

**Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Office of Special Education
Advisory Council for the Education of Children with Disabilities
Curriculum and Assessment, April 2023**

Inclusive Education Presentations

Inclusive education trainings have continued throughout the spring. Multiple day-long Learning for All trainings have been provided at regional educational service cooperatives. There have also been online trainings for school administrators and other staff. Several short presentations have been provided in districts to help educators understand why the state is moving in this direction and how to have successful implementation. OSE staff will also provide a day of training for the state's math specialists in April.

All In: Inclusive Education Professional Development

Inclusive education trainings are being developed for this coming summer. One option will be for all educators and a separate option will be for teachers who support students with complex support needs. Feedback from this year's training has been utilized in the development of the new training.

Inclusive Education Toolkit

The OSE is creating an inclusive education toolkit. The toolkit will provide resources for parents, teachers, and administrators describing why inclusive education is important and how the state is supporting districts in moving in this direction. The toolkit will contain videos and print resources.

MIDAS Grant

The DESE Office of Special Education (OSE) has been awarded a federal grant in the amount of \$2,145,418 to develop resources for students who participate in the state's alternate assessment or previously participated in the alternate assessment. Making Improved Decisions for Students on the Cusp of Alternate Assessment Participation Using Multiple Measures of Academic Achievement from Multiple Sources (MIDAS) will work directly with educators and students in Arkansas, North Carolina, and West Virginia, with Arkansas being the lead state. The MIDAS leadership team met with the leadership teams from the other states and the National Center of Educational Outcomes for Students with Disabilities in West Virginia on February 13. Plans are in place to start online focus groups for teachers and classroom observations this spring and in the fall of 2023.

Alt ELPA Monitoring

The new English Language Proficiency Assessment for English learners with the most significant cognitive disabilities (Alt ELPA) is being administered in the state's schools. Staff from the OSE have participated in the DESE's assessment monitoring process by doing many onsite observations of the new assessment being administered.

IDEA and the Arkansas Dyslexia Law

This spring the OSE Curriculum and Assessment group has provided trainings for dyslexia specialists from around the state to make sure students with disabilities receive dyslexia intervention, if needed, and that the intervention aligns with the student's disability-related needs.