

**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), April 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:

Alignment Activities	Cross Unit Collaborations
<p>Additional Targeted Support Trainings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2/5/19 Crowley's Ridge Educational Service Cooperative (Harrisburg) ● 2/6/19 Arkansas Department of Education - Special Education Unit (Little Rock) ● 3/6/19 ATS Training with Arkansas Collaborative Consultants 	<p>Division of Learning Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Student Support Services ● Special Education Unit ● State Personnel Development Grant ● State Systemic Improvement Plan Coordinator <p>Division of Public School Accountability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Federal Programs ● Standards and Systems Support Unit
<p>RTI @ Work 2-day Event at UAFS</p>	<p>SPDG, SSIP, Special Education Director, Educational Renewal Zones</p>
<p>Strategic Performance Management Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1/4/19 Performance Measures Overview ● 2/1/19 High Reliability Schools: Leading and Lagging Indicators & Alignment to the Six Systems ● 3/1/19 High Reliability Schools: Effective Teaching in Every Classroom 	<p>Agency-wide/All Divisions</p>
<p>Strategic Performance Management Realignment Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2/22/19 ● 3/1/19 	<p>Agency-wide/Subcommittee</p>

<p>Arkansas Collaborative Consultant (ACC) Initiative Alignment Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1/9/19 ● 3/6/19 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Arkansas Behavior Support Specialists ● Arkansas Co-Teaching Project ● Arkansas Consultant for Students with Traumatic Brain Injury ● Arkansas Consultant for Speech-Language Pathology ● Arkansas Dispute Resolution ● Arkansas Transition Services ● Children and Youth with Sensory Impairment ● Easterseals Arkansas Outreach Program and Technology Services ● Educational Audiology/ Speech Pathology Resources for Schools ● Educational Services for the Visually Impaired ● Special Education Monitoring Unit ● State Personnel Development Grant ● State Systemic Improvement Plan Coordinator
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The report for Indicator 17: State Systemic Improvement Plan was completed on 3/30/19 for FFY 17-18.

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:

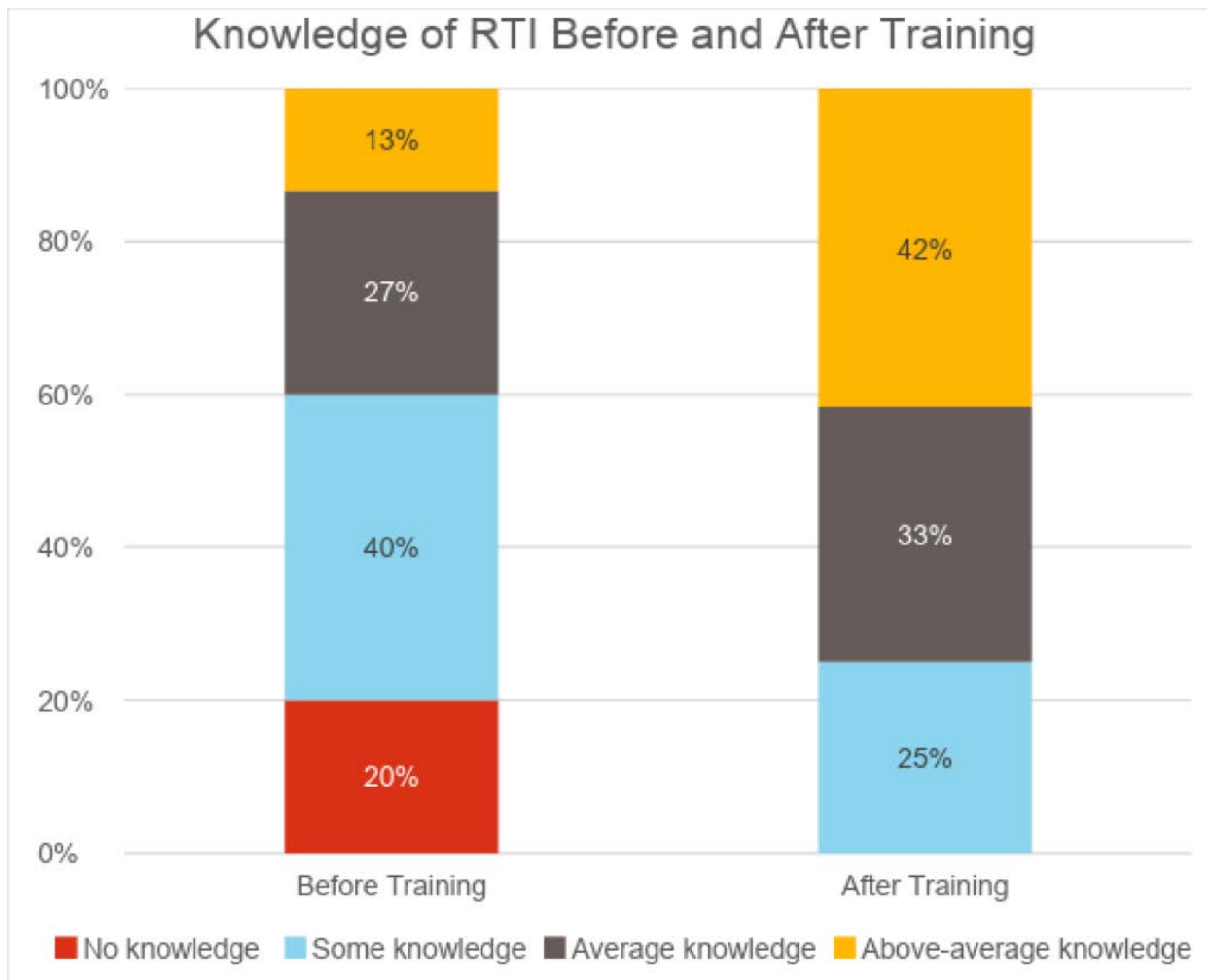
The State Personnel Development Grant team placed a strong emphasis on Positive Behavioral Supports and Intervention (PBIS) training from January to March of 2019. Collectively, over 250 participants from Little Rock, Mt. Vernon/Enola, Cutter Morning Star, Pulaski County and Drew Central school districts learned about the following topics:

- An overview of PBIS
- The purpose of PBIS and how PBIS fits within a RTI framework
- The philosophy of PBIS Including essential components
- How to form District and Building Level PBIS teams
- Identify the commitments for training and implementation
- What to do when students need more than Tier I PBIS supports

The SPDG team partners with Arkansas State University’s Center for Community Engagement to provide PBIS training and implementation coaching.

The SPDG team continues to commit to developing resources and tools for all stakeholders. Recently ADE approved PBIS Tier I Modules for the RTI Arkansas website. All 17 Tier I modules went through a cross-divisional review process of feedback, modifications, and approval. Stakeholders will be able to access these modules by the start of the 2019-2020 school year.

A parent mentor from the Center for Exceptional Families (TCFEF) worked with SPDG team members, American Institutes for Research (AIR), and ADEs Family and Community Engagement team to create a training module for engaging Families and Communities in the RTI process. A pre and post assessment survey was distributed in connection with each training that focused on the knowledge level of participants on the topic of RTI. The training focuses on the essential components of Response to Intervention (RTI) and embeds resources for families, community members, and educators. The following data is a reflective snapshot from the survey results gathered for this activity.



The State Implementation Team completed an assessment tool known as the State Capacity Assessment (SCA) in February 2019. The SCA is designed to support scaling up of evidence-based practices (EBP). The EBP selected for this assessment is RTI.

The assessment examined the following components of state capacity:

1. State Management Team Investment
 - a. Implementation Role and Functions
 - b. Coordination and Implementation
 - c. Leadership
2. Systems Alignment
 - a. Implementation Guidance Documents
 - b. State Design Team
3. Commitment to Regional Implementation Capacity
 - a. Resource for Regional Implementation Capacity
 - b. Support for Regional Implementation Team Functioning

In March 2016, the state's total score was 50% of the indicators in place. In July 2017, the state's total score was 42% of the indicators in place. In February of 2019, the state's total score was 70%. The state met its short-term goal of an increase of 10%. System Alignment remains as an area of focus with additional emphasis placed on ADE's Commitment to Regional Implementation Capacity for RTI.