Contact Missy (missy.hixson@starfishnw.org) for link to Zoom meeting

**NWAESC ALE Administrators/Staff**

# *Working Agenda*

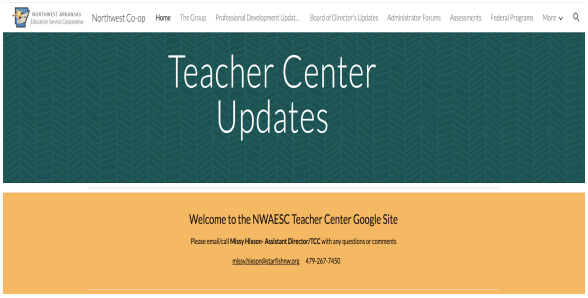
## DESE's Key Words: "Maximum Flexibility"

Wednesday April 15, 2020

12:00-1:30

***Please add topics/questions for discussion***

**NWAESC Teacher Center Google Site: CLICK HERE** {archived site for various groups/info concerning curriculum/PD/other info}




12:00 Welcome and discussion of forum

- Contact: kathy.morledge@starfishnw.org (479) 200-6806 {NWAESC Leadership Specialist}

12:05-1:15 **Topics of Interest or Questions Here**

- How do you need support or what support do you need from NWAESC? To end the year.
- Jared Hogue (DESE) Updates/Q & A jared.hogue@arkansas.gov (501-324-9660)

- **QUESTIONS for the group to discuss:**
  - How is digital/AMI learning continuing? See AMI info below
  - How are they staying connected with students?
  - What creative ways to celebrate our graduates? Noted by NWA Superintendents that they are working on June/July dates pending
  - How are they providing mental health support?
  - How are they providing for the physical needs of their students?
  - How are they supporting the families of their students?
- Program Submission Cycle

    - APPROVALS: NWA Submit Spring 2022 {not necessary unless new or significant changes}
        - Email new submissions or large updates to: ade.ale@arkansas.gov
        - Deadline of March 31 extended to April 30 (encouraging early)
    - Tracking of programs HERE
- Credit Recovery
    - tied to AMI resources
    - Will be district specific as needed
- EOY Progress Goals
    - Track progress through AMI for kids
    - Keeping Max flexibility in mind; Good standing after 3rd 9 weeks
    - Checking in on kids often
- Motivation Resources/Strategies
    - Developing now through DESE (dropbox) and will share soon
- AMI support needed?
    - **LS-20-097 Arkansas AMI**
    - Zoom Resource **HERE**
    - The AMI Guidance document is located on memo: **LS-20-101**

**Sec. Key on 4-6-20 DESE homeschool/AMI Expectations:**

- Flexible-time on task
- Sr. will graduate (if they meet state requirements but up to local now)
    - Local graduation ceremonies (virtual or on-site when restrictions are clear)
- Focus on core instruction (math; literacy; science; ss) other area integrated; focus on Essential Standards; no new teaching, but review what has been taught {however NWA Superintendents are requesting to move ahead with T & L)
- Support adults
- District must provide clear expectations to staff, students, parents

- *Important:* **Suspended Rules/Regs HERE**

- *Update:* Student Success Plans -(per Stacy Smith) will proceed as required

- **Science of Reading**

*NEW:* **Awareness:** The **13th course in the SOR Pathway** is now on Arkansas IDEAS. Courses are now on an every-other-month release pattern and ~1 hour each. (14 videos only). *Discussing working on Critical Reading as a possible digital course as well.*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NEW | ELB20003 IDEAS | The Science of Reading Part Thirteen: Using Graphic Organizers to Support Comprehension | 1 |



**Proficiency:** Science of Reading face/face DESE will not approve NWAESC to host those remotely as of now (per Stacy).

*NEW: DESE working on Assessor training to be remotely done. Also Pathway "B" and "D" working on digital courses that accompany this one.*

- Special Education/504s/Dyslexia
  - **DESE Guidance Document** HERE
  - **Google Classroom Support:** https://teachfromhome.google/intl/en/
  - Novice Teacher Google Site: HERE
  - Behavior Support Google Site: HERE

- *Important:* LS-20-089 **COVID-19 Guidance/Updates** ***UPDATED 4-9-20***
  - Grading and Graduation information
  - Per Dr. Pfeffer-"Do no harm" (COVID19 should not be the reason/excuse to not do the right thing for kids)

## *See the new AMI Guidance for updates below:*

**Clarification about Seniors**

The decision from DESE related to **seniors meeting graduation requirements** is regarding the statutory requirements for graduation. The intent is to relieve questions and concerns that have been voiced to us about whether seniors would be required to participate in extended make-up days or summer school should there be any further delays to the school year. It is not our position that seniors are automatically finished, since there are other considerations, such as concurrent credit courses, CTE industry certifications, ACT prep, and also determinations as to whether a senior is on track. Whether a senior is "on track to graduate and in good standing as of the 3rd nine weeks," is a local school district decision that will be made by school administration. This determination should be made based on a review of student data including, but not limited to, grades and credits earned. Districts may have additional requirements for specific designations upon graduation or opportunities for seniors to continue engagement for the remainder of the school year. Districts must also continue to provide the services and supports included in a student's IEP or 504 plan necessary to provide FAPE as part of any continued academic engagement or other opportunities.

**Grading and Assessment of Student Work (not compliance, but learning foucsed)**

***DESEs stand is "Do no harm to children"-Give them opportunities to redo, makeup, or try again to complete.***

Recognizing that AMI days will not replicate the traditional schedules for every student, provisions have been waived to allow districts flexibility in assigning grades to students. Districts may continue to issue a numeric/letter grade, or they may consider other alternatives, such as a pass/fail model or a demonstration of content mastery approach. Other waivers in this area:

- Allow districts flexibility in assigning grades to students.
- Allow districts flexibility in calculating GPA.
- Remove the requirement that students take “the entire AP course” and AP exam, to receive weighted credit.
- Allow districts flexibility in reporting progress/completion to parents/guardians by not requiring a “grade” for each class. Districts are still required to issue a report card for each student at the end of each grading period, at least four times each school year.

The DESE APSCN team will work with schools to modify reporting options in eSchool and is ready to help districts think through unique situations. Options to consider include:

- **Option A)** Process grades as normal. All setups are currently in place for this procedure. Semester grades will be processed as normal. Grades will be submitted for the fourth 9 weeks as normal during a typical grading period. No eSchool changes necessary.
- **Option B)** Schools may opt to carry the third 9 weeks grade to fourth 9 weeks and average the two 9 weeks grades to provide the semester grade. **This process will require setup changes.** A district’s eSchool admin should seek assistance from APSCN Field Support Technicians.
- *May be alterations to this one:* **Option C) Pass/Fail option**. The district may issue a Pass/Fail type grade. The parameters of the pass/fail grade option will be defined by the district. This option will require setup changes in eSchool. This option will vary depending on the school district and will require assistance from eSchool Field Support Technicians. This option will require district personnel to enter a semester grade for each student. It is highly encouraged that this option be well planned prior to implementation by the district’s eSchool admin. and administration.

Districts are strongly encouraged to examine their plan for the continuity of education (through AMI) for the next few weeks and make decisions, specifically those regarding grading, that are in the best interests of students. District eSchool admins should contact their education service coop APSCN Field Tech for assistance or guidance on making changes to grading processes in eSchool. (Aaron Huges -aaron.hughes@arkansas.gov)

# NOTES:

- ESOL Resources (tool created by state EL Specialist Team) Arkansas ESOL AMI Supports 4.1.20
- Novice Teacher Google Site: HERE
- Behavior Support Google Site: HERE
- Other Resources from AAEA: HERE
- Tips/strategies/help for teachers HERE

- **Other ideas for getting work to students**
  - Resource Officer to make contact
  - Admin or Counselor make contact
  - FaceBook/Social media contact
  - Idea: maybe contact Grocery stores to see if they will put into stores like school supplies
  - Idea: Contact local radio stations for sharing important information and possibly help with audio lessons. NPR station?
  - Loading onto a flashdrive/jumpdrive
  - Photo of work and send in on email.

**Resources for ELs:**

- Translation
  - Google Translate
  - Marshallese: Marshallese Education Initiative for translation or the Consulate
- ScreenCastify for modeling how to use laptops/jump drives

Barton Websites/Resources

https://www.whizzimo.com/barton.html

https://www.pinterest.com/dyslexiabarton/susan-bartons-videos/

https://www.pinterest.com/dyslexiabarton/susan-bartons-videos/

https://www.understood.org/en/school-learning/coronavirus-latest-updates?_ul=1*1p8grw6*domain_userid*YW1wLUVwMk56emRsdzIleDJxdXRPS1ZPN0E.

https://wideopenschool.org/

https://www.95percentgroup.com/at-home-resources

**NWA Food Bank** has a warehouse of food they are able to assist schools with for anyone in the community in need.
Contact:
**Kent Eikenberry-President/CEO**
Nwafoodbank.org
**Northwest Arkansas Food Bank**
**1378 June Self Dr., Bethel Heights, AR 72764**
Office: 479-419-5392 or Cell: 479-640-0559