

**Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Special Education Unit  
Advisory Council for the Education of Children with Disabilities  
Arkansas Transition Services, October 2019**

- After a summer of successful trainings in the Educational Service Cooperatives (ESCs) around the state, Arkansas Transition Services (ATS) is off to a great start in the new school year. ATS staff presented three sessions at the LEA Academy in an effort to raise awareness about our services to newer special education supervisors and as a reminder to districts that have not used ATS services recently. One of the sessions included **Communicating Interagency Relationships and Collaborative Linkages for Exceptional Students (CIRCLES)**, during which four of our district leadership teams presented their success stories. In January, we hope to recruit five or six additional districts who wish to receive training on CIRCLES as we scale up this practice.
- ATS held a Universal Design for Learning (UDL) training September 26. The training reached maximum capacity for registration!
- On August 21 and 22, we attended “Training to Work with Individuals who are DeafBlind”. We learned a great deal and have a better understanding of what DeafBlindness is as well as our role in transitioning individuals from high school to adult life. We are continuing to work with Children And Youth with Sensory Impairments (CAYSI) in an effort to help with the transition process and to raise awareness for students and their families.
- In our continued efforts to help districts establish Transition Classes or enhance current Transition Classes to include a work experience component, we held another meeting with current OWL schools’ teachers and special education supervisors. Updates, many resources and program ideas were shared. Policies within their programs were discussed in an effort to help other districts in the development of their policies.
- The premiere of the work completed by the 2019 Film Camp attendees will be shown at the Ron Robinson Theater on November 13. Mr. Joey Travolta will be on hand to introduce their work and congratulate students on a job well done.
- At the end of October, the ATS crew will attend the 2019 DCDT conference in Seattle. We will be there not only to learn what is going on around the country and gather new strategies and resources to benefit students in Arkansas, but to support one of our own districts that will be presenting and promote the 2020 DCDT conference that will take place in Little Rock!
- We are very excited about the upcoming training we will receive on self-determination, on one of the predictors of positive post-school outcomes. A team from the KU Center on Developmental Disabilities will provide this training on the Self-Determined Learning Model of Instruction (SDLMI). We will then train a select 6 to 10 districts in the spring and they will implement in the fall of 2020. The SDLMI is an evidence-based practice which has been recently updated and includes a new assessment.