

**Monitoring and Program Effectiveness
Special Education Advisory Council Summary
April 2016**

During this quarter, the Monitoring and Program Effectiveness Section provided professional development and technical assistance to districts across the State of Arkansas on the following topics:

- Building Effective Teams
- Special Education Due Process training
- Serving Special Education Students in the least restrictive environment (LRE)

In addition to providing training to districts, the state educational advisors (SEAs) are currently involved in various committees and advisory groups. A few of these include:

- Paperwork Reduction Committee
- Paraprofessional Module Updates
- INDISTAR Advisory Team
- LEADS/TESS Team
- ADE Literacy and Assessment Team

The SEAs continue to assist the Dispute Resolution Section and have been actively involved in three recent complaint investigations.

Another activity that all SEAs are involved with is attending regional LEA monthly team meetings. During these meetings each SEA shares information from ADE-SEU with local LEAs.

The SEAs are continuing to work closely with ADE-School Improvement Unit, collaborating cross-department efforts when working with districts and schools most needing assistance. Our group is currently providing intense support to five school districts. This work centers around providing support to districts and schools in developing policies and procedures as well as assisting in establishing calendar timelines.

All districts chosen to perform either a self-monitoring or blended combination of on-site/self-monitoring for the 2015-16 school year's cycle have either completed their monitoring activities or are currently in the verification period. As of this date, three school-age programs were determined to be out of compliance with requirements set forth in the regulations in the following areas:

- IEP Timelines – 1 district
- Dismissals/Graduates – 2 districts

The SEAs are working closely with the districts that have a Compliance Action Plan as a result of these monitoring findings and are assisting and supporting these districts throughout the process.