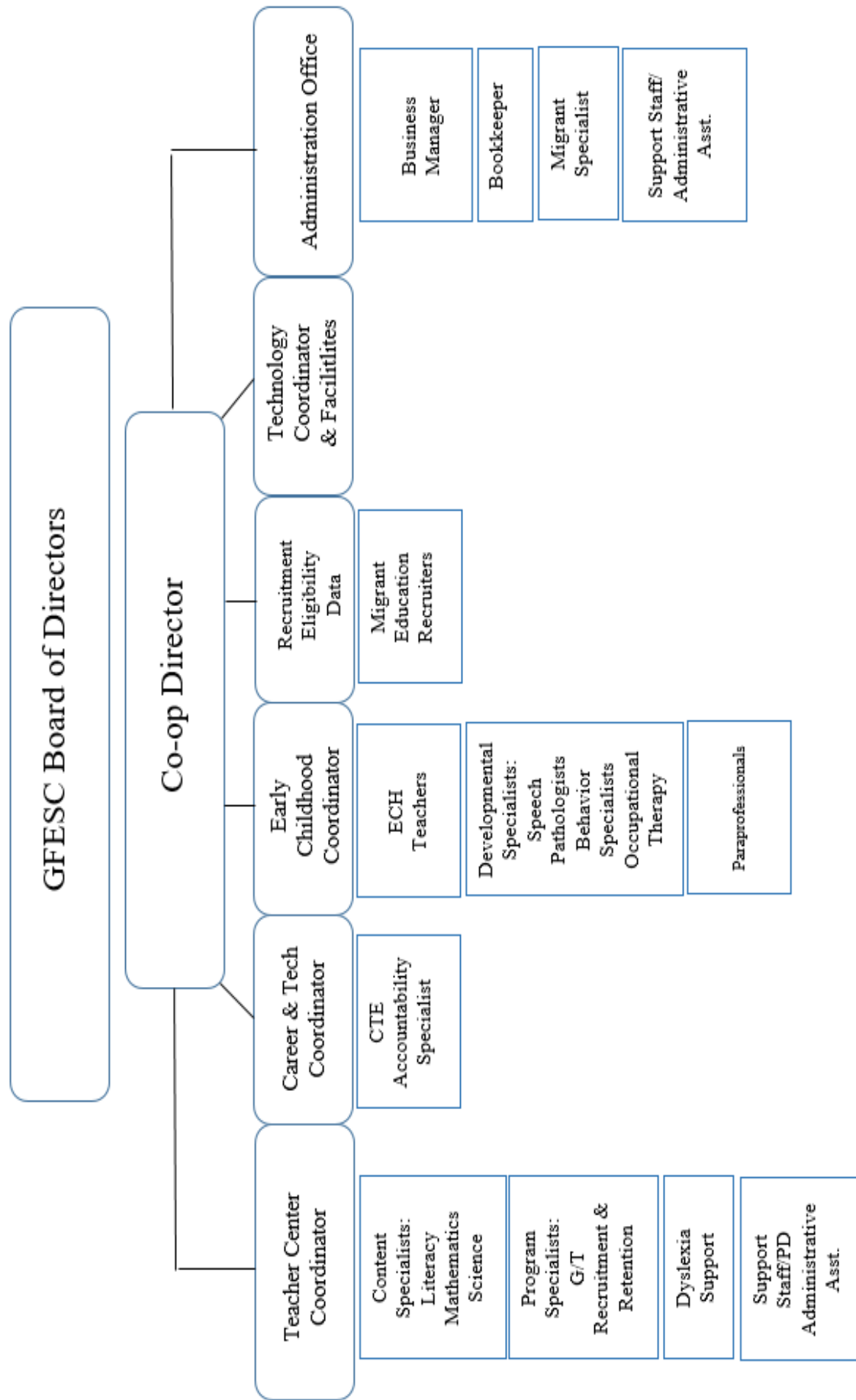


The Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative serves the following counties:

Crawford
Franklin
Johnson
Logan
Scott
Sebastian

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

GFESC Organizational Chart



GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

School Districts served in the Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative

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

Board of Directors

Name	Position	School District
Dr. 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
Wayne Fawcett	Executive Committee	Pairs
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	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
David Woolly	Board Member	Alma
Toby Cook	Board Member	Scranton
Dr. Harold Jeffcoat	Board Member	Van Buren
Brad Kent	Board Member	Westside

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

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
Kristie Frost	Clarksville	High School Teacher	Aug- 22
April Shaw	County Line	High School Teacher	Aug- 24
Lindsey Swanigan	Future School Fort Smith	High School Teacher	Aug-23
Dr. Ginni McDonald	Fort Smith	Administration, Elementary	Aug- 23
Amy Hardy	Greenwood	Junior High School Teacher	Aug- 22
Eddie Ray	Hackett	Superintendent	Aug- 22
Sheila Key	Lamar	Elementary School Teacher	Aug- 22
Caitlin Kilbreth	Lavaca	Elementary School Teacher	Aug- 24
Beth Shumate	Magazine	Superintendent	Aug- 22
Raydell Barbry	Mansfield	Elementary School Teacher	Aug- 24
Debbie Atwell	Mountainburg	Superintendent	Aug- 24
Toni Hopkins	Mulberry/Pleasant View	Administration, Elementary	Aug- 22
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

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

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

Date: June 2, 2022 **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? 13

Executive Committee? 8

When is the regular meeting? July 30, 2021 (Zoom)

August 6, 2021 (Zoom)

August 19, 2021 (Zoom)

Sept. 16, 2021 (F2F)

Nov. 18, 2021 (F2F)

Dec. 16, 2021 (F2F)

Jan. 20, 2022 (F2)

Feb. 23, 2022 (Zoom)

Feb. 25, 2022 (F2F)

March 2, 2022 (Zoom)

March 17, 2022 (F2F)

April 21, 2022 (F2F)

May 19, 2022 (F2F)

Date of current year's annual meeting: October 20-22, 2021 (Superintendent's Fall Conference)

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

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

If yes, then:

How many are on the Teacher Center Committee? 22

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 2021 - January 2022

Have written policies been filed with the ADE? Yes

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

Staffing 2021-2022

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
Ball	Theresse	Early Childhood Teacher	D		3/29/22
Ballard	Rebecca	Early Childhood Behavior Intervention Specialist	D		
Beauchamp	Amanda	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
Beavers	Evan	AEM Technology Coordinator	F	7/26/21	
Brannin	Jamie	Ark Rehab Business/Logistics Instructor	S	8/4/21	
Brewer	Tammy	Recruitment & Retention Specialist	S		
Brotherton	Chandra	Literacy Specialist	S		
Brown	Whitney	Migrant Recruiter	F	7/1/21	
Bucella	Katie	Literacy Specialist	S		
Carter	Angela	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist Assistant	D	8/4/21	
Churchman	Elizabeth	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
Cobb	Amber	Science Specialist	S		
Collie	Deanna	ESVI Consultant	F		1/21/22
Couthren	Gwen	Early Childhood Coordinator	D		
Cumbie	Candice	Math Specialist	S	7/1/21	
Cupples	Glenda	ESVI Administrative Analyst	F		
* Curbow	Miranda	Community Health Nurse			
Dawson	Robyn	UA Fort Smith ERZ Director		7/30/21	
Debes	Ashley	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
Dixon	Christi	ESVI Director	F	7/1/21	
Euston	Elizabeth	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
* Featherston	Debbie	APSCN Field Analyst			

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	Flores	Rey	Migrant Recruiter	F		1/28/22
	Floyd	Brittany	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
	Grady	Karen	Gifted & Talented Specialist	D/S		
	Hammonds	Alicia	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		8/31/21
	Haynes	Gina	PDC Support/Tech Support	B/S/F		
	Haynes	Jana	Early Childhood Support Staff	D		9/30/21
*	Tomlison	Damaris	Migrant State Director			
	Heavener	Pamela	Early Childhood Paraprofessional (part-time)	D	8/9/21	
	Hertlein	Trena	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
	Hester	Roy	Director	B		
	Heydenreich	Kayla	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
	Huff	Elizabeth	Migrant Director	F		
	Hulan	Ashley	Migrant REDS	F		
	Irby	Candace	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
	James	Mindy	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
	Jimenez	Leslie	Migrant ED Student Support OSY/PK	F		2/4/22
	Joy	Christena	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
	Justice	Shawnee	Early Childhood Paraprofessional (part-time)	D	11/30/21	
	Kelley	Susan	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
	Kennedy	Cheyenne	Administrative Assistant	B	3/29/22	
	Lamb	Patricia	Early Childhood Support Staff	D		
	Lewallen	Kim	Virtual K-6 Paraprofessional	D	8/4/21	
	Lieblong	Erin	Virtual Coordinator	D	8/3/21	
	Lyle	Rebekah	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D	8/4/21	
	Maestri	Miranda	Early Childhood Substitute Paraprofessional	D	10/13/21	
	McClure	Melinda	Bookkeeper	B		
	Mcguire	Abigail	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist Assistant	D		
	McKee	Jeanna	Literacy Specialist	S		

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Mendez	Cindy	Early Childhood Support Staff/Interpreter	F		
Michael	Angie	Business Manager	B		
Miller	Angela	Teacher Center Coordinator	B		
Miranda	Yaritza	Early Childhood Paraprofessional (part-time)	D	10/4/21	
Moore	Tiffany	ESVI Consultant	F	7/1/21	
Musick	Whitney	ESVI Consultant	F	8/16/21	
Nava	Lourdes	Migrant Education Student Support Specialist	F	5/2/22	
Nelson	Amber	Virtual 4-6 Teacher	D	8/4/21	
Nichols	Harvie	Information & Consultation Specialist	D		
Nicklin	Christi	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
Niemczyk	Sharon	ESVI Consultant	F		
Oberman	Cristin	Specialists/PD Administrative Assistant	S		
Pearson	Julaine	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
Pipkins	Matthew	Technology Coordinator	S	5/10/21	
Reames	Katherine	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D	1/3/22	
Schneider	Lorrie	Inventory/Purchasing/Admin Assistant	B		6/30/22
Smart	Cathy	Early Childhood Speech Pathologist	D		
Staton	Caitlin	Literacy Specialist	S		
Strozier	Crystal	Early Childhood Teacher	D		
Tate	Jennifer	Early Childhood Paraprofessional	D	8/19/21	
Turner	Jennifer	Career & Technical Ed Coordinator	S/F		
Trusty	Taira	Virtual K-3 Teacher	D	8/4/21	
Varnell	Curtis	Science Specialist	S		
Vest	Joshua	Migrant Recruiter	F		
White	Cynthia	ESVI Consultant	F		8/27/21
Whitman	John	CTE Accountability Specialist	F		
Whitman	Sarah	Migrant Parent Engagement Liaison	F	2/28/22	
Whitman	Stephanie	Math Specialist	S		8/11/21

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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. 35

(The Teacher Center was closed during the peak of COVID-19 through September 2021)

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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:

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

Speech Therapist

Science Olympiad

Transition Assistance

Other (Please specify):

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

Anecdotal Reports

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 2021-2022 school year.

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 of the fall semester meetings both face to face and virtually, but the spring semester meetings were held face-to-face only.

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 2021-2022 meetings were a joint session between the Elementary and the Secondary Principals. The three meetings were combined to bring in speakers/trainers on Title IX, Child Maltreatment, Pre-AP changes, and CTE Showcase schools.

GFESC hosts Social/Emotional Learning and Teacher Well-Being training

The Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative is hosting multiple sessions during Summer 2022 that focus on Social/Emotional Learning and Teacher Well-Being/Self-Care. GFESC is partnering with Discipline Associates, Arkansas A.W.A.R.E., and the Arkansas Trauma Resource Initiative to provide training and support for classroom teachers, administrators, counselors, paraprofessionals, etc. The sessions will help participants take a deeper look at topics such as types of trauma, the impact of trauma on brain development, maintaining emotional safety during a crisis, and application of key concepts to real-life scenarios. In addition, the training will allow participants to explore self-care and how to support colleagues through a trauma-informed lens. Participants will review self-care and understand its importance in the context of a trauma-informed school. Participants will also be introduced to a framework for self-care for educators and will learn strategies for integrating self-care activities into routines at home and work.

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GFESC hosts Solution Tree's Cassandra Erkens and John Wink

The Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative is partnering with Solution Tree to offer a training on Collaborative Common Assessments with Cassandra Erkens. During this two-day event, participants will learn why collaborative common assessments are the engine of a professional learning community. By collaboratively developing these assessments, teams establish a consistent way to effectively monitor student learning, collectively respond to results, implement informed practice, and raise expectations.

GFESC will also host John Wink, author of *A Teacher's Guide to Excellence in Every Classroom: Creating Support Systems for Student Success*. This training details how K-12 educators can use the Hierarchy of Instructional Excellence and the Student Excellence Support System to maximize their impact and increase student success. Discover how to build relationships for learning, increase engagement, differentiate instruction, foster student leadership, promote a growth mindset in students, and more.

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. The GFESC Leadership Conference was held October 20 - 22, 2022.

GFESC and Local School District Partnership

The Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative mission 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.

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.

GFESC and 13 other Education Service Cooperatives have partnered with the School Bus Safety Company to provide bus driver training to our local school districts. GFESC has created a consortium with our 21 school districts to have one central location for bus drivers to be trained.

GFESC and EFS Geo Technology Services partnered to work with GFESC districts on rezoning or zoning for the first time. Six of the twenty-one local districts used the services provided.

GFESC partners with the Alma Public School District to bring in a Back-to-School Speaker each August. The Back-to-School session is open to all school districts in the GFESC region. Freedom Writer, Dr. Manny Scott, will be the Back-to-School event in August of 2022.

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GFESC and local Education Renewal Zone (ERZ) have partnered to offer Arkansas Tutoring Corp trainings' for GFESC region teachers interested in becoming tutors in their community. The goal of the program is to provide additional support to students in our school districts.

GFESC partnered with the Arkansas School Board Association and Stephens Public Finance to provide School Board training at the Co-op campus. Act 1775 of 2005, requires that all school board members receive six hours of training per year, with the newly elected board members to receive nine hours of training during the first year. GFESC provided virtual school board training twice during the 2021-2022 school year.

GFESC partnered with the Arkansas Center for School Safety Criminal Justice Institute to provide Youth Mental Health First Aid training to GFESC area school resource officers, counselors, administrators, teachers, etc. During this session, participants will learn how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among children and adolescents ages 6-18.

GFESC Summer 2021 Professional Development

The Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative provided numerous professional development sessions/workshops for GFESC administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals, and other classified staff. GFESC offered both face-to-face and virtual sessions. Examples of the professional development vendors that GFESC partnered with include the following: Solution Tree, Keys to Literacy, The Autism Helper, Discipline Associates, AR-TRIS, Criminal Justice Institute, Eureka Math, Winsor Learning, Wilson Language,, IXL, Crisis Prevention Institute, Arkansas Dept. of Heritage, AAEA, DESE Specialists, Arts Integration Council, Faulken Classroom Management Services, College Board, etc. Per DESE guidelines, GFESC Specialists offered multiple sessions of RISE and AR Math Quest in a face to face format.

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

Employment Policies and Practices 2021-2022

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 2021-2022 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 2021-2022 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 2021-2022 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 2021-2022 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 2021-2022 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 2021-2022 school year:

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

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

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

Program: Accounting 2021-2022

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

2021-2022 State Funding Source:

Base Funding \$667,750.00

Teacher Center \$455.00

Educator Rising \$5,000.00

Professional Development \$229,200.00

APSCN \$3,600.00

Information Specialist \$47,250.00

Gifted and Talented LEA \$40,446.00

Science Workshop Grant \$1,500.00

Early Childhood LEA \$1,636,230.00

DCE ARK Rehabilitation Services \$66,750.00

K-6 Virtual School \$290,000.00

ADE NBCT Supplement \$8,073.75.00

Novice Teacher Mentoring \$345,000.00

Gifted and Talented - Pre-AP \$17,500.00

Gifted and Talented State \$30,000.00

WorkForce ED Coordinator \$50,000.00

Technology Coordinator State \$80,000.00

Content Specialists State \$720,000.00

UA Fort Smith - ERZ \$102,229.00

2021-2022 Federal Funding Source:

Migrant \$560,029.99

Carl Perkins Grant \$539,770.00

Carl Perkins - Leadership Project \$24,203.00

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Carl Perkins - Supplemental Grants \$64,000.00
Special Education Mentoring (VI-B Mentoring) \$ 20,000.00
Education Services for Visually Impaired (VI-B ESVI) \$592,000.00
AEM Grant \$125,000.00
Medicaid Preschool \$50,070.00
ARMAC \$35,058.00
Covid Vaccine Incentive \$11,750.40
ARP Technology Grant \$150,000.00
ADH-ELC \$88,000.00

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

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

- 15 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

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

Program: Arkansas Transition Services

Funding Source: Federal Grant

Competitive Grant: No

Restricted: Yes

Participating Districts:

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

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

GFESC – Alma, Booneville, Cedarville, Charleston, 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 getting back to a more normal mode in providing live statewide and regional professional learning opportunities. We also provided services to our areas both virtually and on-site. ATS also has a YouTube channel as a resource to get our information out across the state.

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State Level

- ATS is continuing to produce Pop-up Professional Development Videos. These short videos focus on specific areas of Transition and are a resource that can be accessed anytime.
- Arkansas Transition Services and Inclusion Films is continuing to partner to provide The Inclusion Film Camp for students with disabilities. The 2022 camp will be held live this year April 25-29 at Pulaski Tech in North Little Rock. Students write, film, and produce a 7-10 minute short video. These experiences will 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.
- 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.
- CIRCLES (Communicating Interagency Relationships and Collaborative Linkages for Exceptional Students) refresher training was held for districts that are set to implement the program this fall. The district leadership teams (Harrisburg, Rogers, and Magnolia) also attended 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 in order to experience successful post-school outcomes.
- College Bound Arkansas 2022 will be held June 27-29, 2022 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.
- 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.
- Arkansas Video Modeling Train the Trainer training was provided by Dr. Ryan Kellems, BYU to participants from across the state. He provided a 2 day seminar where participants learned about video modeling, produced a video and received feedback on the video.
- ATS held its first face to face Transition Cadre in 2 years (due to COVID) for Transition Teams from across the state. This Cadre focused on the PISA and helped schools make an Action Plan to improve Transition in their district.
- ATS offered a statewide training in Executive Skills.
 - 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 October 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 Fair
 - NWAESC: Pea Ridge-Transition Night/Fair
- Coop Trainings – 1 day of training (2 half day sessions) were offered virtually at all 3 Co-ops.
 - “Compliance Training: Indicator 13 Checklist Walk-through”
 - “Transition Assessment: Post Module Training”
 - 9 attendees
 - NWAESC – Springdale, Farmington
 - OUR – Cotter
 - GFESC – Paris, Fort Smith
 - Other schools/agencies – Jonesboro
 - Additional Trainings
 - Greenwood-Modified “Indicator 13 Walkthrough” - 12 attendees
 - Fort Smith-Modified “Indicator 13 Walkthrough” – 71 attendees
 - Bentonville-“Transition Assessment” – 12 attendees
 - Bentonville-Modified “Indicator 13 Walkthrough” – 5 attendees
- Technical Assistance was provided on a variety of Transition related subjects to over 140 teachers/staff in districts across the 3 co-op areas.
 - NWAESC – Bentonville, Pea Ridge, Rogers, West Fork, Gravette, Springdale, Huntsville, Greenland
 - OUR – Jasper, Harrison, Mt. Judea, Omaha
 - GFESC – Greenwood, Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County, Fort Smith, Magazine, Alma, Scranton, County Line, Cedarville, Ozark
 - Other - Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, NWA Down Syndrome Connection
- Presentations to Students
 - NWAESC – UARK Undergraduate Transition Class-live, UARK Teaming 4 Transition Graduate Class-virtual
- Meetings regularly attended
 - AASEA Area I and Area II (Special Education Supervisors)
 - AR-CEC Board Meetings
 - Project Search partners Sebastian, Crawford and surrounding Counties/Mercy Hospital/Access
- Trainings/Conferences Attended:
 - NTACT National Capacity Building Virtual Institute

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- Arkansas LEA Academy
- Division of Career Development and Transition International Conference
- HKNC Deaf/Blind Training
- SDLMI Training
- Video Modeling Train the Trainer Training
- Team Digital various
- DESE SPED Inclusive Classroom Training
- Executive Skills Training

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

Program: State Level Initiative: BX³ Project

PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS:

Cohort 1- Atkins, Berryville, Camden, Conway, Decatur, Fayetteville, Gentry, Horatio, Hot Springs, Murfreesboro, Premier High School/Quest Academy Charter School, Pulaski County Special School District, Siloam Springs, Stuttgart, Vilonia, Westside Consolidated

Cohort 2- Ashdown, Drew Central, Greenwood, Pine Bluff, Prescott, Warren

GOAL:

- To build sustainable programming and a legally defensible process for Functional Behavior Assessments (FBA) and Behavior Intervention Plans (BIP) based on evidence-based practices
- To empower the BX³ Teams to develop, train and sustain behavior related policies across the district

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

The Behavior Support Specialists (BSS) affiliated with the Arkansas Department of Education - Special Education Unit provide training and coaching as part of the BX³ (Behavior eXtreme 3 – Training, Coaching, Empowering) project. The BX³ project is designed to build the local capacity of districts in working effectively with students with challenging behaviors and is aligned to the Arkansas State Systemic Improvement Plan.

This multi-year initiative has two goals. The first goal is to increase the knowledge base and capacity of educators regarding the development of legally defensible Functional Behavioral Assessments (FBA) and Behavioral Intervention Plans (BIP) based on evidence-based practices. This will be accomplished through providing district BX³ teams with professional development around effective supports for students exhibiting moderate and severe behaviors followed by on-site coaching opportunities. The second goal is to empower the BX³ team to develop, train, and sustain behavior-related procedures across the district to improve the outcomes of students with challenging behaviors.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021-22:

- 100% retention rate from Year 2 to Year 3 for Cohort 1
- Cohort 2 included six districts serving underrepresented areas
- 100% of participants in Cohort 1 and Cohort 2 agreed to strongly agreed that the BX3 Coaches helped them to understand the steps critical to performing the skill
- 97% of participants in Cohort 1 and Cohort 2 strongly agreed that they felt confident in their ability to implement the steps critical to performing the skill after receiving coaching.
- 100% of participants in Cohort 1 and Cohort 2 agreed to strongly agreed that coaching on identified skills was beneficial
- Provided a total of 12 virtual regional trainings throughout the state for Cohort 2 during their third year of participation in the BX3 Project
- Assisted BX3 Teams in Cohort 2 with the development of district websites for RTI-Behavior.
- 5 Cohort 2 BX3 created a presentation of their districts BX3 team and presented to stakeholders including district school boards

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
Audrey Kengla	Behavior Support Specialist	BSE, M.S., CCC-SLP

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 receives 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 2021-2022:

- Provided on-site consultation, student observation, record review, conference attendance, specialized evaluations, assistance with functional behavior assessment, safety and behavior intervention planning for 138 students across all Education Service Cooperatives

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 participating from several areas of Arkansas including: Siloam Springs, Lincoln, Cedarville, Huntsville, Vilonia, Jasper, County Line.

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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.

Two of GFESC Carl Perkins Schools were chosen by DCTE to "Showcase" their model CTE programs during CTE month. Clarksville and Pea Ridge hosted showcase events where Business/industry, parents, students, educators and State DCTE staff experienced the programs available for students. Each event had over 75 in attendance.

GFESC hosted a Non-Traditional Agriculture Mechanics intense PD for non-traditional educators in the agriculture area. Specialists and industry representatives were brought in over 3 days as female teachers developed skills and teaching methods for Agriculture Mechanics. Women specialists in those areas developed confidence and skills in the female educators. A very powerful and physically demanding PD. Each instructor left with a personal set of classroom tools and PPE to be prepared to teach these skills in the classroom.

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:

Pea Ridge	Medical/CNA	\$85,000
Clarksville	Ag Stream Team	\$2700
Alma	MS Robotics	\$42,068
Lavaca	Robotics for Comp Sc	\$6800
Total		\$96,578

Non-Traditional Grants Obtained

Attracting males to FACS Ninja products all schools	\$18,600
Attracting younger students to Computer Science Paris	\$5678
Attracting female _[JT1] s to Ag Mechanics- 8 female instructors	\$64,000
Total	\$88,278

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 +
Lorrie Schneider	Administrative Assistant	HSD

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 – Digital Learning Unit

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
Rainbow Bagsby	Digital Learning Specialist	MAT, MA
Robin Finley	Digital Learning Specialist	Ed.D
Cristian Haynes	DLU/Admin. Asst.	HSD
Sherry Kennedy	Digital Learning Specialist	M.Ed
Dexter Miller	Digital Learning Specialist	BA
Gerard Newsom	Digital Learning Specialist	M.Ed
Amanda Perry	Asst. State Coordinator of DLU	BA, M.Ed, EdS
Katie Pittenger	Digital Learning Specialist	BSE
Steven Walker	Digital Learning Specialist	BSE, M.Ed
Kirsten Wilson	Digital Learning Specialist	M.Ed

Goal:

The DLU Digital Learning Specialists support digital learning on all levels. Our structure is designed to offer support, guidance, and build capacity in those we work with, including educators and students. This involves supporting through various avenues including, but not limited to, instructional support for integrating digital learning, designing online instruction in a preferred online platform, supporting social-emotional learning in online and blended environments, facilitating effective PLC processes for both in-person and virtual teams, and incorporating student involvement and voice in digital learning.

Program Summary:

The Digital Learning Unit works within a state team to support Arkansas' planning, implementation, and evaluation of digital learning environments in Arkansas. The Digital Learning Unit has expertise in emerging online teaching and learning practices that allow for active learning; effective content authoring and lesson design methods that best serve digital education; and strategies in helping educators transform system-centered practices into student-centered practices. The Digital Learning Unit offers operational support to state projects, Arkansas cooperatives, and public schools in the area of digital learning

New DESE DLU Website

Arkansas Digital Learning Unit is migrating to the Canvas Learning Management System (LMS) as a digital platform where Arkansas educational agencies house and implement digital resources and professional learning. It is managed by the Digital Learning Unit. Currently, in addition to providing professional learning in the Connect2Digital.org platform, it is used to deliver the Arkansas Civics Exam. This platform supports

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over 100,000 users, including administrators, teachers, and students, and will continue to provide support in the new Canvas LMS.

Major Highlights of the Year:

- All DLU Specialists have completed Solution Tree PLC Training, Quality Matters Rubric Training, Learning Services Training on the Learning Lens, TLC Training in March, and internal trainings to shore up understanding of the instructional implications of digital learning.
- Continue to host an assessment for educators who wish to add an online teaching endorsement to their Arkansas teaching license offered through six Higher Ed Masters programs.
- Provided training to Year 1- Year 3 Novice teachers with designing and creating online lessons.
- Offer daily support to schools in implementing Act 1280: Digital Learning Requirement.
- Offer daily support to schools with approved Digital Learning Plans.
- Representative on the ADE-DESE Engagement Committee.
- Representative on SMAC-Talk committee.
- Representative on the Education Technology Standards Committee for the redesign of Higher Education teacher preparation program through Educator Effectiveness.
- Coordinated project with Learning Services to design a 3 day intensive PD titled “Student Self-Paced Learning.”
- Coordinated and Collaborated with Tammy Friend with GUIDE for Life to create 6 hour Summer PD for Arkansas Educators.
- Coordinated and Collaborated with Karen Bergh with Engagement Division to create a Parent Involvement course meeting the state requirements for 2022- 2 hour PD; providing resources and support for parent engagement pertaining to digital learning needs and resources.
- Rebuild of professional learning sessions to optimize offerings (choice between asynchronous, synchronous virtual, and face to face) and options for upcoming 2022 Summer PD.
- Host and support online modules for APPEL transition to ARPEP with 14+ sites.
- Created a week-long social media campaign for Digital Learning Day to emphasize digital learning is an ongoing practice..
- Launched “Living in Beta Mode” podcast series in February 2022 to expand reach.
- Canvas Migration
- All team members have been trained in the “Growing with Canvas” Course.
- 94 Courses have been migrated from Moodle to Canvas.
- Offering additional Canvas support and training to Educator Effectiveness and ESCs wanting to build in DLU Canvas instance.
- Course Creation: ○ 28 ArPEP Shells have been created. ○ 11 new Summer PD course shells have been created. 2022 ANNUAL BOARD REPORT 05
 - 1 course was created in collaboration with Dawson and Southwest Science Specialists called “Science Standards Overview Course”
 - 1 course is under construction in collaboration with Learning Services called “Arkansas Self-Paced Instructional Model”.

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- Home-Grown Virtual Academy PLC
 - This PLC began in December of 2021 and has continued on the Fourth Thursday of each month. We will have a total of 9 PLCs Meetings in FY22.
 - There are currently 26 K-12 Home-Grown Virtual schools and 1 higher ed institution participating.
 - There have been 70 unique registrations.
- Social Media
 - Facebook:
 - From 9-1- 2021 to 02-28-2022 our DLU Facebook page has had a read of 14, 254 which is a 129.8% increase
 - During the same time period, we have seen a 93% increase in DLU Facebook page visits
 - On average we are posting and re-sharing around 20 times a week
 - Twitter
 - From 9-1-2021 to 2-28-2022 our DLU Twitter Impressions (number of times Tweets have been viewed) 16,550
 - During the same time period, we have seen 2,978 profile visits regarding 120 Tweets
- DEAL Days - Drop Everything and Learn, Every Third Thursday @ 11:30, Sessions held monthly September through May. ○ A quick lunch-and-learn-style networking opportunity every third Thursday of the month. ○ 263 unique registrations, 333 total registrations for all sessions ○ Digital Learning Topics/Schedule ○ October 21, 2021 - May 19, 2022 - Topics including engagement tools, use of handheld devices, media creation tools, and social media. Upcoming topics include podcasting and the efficient use of spreadsheets.

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
Jeremy Woodward	Director of Technology
Jason Bohler	Core Campus Director
Ellora Hicks	Concurrent Credit Campus Director
Christie Lewis	CTE Campus Director

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	2020-2021 Results
Help Address the Arkansas Teacher Shortage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- VA made courses and teachers available in all but one academic license shortage areas- VA provided access to 97 Full-time Arkansas certified

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	teachers for local schools
Provide a Wide Range of Courses for Arkansas Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - VA provided access to 66 core courses, 34 CTE courses, and 12 Concurrent Credit courses for a total of 112 course offerings - These courses provided opportunities to 36,282 Content + Teacher enrollments, 5,848 Content Only enrollments, and approximately 112,279 content partnership enrollments
Ensure Educational Options for Economically Disadvantaged Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - VA courses were made available to all high poverty districts and utilized by 88.5% of all Arkansas districts with an 80% or higher FRL (free and reduced lunch) population - VA offered preferred automatic concurrent credit enrollments for high-poverty districts. 100% of high-poverty schools that submitted the necessary paperwork for enrollment during the early registration period were granted seats in the classes for which they registered - 16,185 Content + Teacher enrollments came from schools with a 70%-100% FRL population
Ensure Educational Options for Rural Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 62% of all Virtual Arkansas Content + Teacher Enrollments were from districts designated as rural - VA provided educational options and opportunities to all rural districts and utilized by 96.7% of all districts designated as rural - 81% 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

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PROGRAM SUMMARY:

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

www.virtualarkansas.org

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 2021-2022 School Year - Virtual Arkansas

- National Award; Virtual Arkansas awarded the Quality Matters *Making a Difference for Students* national award for outstanding impact by a K-12 online organization or individual for online course and program quality assurance efforts
- National Award; Virtual Arkansas was awarded the *SETDA State Achievement Award for Digital Learning*
- Provided 100% virtual student options for local schools
- Conducted heart dissection labs with Anatomy & Physiology students
- Made arrangements with the ATU testing center for students to do online Accuplacer testing to enable them to acquire required admission scores since state testing was not done
- 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
- In partnership with the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, the University of Central Arkansas, and the Computer Science unit from ADE, offered newly designed and developed Cybersecurity courses to schools and students throughout the state
- Continued online course quality certification efforts through the certification of 10 additional concurrent credit courses
- Partnered with the Department of Youth Services (DYS) to provide high-quality online courses and opportunities to incarcerated youth
- Three DYS campuses were recognized by the Office for Educational Policy (OEP) for student growth in English and Math
- Partnered with the Division of Career and Technical Education to complete the process of design and development of over 75 CTE blended online courses to be made available to local schools
- Partnered with ADE's Computer Science Unit to design and develop three additional Computer Science courses
- Partnered with Team Digital and DESE to pilot certification assessment for online teacher certification by providing Virtual Arkansas teachers and administrators as experts to vet the process
- Presented the VA Instructional Model at multiple national and international conferences

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- All Collaborative Team (PLC) teacher leaders and campus directors, as well as the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Curriculum and Instruction Specialist have been through the Solution Tree PLC team training
- Certified 80+ teachers across the state with the Virtual Arkansas design and/or development certificate to build capacity in the state for creating quality virtual learning content.
- Presented strategies for creating student-centered digital content at internationally attended conferences and webinar venues.
- Director of Curriculum and Instruction served on the ADE/DESE Panel Review Board for program of study for licensure in Building Level P-12 Administrator
- Director of Curriculum and Instruction serving on national online learning advisory board for Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (IMSA)
- Featured in CANVAS LMS Insight Blog in published whitepaper “Scaling High Quality Content & Courses Statewide With Canvas”
- 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

Virtual Arkansas Data (Based on 2020-2021 School Year)

- 224 Districts and 8 charter schools served by Virtual Arkansas
- 285 Arkansas Schools or Programs Utilized Virtual Arkansas Services
- Virtual Arkansas Students had a 90.3% Pass Rate
- 14,849 Unique Arkansas Students Engaged in 36,282 Content + Teacher Enrollments
- 16,185 Teacher + Content Enrollments From Districts With 70%-100% FRL Population
- 32,771 Credits Earned
- 2,895 Concurrent Credit Enrollments Earned 8,529 College Concurrent Credit Hours
- 81% of Concurrent Credit Enrollments From Rural Districts
- Career and Technical Education: 6,620 Enrollments Over Two Semesters in 30 Courses; 5 Full Completer Programs and 7 Partial Completer Programs Offered to Arkansas Students
- 1,757 Computer Science Enrollments from 190 Arkansas Schools
- 2,155 Advanced Placement Enrollments from 143 Arkansas Schools
- 106 Different Courses Accessed by Arkansas Students
- 96.7% of all Arkansas Rural Districts Served by Virtual Arkansas
- 62% 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
Abigail McGuire	Speech-Language Pathology Asst.	BSE
Christena Joy	Paraprofessional	HSD
Crystal Strozier	Early Childhood Teacher	MSE

Goal:

To provide special education and related services for children with disabilities from age three to six.

To provide transition services from Early Intervention Services to Early Childhood Services, and from Early Childhood to School Age programs.

To participate in a local interagency coordination council (ICC), and a special education advisory committee.

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

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:

287 students returned in August.

December 1 Child Count was 539 students.

Transitioned more than 250 students to Kindergarten with special education services recommended.

More than 400 students received developmental screenings (by Coop employees)

More than 600 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

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 ESVI and CAYSI
Glenda Cupples	ESVI Administrative Analyst
Tiffany Moore	TVI/COMS, ESVI Educational Vision Consultant
Whitney Musick	TVI/COMS, ESVI Educational Vision Consultant
Sharon Niemczyk	TVI/COMS, ESVI Educational Vision Consultant

Northwest Arkansas Service Cooperative staff:

Name	Position
Marsha Holder	TVI/COMS, ESVI Educational Vision Consultant
Cynthia White	TVI, ESVI Educational Vision Consultant

Crowley's Ridge Education Service Cooperative:

Name	Position
Paige Dillinger	TVI, ESVI Educational Vision Consultant

Southeast Arkansas Education Service Cooperative:

Name	Position
Melanie Birthright	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;

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

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.

ESVI and CAYSI collaborative agreement:

ESVI and CAYSI have a signed collaborative agreement documenting their commitment to work together. These agencies will share resources, expertise, time, and effort, as appropriate to address specific needs. This collaboration will strengthen the impact of each agency's efforts.

a. Collaborating consultants provide training and information needed to develop and implement individualized supports to ensure that children who are deafblind have access to and progress in the general education curriculum, and access to high-quality educational opportunities that lead to successful transitions to postsecondary education or employment.

b. Collaborating consultants join together for learning opportunities that increase knowledge and share practices for service providers in order to increase outcomes for children with deaf blindness in Arkansas.

c. Collaborating consultants join together to provide learning opportunities across the state with a variety of workshops and training sessions.

ESVI's Central Office is located at:

1401 West Capitol Avenue, Victory Building, Suite 425, Little Rock, AR 72201

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

Program: Foster Grandparent Program

Funding Source: Corporation for National and Community Service

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 Headstart, Ouachita River, Ozark, Polk County Development Center, Scranton, Van Buren, Westside.

Personnel:

Name	Position
Ann Frachiseur	Project Director
Nelda Scroggins	Volunteer Coordinator
Sandra Trinidad	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, 55 years of age and over, the opportunity to serve as mentors and tutors for children with special needs.

These senior volunteers provide 15 to 40 hours' weekly service to community organizations such as schools, day cares, and pre-schools.

Major Highlights of the Year:

- Fifty-eight Foster Grandparents tutored and mentored 328 students from preschool to 5th grade.
- Ninety-two percent of students assigned to a Foster Grandparent showed marked improvement in their areas of delay.
- Forty-eight hours of annual in-service training was provided to each Foster Grandparent enrolled in the program.
- Fifty-eight Foster Grandparents and 3 staff made 62 blankets and delivered them to cancer centers throughout Arkansas for Martin Luther King Service Day.
- Fifty-three Foster Grandparents read to 1072 students during the 9-11 Project Read to acknowledge the public service heroes in our community
- We were able to hold our annual Summer Conference at DeGray State Lodge May 24th through 26th Twenty-five Foster Grandparents and 3 staff members were in attendance. During the conference the Foster Grandparents received additional training and were recognized for their service to the communities. They were also able to meet and visit with other FGP in Arkansas.
- A few of our Foster Grandparents received praise from Alicia Atwood (ADE). She was able to observe them working with students during a Launchpad Support Visit. She spoke very highly of our Program and stated what a "Treasure" they are to the districts.

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 the monitoring of their GT programs, with the program application process and with policies needed to be in compliance. Hosted both virtual and in-person GT Coordinators' meetings for support and strategies to assist them in their local GT program. Provided student activities: virtual Quiz Bowl (Grades 3-9), virtual Chess Tournaments (Grades 3-12), and quarterly Quizlet competitions (Grades 3-12). Hosted webinars for parents on Organizational Skills for Gifted Students. Hosted webinars for students with the Football Hall of Fame, NOAA Fisheries Biologist on Studying Sharks, TheatreSquared, Brightwater Culinary Institute, Texas A&M Forensic Science Department, Friday Harbor Whale Research Center, Mystery writer Robin Carroll, Loggerhead Sea Turtle Rehabilitation Center, and Arkansas Tech Dean of Students. Provided professional development as needed throughout the school year including: K-2 Primary Enrichment & Differentiation & Growth Mindset, Teaching the Gifted in the Secondary Content, New GT Coordinator meetings, ADE Monitoring Preparation meeting, AP Coordinator meeting, Pre-AP certification (via College Board), Gifted Characteristics and teachers role in Identification, Verbal and Nonverbal strategies for Preventing or De-escalating Situations, and Differentiation. Provided webinar opportunities for GT educators with speakers on early childhood identification, promoting creative and critical thinking, creative reflection strategies and social-emotional support, social emotional issues, dealing with students' emotions during pandemic, equity and identification systems, whole group enrichment, advocating for your program with your administrator, and developing soft skills in gifted students. Served as a participant on the G.U.I.D.E. for Life Curriculum Development Team. Sits on the AGATE Board as Membership Chair, and is the Conference Chair for AGGEA.

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

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

- Served over 1335 students through various virtual competitions (Quizlet, Quiz Bowl, Chess) and enrichment opportunities.
- GT Specialist was selected by the NOAA Teacher at Sea Alumni Organization to facilitate book study for the Gulf Coast region
- GT Specialist attended professional development virtually at AGATE, AGEAA, and various state meetings throughout the school year.
- For the third consecutive year, one of the Guy Fenter GT Programs was selected as the ACT 56 award recipient for small schools.
- GT Specialist hosted 4 Webinars for students and parents throughout the year focusing on Giftedness, Careers, College, and content-specific.
- Selected with other Guy Fenter Specialists and teachers to attend the 2022 On the Farm STEM Experience in June 2022
- The Gifted and Talented Specialist collaborated with TheatreSquared, NOAA, University of Arkansas Drone Program, and the FBI to bring career information and curriculum to the GFESC region students.
- The GT, Science, and CTE Specialists were selected to represent Arkansas at the Farm Bureau “On Farm STEM-Beef” in Oklahoma City, OK.

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

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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
- 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

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
- 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

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 2021-22 school year included: support for AR Math QuEST, Illustrative Mathematics Curriculum and Instruction Training, Math Ready, Number Talks, ACT Aspire, Growth Mindset, Eureka Math, Fact Fluency, Fundamentals of Early Number Sense grades K-2, PLC Inclusive Practices support, RTI process PD, and Fundamentals of Fractions grades 3-5. In addition, classroom observations, lesson planning support, model lessons, school site team meetings, PLC support, and school-based professional development linked to local school data were provided.

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Major Highlights of the Year:

The Mathematics Specialist has supported schools 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, 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

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

Dardanelle (Yell Co.)

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)

Charleston, County Line, Ozark, (Franklin)

Lamar, (Johnson)

AFESC

Western Yell, Two Rivers, Danville (Yell)

Perryville, East End, Bigelow (Perry)

Pottsville, Atkins, Dover, Hector, (Pope)

Guy Perkins, Greenbrier, Mayflower, Vilonia (Faulkner)

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

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

Shirley, (Van Buren)

Personnel:

Name	Position	Degree
Liz Huff	Migrant Education Specialist	BS
Ashley Hulan	REDS	BS

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Joshua Vest	Recruiter/Advocate	MED
Rey Flores	Recruiter/Advocate	HSD
Whitney Brown	Recruiter/Advocate	AD
Leslie Jimenez	Student Support	HSD
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 2020-2021 school year, a little over 750 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 seven (5) 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, Future School of FS, Greenwood, Hackett, Lamar, Lavaca, Magazine, Mansfield, Mountainburg, Mulberry/Pleasant View, Ozark, Paris, Scranton, Van Buren, Waldron, Westside

Personnel:

Name	Position	Degree
Tammy Brewer	Recruitment/Retention Specialist	EdS

Goal:

To provide all Novice Teachers with the foundational information and support to enable Novice Teachers to be 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 Novice Teachers are assigned to a cohort led by the Recruitment and Retention Specialist who has expertise in the content area or pedagogy area of the Novice Teacher. Novice Teachers are invited to connect to a digital platform for the sharing of resources and/or information and discussion. First year Novice Teachers attended two days of face to face professional learning at the cooperative during summer and one day during the spring semester. Second year Novice Teachers attended two days of face to face professional learning at the cooperative during the summer and one day during the spring semester. Third year Novice Teachers attended one day of face to face professional learning at the cooperative in the summer and one day during the spring semester. Veteran Mentor Teachers attend one half day of training at the cooperative during the summer, and Novice Mentor Teachers attend one full day of training at the cooperative during the summer. Mentor Teachers are invited to participate in zoom sessions once a month throughout the year. 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, PGP development, and other needs requested by the Novice Teachers. The New Art and Science of Teaching by Robert J. Marzano is used as a resource and guidance for all novice training sessions. The Recruitment and Retention Specialist worked in member districts to support Novice Teachers through on-site coaching, modeling, observation/reflection, lesson planning, etc. The Novice Teachers also received coaching and/or support from the GFESC Content Specialists through PLCs and on-site coaching.

Major Highlights of the Year:

- 430 Novice Teachers supported during the 2021-2022 school year. Each Novice Teacher (Year 1 & 2) was observed in the classroom at least one time each semester by the Recruitment and Retention Specialist. If the district did not allow the R&R on-site, the novice submitted a video and was given

GUY FENTER EDUCATION SERVICE COOPERATIVE

feedback in the form of an observation feedback form. Year 3 Novice Teachers were observed by request, but were supported by the Recruitment and Retention Specialist via email and/or zoom.

- Over 129 Novice Teachers worked to pass a Praxis exam for initial licensure or to add an additional area to license. Mometrix Study Materials, 240 Tutoring keys, and the Licensure Assessment Ready Program were used by multiple novice teachers, and even some veteran teachers to aid in preparation for the Praxis exams.
- The Recruitment and Retention Specialist sent out quarterly newsletters featuring relevant articles, teachers' highlights, upcoming professional development, etc. to each novice teacher and mentor
- The Recruitment and Retention Specialist co-hosted the EdRising Event for our region.
- GFESC and the Recruitment and Retention Specialist hosted a Pre-Service Teacher Event in the spring of 2022 for anyone interested in becoming a teacher, paraprofessional, substitute teacher, etc. in the GFESC region.
- The Recruitment and Retention Specialist held a TESS training for the teacher interns at the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith, and recently hired teachers from out of state.
- The GFESC Recruitment Specialist partnered with DESE to provide an opportunity for area teachers to work directly with Bloomboard to become a Nationally Board Certified Teacher.
- The GFESC Recruitment and Retention Specialist has worked to strengthen relationships between school administrators and potential candidates for future employment. She has become a liaison for non-educators wanting to enter the education profession, as well as current educators looking for advancement opportunities.

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.
- 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

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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.
- 1. 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...
- Partnered with multiple counties to provide opioid education and awareness trainings where we trained and provided attendees with Narcan nasal spray after completion

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- 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
 - Etc...

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.
- Collaborated with science specialists to support teachers in the implementation of digital learning.
- Worked with a team of science specialists from other cooperatives to develop lessons for Grasping Phenomenal Science professional development for summer PD implementation.
- Science Specialists collaborated with Janet Huckabee Nature Center, NASCAR, NASA, Botanical Garden of the Ozarks, NOAA Fish Hatcheries, Arkansas Game and Fish, etc. to provide virtual activities, field trips, STEM challenges, etc. for students during the 2021-2022 school year.

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- Interactive technology was made available to science teachers throughout the region with specialized training in the use of various instructional tools.
- Conducted more than twenty days of outdoor classroom field trips with area schools A repository of technology used in science was established at GFESC
- On-going collaborative efforts between the University of the Ozarks, Arkansas Tech, and GFESC to effect positive improvement in science education.
- Assisted in writing, producing, and posting educational videos involving schools in our region. Educational videos are available on YouTube under THIS IS ARKANSAS and through other sources.
- Designed AT HOME Science lessons to share with teachers and students in the state of Arkansas.

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

Funding Source: Arkansas Department of Education

Competitive Grant: No

Restricted: Yes

Participating Districts:

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

Personnel:

Name	Position	Degree
Angela Miller	Teacher Center Coordinator	MED +
Cristin Oberman	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 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:

- GFESC is building capacity through the following monthly meetings
 - Superintendent
 - Building Principal/Assistant Principal
 - Federal Programs and Curriculum Coordinators

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- Dyslexia Intervention Support Services and Quarterly Contact Meetings (held virtually and F2F)
- **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 trainings 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 trainings 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 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.

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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:

- Purchased mobile video conference equipment for remote workers. Equipment included: Webcams, microphones, etc.
- Member of DESE's Cyber Response Task Force.
- Assisted in providing training, support and vendor demos for Technology Coordinators.
- Hosted four on-site training sessions for District Technology Coordinators
- Hosted five Virtual (Zoom) collaborative meetings for District Technology Coordinators
- Maintained groups for area school administrators to increase communication with the cooperative and between the member schools.
- Improved labs and facilities for participants attending sessions.
- 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.

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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: Restorative Practices Playbook

Number Trained: More than 300 participants combined from all fifteen Education Service Cooperatives in Arkansas

Goals and Description

The fifteen Arkansas Education Service Cooperative sites partnered to bring in Dominique Smith to provide The Restorative Practices Playbook Webinar for administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals in Arkansas school districts. The webinar detailed a set of practices designed to teach prosocial behaviors based on strong relationships and a commitment to the well-being of others. Implementing restorative practices establishes a positive academic and social-emotional learning environment while building students' capacity to self-regulate, make decisions, and self-govern-- the very skills students need to achieve. This training will also be offered in Summer 2022 at the DESE Summit courtesy of the Arkansas ESCs.

Program Name: GFESC K-6 Virtual School

Number Participating: 14 districts

Goals and 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: Every Student Succeeds ACT (ESSA)

Number of Participating: 21

Goals and Description

The Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative continues to assist and support districts/schools in meeting accountability challenges of the ESSA. During the 2021-2022 school year, GFESC provided assistance and support to districts in the development of School Improvement Plans, District Support Plans, etc.

Program Name: Electronic Fingerprinting

Goals and Description

Arkansas State, FBI and Child Maltreatment Central registry background checks are required for student teaching internship, first time licensure and all licensure renewals, first employment or change of employment in public schools, charter schools or education service cooperatives. The Arkansas Department of Education deemed that the Arkansas Education Cooperatives would perform all fingerprints needed. GFESC has one Live Scan unit in the main office for scheduled appointments. GFESC performed a total of **835** electronic fingerprints from **July 1, 2020-June 15, 2021**. Currently, we have one employee trained to conduct fingerprints. This employee must work fingerprinting into their already full-time position. (i.e. Purchasing and Inventory Administrative Assistant).

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Program Name: PLC Inclusive Practices

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

Goals and Description

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 2021-2022 school year.

Program Name: Keys to Literacy

Number Trained: 75+

Goals and Description

GFESC will be offering Keys to Early Writing, The Key Vocabulary Routine, and The Key Comprehension Routine to kindergarten through 12th grade general education, special education, intervention, and resource teachers in Summer 2022. These sessions focus on research based teaching practices to effectively teach reading and writing in all subjects across all grades. Educators attending this training will learn the skills necessary to improve literacy skills for ALL students.

Program Name: ARP Technology Grant

Goals and 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 to date:

- Twelve 10.2 -inch Apple iPads with cases (to be used by PD participants)
- Twenty-five Lenovo ThinkPads (to be used by PD participants)

Program Name: Title IX Collaborative Session

Number Trained: 15

Goals and Description

The Arkansas Education Service Cooperatives contracted with Arkansas Attorney Cody Kees to provide a Title IX professional learning on September 23, 2022, for all school district leaders in Arkansas. All Arkansas Cooperatives shared the cost of the session. One hundred eighty five educators across Arkansas engaged in the Zoom. Mr. Kees allowed the cooperatives to retain a recording of the session to share with districts in the future, as needed.

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Program Name: ACT Prep

Number Trained: 104 students

Goals and Description

This grant 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.

There were 261 school districts across the state that opted-in to OnToCollege. This program can be used at the school level in multiple ways. Schools are able to use this resource as a class during the school day, an afterschool program or a summer bootcamp. Training was provided to each district and the program will be provided for two years.

Chad Cargill provided 10 sessions for 924 students across the state. Each student spent three hours in a live session with Chad Cargill working on strategies for taking the ACT as well as content review. Chad has written a book with all of his tips and strategies and every student received a copy of the book to study further.

Cantrell and Waller Preparatory (CE Prep) is providing 10 sessions across the state to almost 1,000 students. In these sessions, students spend six hours digging into various content from the ACT. CW Prep also shares strategies with students when taking the test. Students leave the training with a one-year log-in to all the resources that were shared so they can use them to continue studying for the ACT.

We have also had Fetterman and Associates that has 10 sessions for students. These sessions are six hour sessions where students are exposed to test taking strategies, ACT content and scholarship information. All of these programs will be used again in the 2022-2023 school year. Arkansas Cooperatives are working to schedule and organize these events for all public, private and charter schools in Arkansas.

**Professional Development
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