



# GFESC

## Teacher Center Coordinator Updates

### August 2024

#### I. Rules Updates

- [Final PD Rules](#)
- [Professional Development Requirements](#)
- **Bullying Prevention is on the Scheduled Professional Development for 2024-2025.** Please note that last year's Bullying course on IDEAS will not count for 2024-2025 scheduled professional development of Bullying if you have already taken it.
  - Any Bullying PD on AR IDEAS can count for the requirement.
- Human Trafficking must be offered (30 minutes)

#### II. LEARNS

- [Rules Updates](#) (from DESE Summit) - click here. Rules in multiple areas have been approved by the State Board during the summer. You can view [pending rules here](#) to see what has been approved so far.
- **Third Grade Retention Information for 26-27** (based on their third-grade score in 25-26): DESE released information detailing third-grade retention for students who do not meet the grade level standard. Recommendations are for districts to start looking closely at your incoming 2nd graders, who will be the first group subject to these requirements.
  - [Slides from DESE](#)

#### III. Assessment

- [Final Testing Calendar for 24-25](#)
- [Recording](#) from ATLAS K-3 Webinar from July 22nd
- **K-3 Literacy Screener:** They have built ATLAS to meet the requirements of the law, including Level 1 dyslexia screening. Note: the screener is not 100% testing grade level skills, because it includes prior grade skills. The interim and summative will be completely on grade level and adaptive.
  - Kindergarten will have to type in their 10-digit SSID. They can practice on the training test, teachers can type it in for them, and you can test only a few at a time if needed.
- **Testlets for K-3:** These will be available beginning on September 4th. This year there will be 3 windows for testlets, but in subsequent years, you will be able to



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administer them earlier. Also, this year some things will need to be hand scored, as they have not yet trained the scoring engine. The testlets are in a progression, and results on the screener will direct you as to what testlets to give.

- **Dyslexia 4-12:** For dyslexia screening in grades 4-12, they are working on ORF and encoding testlets. However, they will not be out for a little while.
- **Parent Portal:** Parents will have access in real time to any assessments their child is given. The Individual Reading Plan (IRPs) will also be housed in the portal for them to access at any time. The training test will also be available here. Districts have to generate an access code to send to parents before they can access. This will need to be communicated to parents from the beginning of school since it is new.
- **Administering the Test:** Starting on August 1st, districts may begin to load users into the ATLAS portal. Anyone administering a test will need to complete the test certification training online. This will need to happen every year.
- There are no plans for a Classroom Tool for K-2 at this time.
- **New User Role:** For K-2, unlicensed personnel such as paras may administer the test. The role is TA Limited. This will allow them to create and administer tests, but they cannot access data. DTCs will be trained on August 5th.

#### IV. Science of Reading

- **SoR Coding:** If you have questions about coding on new hires, please see the slides from Sandy Shepard [here](#). Remember that anyone teaching in the core areas in K-6, K-12 SPED, K-6 ELL, or K-12 Reading Specialist must be proficient. All other teachers must have Awareness. New hires need this awareness prior to October 1 if they don't have it already!
  - **Remember there is no provision in the law for you to put someone on a plan and give them time to get SoR Awareness.** They must watch the videos prior to October 1, 2024.
  - If someone is in an educator program (like **ArPEP, MAT, Sped program, etc.**) and they need to be **Proficient** for what they are teaching, there is a provision in the law to give them time to reach proficiency.



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- K-2 RISE Dates at GFESC
  - K-2 (Day 1) - 9/13/24
  - K-2 (Day 2) - 10/25/24
  - K-2 (Day 3) - 11/15/24
  - K-2 (Day 4) - 12/10/24
  - K-2 (Day 5) - 1/17/25
  - K-2 (Day 6) - 2/7/24
- GFESC will be offering 3-6 RISE and 3 SoR Stand-alone days during the Spring semester. Dates coming soon!
- Final Rules for [Right to Read Act](#)

#### V. Math

- **Numeracy Intervention Plans in place by Day 1 for grades 3-8.**
  - Utilize State Template (released soon)
  - Data Source:
    - Where was the student math performance in May 2024?
    - HQIM Diagnostics
    - Local Formative Assessment
  - Intervention
    - 3 days per week outside of Tier 1
    - Small group size intervention model
    - Utilize HQIM as Intervention Resources
  - Interventionist
    - VAM Top Quarter of State
    - Highly Effective TESS
  - Re-sort in October once ATLAS data is released!
  - If you have any questions please contact Candice Cumbie @ [candice.cumbie@wscstarfish.com](mailto:candice.cumbie@wscstarfish.com)
- **K-2 ATLAS Math:** Students in K-2 will take ATLAS Math for the first time this year.
  - **Screener:** There will be a screener in the beginning of the year that will focus on number sense and is meant to check for grade level readiness. The text will be fixed form and will flag students who need further testing in key skills using testlets.



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- A suggested math intervention plan for K-2 is being developed now by DESE. This is not required by law as it is for 3-8, but is recommended.
- **Interim and Summative:** They will also have a winter interim and a summative test in the spring to determine progress on grade level standards in math. Both the interim and summative will be adaptive, just like the 3-10 ATLAS..
- All three assessments for K-2 are required. See the blueprint below for specifics on what will be assessed in the beginning, middle, and end of the year for math in K-2.
  - **\*NEW\* K-2 ATLAS Blueprint**
  - **3-10 ATLAS Blueprint**
- **\*NEW\* Math Fluency Support Document** - Released this summer, this document provides guidance and expectation on fluency requirements in k-8th grade for both fact fluency, computational fluency, and procedural fluency.

#### VI. Science

- **Chemical Storage, Management and Lab Safety-VIRTUAL** July 29th
  - Join this session designed for educators dedicated to enhancing safety in the science laboratory. Improve expertise in lab safety, chemical storage, and disposal. Acquire knowledge for a secure and efficient lab environment, aligning with regulations. Evaluate scenarios to apply theoretical knowledge, reinforcing practical skills for immediate implementation in the laboratory. Contribute to a culture of excellence in laboratory safety practices.

#### VII. Social Studies

- **Implementation of the new Social Studies Standards is required for all schools this year.**

#### VIII. CTE

- **Career Readiness Guidebook** (PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO page 11 FOR NEW REQUIREMENT THIS YEAR...TEMPLATE INCLUDED)
- **Early Career Experiences** (PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO page 2 FOR NEW





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## REQUIREMENT THIS YEAR)

- **[Success-Ready Pathways Guide](#)** (Diploma with MERIT AND DISTINCTION EXPLAINED IN THIS DOCUMENT) (See Page 3 for H2 Certifications and program lists)
- If you have a teacher who needs **412 Work Based Learning Endorsement** for 418 Career Development Endorsement for the 24-25 school year, please email Jennifer Turner @ [jennifer.turner@wscstarfish.com](mailto:jennifer.turner@wscstarfish.com)
- **Modernization Grants** (Only H2 programs may apply) will be open for applications on August 1, 2024
  - One per school district
- **New Program Start Up Grants** (Only H2 programs may apply) will be open for applications on Aug 1, 2024
- **Innovation and Non-Traditional Grants** available. Email [jennifer.turner@wscstarfish.com](mailto:jennifer.turner@wscstarfish.com)
- Upcoming: Scheduling DCTE visits to each district. TBA

Required for every district to attend. Request district leadership and lead CTE teachers.

## AR Perkins V Plan Stakeholder Feedback

<https://bit.ly/ARPerkinsV>





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#### IX. Seizure Act Training

- **Seizure Training Link:** This is a recommended link for the seizure training for staff. You could show as a group with a sign in sheet or assign. It takes about 60 mins.

#### X. School Safety

- **Basic Behavior Threat Assessment - August 15, 2024 – VIRTUAL -** Threat assessment is a critical component of preventing school shootings and other targeted violence on campus. The Arkansas Center for School Safety (the Center) has been awarded a Bureau of Justice Assistance grant to assist Arkansas school districts, both public and private, to develop effective behavioral threat assessment teams and processes. Basic Behavioral Threat Assessment is a seven-hour course that will be delivered virtually and will explore the basic procedures and guidelines for threat assessment teams.
  - **VIRTUAL -- 8:30 am to 4:30 pm --** [Register here](#)
- **Advanced Behavioral Threat Assessment – August 14, 2024 -- VIRTUAL -** This course is based on research and best practices in the area of school threat assessment and on the experiences of the instructors' co-authoring the U.S. Secret Service/U.S. Department of Education model of school threat assessment. The advanced school threat assessment course will cover the following topics:
  - **\*\*Prerequisite:** Completion of the Basic Behavioral Threat Assessment course. You will not be allowed to enroll in the Advanced course until at least 30 days after you have completed the Basic course. It is recommended that the district/school threat assessment team members attend this training together when possible.\*\*
    - [Register here](#)
    - F2F Session at CJJ on Sept. 26, 2024 [Register here](#)



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#### XI. ESSA & Accountability

- **Assessment Correction Engine (ACE):** The **Assessment Correction Engine (ACE)** interface will be available to all districts from August 7 through August 21 at the **ADE Data Center**. **Districts must use ACE to certify assessment data and may submit documentation to remove eligible students from their denominator for expected to test.** All data, including no corrections needed, **must be certified by the district superintendent no later than 5:00 p.m., August 21, 2024.**

#### XII. TESS/LEADS

- **Final Approved Rules for Educator Performance** - These rules have now been approved by the state board, and include requirements for TESS, LEADS, and merit pay. Annual ratings are now required for teachers seeking merit pay, and can be based on a PGP in non-summative years.
- **ESS Org Admin: 2024-2025 Rollover**
  - Occurs August 08 (close of cycle 9)
  - Will update new hires which will allow login access, and remove former employees, update LEA locations and status rotation (formative year 1 to year 2, etc.).
  - Allows you to begin assigning observers and modifying as needed the data from bullet 2.
  - Rollover does not impact professional growth plans. Plans completed prior to the rollover date will save; however, the new "due date" calendar feature may not be available until rollover.
  - Overview of rollover guidelines are found [HERE](#).
- **EES Virtual Trainings** - DESE has created a one-stop shop for all trainings being held which will be updated as new trainings are scheduled. The calendar is on the DESE website available [HERE](#).

#### XIII. Licensure

- **Draft Rules for Educator Licensure**
- Licensure or Employment Eligibility Form (EEF) Questions? Please reach out to Angela Miller @ [angela.miller@wscstarfish.com](mailto:angela.miller@wscstarfish.com)

#### XIV. Praxis Support/ArPEP Support

- **Praxis/FORT support:** Reach out to Tammy Brewer @



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[tammy.brewer@wscstarfish.com](mailto:tammy.brewer@wscstarfish.com)

- Saturday Praxis Support Study Sessions will be offered throughout the 2024-2025 School Year
  - Sept. 14, 2024
  - Nov. 9, 2024
  - Jan. 18, 2024
  - March 8, 2024
  - May 24, 2024
- GFESC offers free Praxis/FORT study materials such as Mometrix, 240 Tutoring, Study.com, etc.
- ArPEP Support: Reach out to Jennifer King @ [jennifer.king@wscstarfish.com](mailto:jennifer.king@wscstarfish.com)

#### **XV. Novice Teacher Mentoring**

- GFESC hosted the 1st Annual GFESC Novice Teacher Conference July 23-25th. It was a great success with 467 in attendance, Years 1-3. A huge Thank You to the Lavaca School District for hosting the conference.
- Mentoring Program Specialists, Tammy Brewer or Jennifer King will be reaching out to the district POC and individualizing a plan for the support in your district.
- **Tammy Brewer Districts:** Alma, Booneville, Cedarville, Charleston, Fort Smith, Hackett, Lavaca, Magazine, Mansfield, Van Buren, Waldron
- **Jennifer King Districts:** Clarksville, County Line, Greenwood, Lamar, Mountainburg, Mulberry PleasantView, Ozark, Paris, Scranton, Westside
  - Please reach out to your Mentoring Program Specialist with questions/concerns. If all else fails, call Angela Miller.
- Novice Teachers will have no additional PD during the school year 2024-25, but will have **monthly newsletters** and **weekly open zoom opportunities** with their Mentoring Program Specialist.
- First year novices will get reminders of the required PDs and principals will get a document of all PD completed for each Year 1 novice teacher in their building in the spring.
- **Novice Conference Makeup days will be announced soon! This is for any novice that was a Late-hire or missed the Novice Conference in July.**

#### **XVI. Required PD 2024-2025**

- Bullying Prevention (2 hours) **Bullying Prevention is on the Scheduled Professional Development for 2024-2025.** Please note that last year's Bullying





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course on IDEAS will not count for 2024-2025 scheduled professional development of Bullying if you have already taken it.

- Any Bullying PD on AR IDEAS can count for the requirement.
- Human Trafficking (30 minutes) must be offered
- Link to DESE Scheduled Development Page [Scheduled Professional Development K-12](#)

#### **XVII. Other Information**

- Superintendent's Fall Conference October 2-4 @ Lake DeGray
- DESE Summit/AAEA Slidedecks
  - [Educator Effectiveness and Licensure 1](#) - Asst. Comm. Karli Sarcini
  - [What's In a Letter Grade](#) - Asst. Comm. Hope Worsham
  - [Rules Updates](#) - Deputy Comm. Stacy Smith
  - [High Impact Tutoring Overview](#)
  - [Student Success Plans](#)
- 2024-2025 Superintendent's Meetings
  - August 15, 2024
  - Sept. 19, 2024
  - Supt. Fall Conference Oct. 2-4, 2024
  - Nov. 21, 2024
  - Dec. 12, 2024
  - Jan. 16, 2024
  - Feb. 20, 2024
  - March 13, 2024
  - April 17, 2024
  - May 15, 2024
- 2024-2025 Elementary & Secondary Principal's Meetings
  - August 21, 2024 & August 22, 2024
  - Sept. 25, 2024 & Sept. 26, 2024
  - Oct. 16, 2024 & Oct. 17, 2024



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- Nov. 13, 2024 & Nov. 14, 2024
  - Jan. 22, 2024 & Jan. 23, 2024
  - Feb. 26, 2024 & Feb. 27, 2024
  - March 19, 2024 & March 20, 2024
  - April 23, 2024 & April 24, 2024
- 2024-2025 Federal Programs
  - August 23, 2024
  - Oct. 18, 2024
  - Nov. 15, 2024
  - Dec. 13, 2024
  - Jan. 17, 2025
  - Feb. 21, 2025
  - March 14, 2025
  - April 18, 2024
  - May - TBA