

**Arkansas Department of Education - Special Education Unit  
Advisory Council for the Education of Children with Disabilities  
State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) and  
State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG), January 2019**

**Strategy One:** Create a system of support that is aligned with other ADE Units and is differentiated based on LEA's needs as evidenced by data.

The following alignment activities contributed to the ongoing effort to continue building a coordinated system of support that outlines the necessary organizational structures for the way in which LEA services and supports are identified, managed and differentiated at the state-level:

**Update:**

<b>Alignment Activities</b>	<b>Cross Unit Collaborations</b>
Additional Targeted Support Trainings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 11/26/18 Southwest Educational Service Cooperative (Hope)</li> <li>● 11/27/18 Arkansas River Educational Service Cooperative (Pine Bluff)</li> <li>● 11/28/18 Northwest Arkansas Educational Service Cooperative (Farmington)</li> <li>● 12/3/18 Wilbur D. Mills Educational Service Cooperative (Beebe)</li> <li>● 12/4/18 Pulaski Technical College (Little Rock)</li> <li>● 12/10/18 Crowley's Ridge Educational Service Cooperative (Harrisburg)</li> </ul>	Division of Learning Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Student Support Services</li> <li>● Special Education Unit</li> <li>● State Personnel Development Grant</li> <li>● State Systemic Improvement Plan Coordinator</li> </ul> Division of Public School Accountability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Federal Programs</li> <li>● Standards and Systems Support Unit</li> </ul>
PLC @ Work Institute	All Divisions of ADE
High Reliability Schools Trainings (HRS)	All Divisions of ADE
Use of Assistive Technology in Statewide Assessment	Division of Learning Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assessment Unit</li> <li>● Special Education Unit</li> <li>● State Systemic Improvement Plan Coordinator</li> </ul>

<p>Behavioral Modules</p>	<p>Division of Learning Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Personal Competency Team</li> <li>● State Personnel Development Grant</li> <li>● Arkansas Behavior Support Specialists</li> <li>● Arkansas State University-Center for Excellence in Education</li> </ul>
<p>Response To Intervention Modules</p>	<p>Division of Learning Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Family and Community Engagement Team</li> <li>● The Center for Exceptional Families</li> <li>● State Personnel Development Grant</li> </ul>
<p>Strategic Performance Management Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 11/2/18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Focus on data, accountability, and support</li> <li>○ ESSA Index</li> </ul> </li> <li>● 12/7/18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Focus on the High Reliability Schools Framework</li> <li>○ Connect HRS Levels and PLC</li> <li>○ Identify existing ADE supports</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Agency Wide/ All Divisions</p>
<p>Division of Learning Services Monthly Meetings</p>	<p>Division of Learning Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assessment Unit</li> <li>● Curriculum Support Services Unit</li> <li>● Student Support Services Unit</li> </ul>
<p>Family &amp; Community Engagement Essentials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 11/29/18</li> </ul>	<p>Learning Services- SPED, Curriculum  PSA- Federal Programs, SSS, FCE,  Charter Schools  Facilities and Transportation  Educator Effectiveness  Legal</p>

<p>Arkansas Collaborative Consultant (ACC) Initiative Alignment Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 11/7/18</li> <li>● 12/5/18</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Arkansas Behavior Support Specialists</li> <li>● Arkansas Co-Teaching Project</li> <li>● Arkansas Consultant for Students with Traumatic Brain Injury</li> <li>● Arkansas Consultant for Speech-Language Pathology</li> <li>● Arkansas Dispute Resolution</li> <li>● Arkansas Transition Services</li> <li>● Children and Youth with Sensory Impairment</li> <li>● Easterseals Arkansas Outreach Program and Technology Services</li> <li>● Educational Audiology/ Speech Pathology Resources for Schools</li> <li>● Educational Services for the Visually Impaired</li> <li>● Special Education Monitoring Unit</li> <li>● State Personnel Development Grant</li> <li>● State Systemic Improvement Plan Coordinator</li> </ul>
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**Strategy Two:** In collaboration with other ADE Units, restructure Arkansas’ Response to Intervention (RTI) model using evidence-based personnel development to implement a multi-tiered system of support for behavior and academics, with focus on literacy.

**Goals for the State Personnel Development Grant**

- Develop statewide RTI resources and tools in the areas of behavior and literacy.
- Increase the capacity of regional and district teams to deliver high quality RTI professional development.
- Improve educators’ ability to implement RTI with a focus on evidence-based literacy and behavior support practices.
- Improve literacy and behavior outcomes for all students, especially students with disabilities.

**Update:**

During the second quarter of the 2018-2019 academic year the State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) team provided seven trainings, five coaching sessions, and six consultations with the ten districts served intensively through the grant. We also

worked to develop a training series for those SPDG districts seeking implementation assistance in Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). Cohort 3 training sessions for PBIS began on January 2, 2019.

SPDG districts continue to work on action plans and use data to make decisions for students and teacher supports. Most SPDG districts are still working to insure Tier I curriculum and assessment supports are in place.

The vision for the grant work in 2015 was to scale up supports to regional cooperatives by assessing and action planning with regional teams then to provide training and support to coop specialists. On October 31, 2018, the SPDG team had the privilege to partner with Great Rivers Educational Cooperative in Helena, AR. They have formed a team to support RTI in the districts they serve. American Institute for Research, a national partner of the SPDG, will provide training and support to the coop on all three tiers of RTI in the spring.

The Center for Exceptional Families Parent Mentor has worked with the SPDG team to develop a training webinar for parent coordinators. The webinar will assist coordinators and families across the state with understanding RTI and what it means for the students. The webinar will take place two times, once in late January 2019 and again in early February 2019.

The State Personnel Development Grant Team participated in two Solution Tree Institutes that focus on Response to Intervention and Professional Learning Communities. The knowledge gained from these institutes will greatly impact the knowledge of the team and the alignment of content developed for the state of Arkansas. Our goals are to streamline as much vocabulary for practitioners as possible and ensure RTI is being used as a part of the overall prevention and support process by district and school teams. RTI Modules for Tier I academics and behavior are still on track to release as a general support for all stakeholders in the fall of 2019, after a review period with a team of cross unit specialists.