



## Teacher Center Coordinator's Report Board of Directors Meeting **September 7, 2023**

**NWAESC Teacher Center Google Site:** [CLICK HERE](#)

{archived site for various groups/info concerning curriculum/PD/other info}



**Data Focus:** NWA schools vs. State ACT Aspire data [HERE](#)

### 1. Training Opportunities

- [September Sessions](#)
- [October Sessions](#)
- DESE Science of Reading Assessor Training [September 13](#)
- Tier 1 Annual Update (CASBO Class SF 401A) [September 14](#)
- ~~Save the DATE.~~ Speed of Trust Day 2 (Franklin Covey) September 27

### 2. Commissioner's Memos of note: [Link to all Commissioner's Memos](#)

- [LS-24-002](#) Final Assessment Calendar for 23-24
- [COM-24-013](#) Standards for Accreditation Cycle
- [COM-24-021](#) Community Service Requirement for Graduation Guidance
- [COM-24-020](#) Thrive AR Leadership Academy Cohort Applications **(Sept. 13)**

### 3. Assessments

- K-2 Assessment contracts will remain the same for the 23-24 school year.
- ELA/Math interims will not be ready for 2023 therefore DESE is working to extend the current 3-8 "Ready for Learning" contracts
- ATLAS [website](#)
  - [Webinar Recording](#) 5/23/23
  - [SlideDeck](#)
  - ATLAS [portal](#)

### 4. Literacy

- *Literacy Specialists will be assigned to schools with a D/F rating per DESE. Due to this, they will be less accessible to schools with A-C letter grades. Please bear with us as we try to continue to meet the needs of all schools in our region in light of this change due to LEARNS.*
- R.I.S.E. K-2 Sessions @NWAESC: [HERE](#)
- R.I.S.E. 3-6 Sessions @Guy Fenter: [HERE](#)
- Standalone Virtual Days (Pathway D): [HERE](#)

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- [ELA Standards](#) must be implemented in the 2023-2024 school year
  - NWA K-5 Literacy Standards Crosswalk [HERE](#)
  - NWA 6-12 Literacy Standards Crosswalk [HERE](#)

## 5. **Math**

- [2023-2024 Math PD Sessions at NWAESC](#)
- [Grades K-8, Algebra I, and Geometry](#)
- [Secondary Math Standards](#)
- ALL Mathematics Standards are to be fully implemented in 2023-24.
  - NWA [2023 AR Math Standards Crosswalk](#)

## 6. **Science/STEM/Computer Science**

- The Commitment to Excellence in STEM Grant is now open. Grants provide up to \$10,000 for Arkansas public schools teaching 3rd, 4th, 5th, and/or 6th grades to purchase STEM equipment and materials. The [application](#) is due October 6, 2023. Please reach out to [jenny.gammill@starfishnw.org](mailto:jenny.gammill@starfishnw.org)
- We are supporting all teachers teaching science (grades 3-8 and Biology) with making the shift to the new ATLAS assessment. Please reach out to [jenny.gammill@starfishnw.org](mailto:jenny.gammill@starfishnw.org) (3-5) or [carly.geanolous@starfishnw.org](mailto:carly.geanolous@starfishnw.org) (6-8/Bio) to get assistance supporting your teachers.

## 7. **GT/AP**

- GT Program Approval Application is due on October 15, 2023. Please contact [amanda.allen@starfishnw.org](mailto:amanda.allen@starfishnw.org) for assistance.

## 10. **Regional Mentoring (Novice Teachers)**

**Contact:** Cayce Neal [cayce.neal@starfishnw.org](mailto:cayce.neal@starfishnw.org) or Madison Clarkson [madison.clarkson@starfishnw.org](mailto:madison.clarkson@starfishnw.org)

- NWAESC has a new vision for supporting novice teachers. DESE now requires an MOU between each district and the co-op detailing the support that novices will receive.
- All 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year teachers must complete the novice teacher registry. ([Linked here.](#)) We have been in communication with district novice coordinators to get this information; a big thank you to them for all their hard work! We are currently up to 691 novices in Northwest Arkansas!
- **NEW:** All 1st-year teachers must complete ethics training within 30 days of student-facing work. DESE requires that NWAESC collect and report this data throughout the year. Our first reporting date is September 22.
- **NEW:** All novice teachers must be assigned a mentor teacher for all three years of their novice experience. NWAESC is required to monitor this and report the information to DESE in our grant performance measures.
- **NEW:** [DESE's 2023-24 Mentoring Manual](#) for more details on this year's changes

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- [2023-24 Regional Mentoring Program Outline](#): click to see all of the free opportunities and support available to novice teachers. This has been communicated to your district novice coordinators, novices who have completed the registry, and mentors. We are happy to work with your district to design a plan of implementation that works for you.
- We will continue to provide Praxis and Foundations of Reading support/reimbursement to all teachers in need. 23 teachers attended our first tutoring session on August 26. More dates will be announced as we secure tutors.

### 11. Behavior Support / Counselors / Special Education

**Contact:** Lindsey Lovelady [lindsey.lovelady@starfishnw.org](mailto:lindsey.lovelady@starfishnw.org) Ph. 501-289-2916 or Kat Lancaster [kat.lancaster@starfishnw.org](mailto:kat.lancaster@starfishnw.org) Ph. 501-289-2857

- Make sure to check out our [arbss.org](http://arbss.org) webpage for more resources like:
  - Check out tips for dealing with troubling transitions in the classroom from our monthly newsletter
  - Free [online module courses](#)
  - New Behavior Breaks
    - [Gold Slips: School-Wide Reinforcement System](#)

### 12. Career & Technical Education (CTE)

### 13. eSchool/APSCN

**Contact:** Chelsea Canion at [chelsea.canion@ade.arkansas.gov](mailto:chelsea.canion@ade.arkansas.gov)

- [September 12](#)- eSchool IPR and Report Card Training
- [September 14](#)- eSchool SMS Required Fields for State Reporting 23-24

### 14. Social Studies

- Remember that this is the pilot year for the new SS standards. Full implementation will be in 24-25.
- September 17 - [Constitution Day](#) (Observed on September 18)
- September 25-29 - [Celebrate Freedom Week](#)

### General Updates:

- 2023-2024 PD Consortium invoices will be sent in mid-October for payments. Please complete the certified/licensed count [SURVEY](#) for accurate counts. (Decatur, Gentry, Gravette, Huntsville, Lincoln, PR, PG, WF, AAA)
- **New Laws Spreadsheet** from Bryant's, Dr. Karen Walters, detailing new law requirements with a specific tab for LEARNS - [click here](#).
- Science of Reading / [Right to Read Act §6-17-429](#)
  - The **deadline** for Science of Reading proficiency/awareness is **October 1, 2023**.
- ESSA School Index reports ready~ Sept. 18 by last week of Sept.
  - Superintendents will get first private release and public release about 5-7 days

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*Note: This report will be emailed to curriculum contacts in each district for instructional planning/PD.*