Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Special Education Unit Advisory Council for the Education of Children with Disabilities Arkansas Transition Services, January 2021

- Arkansas Transition Services (ATS) has completed three Transition Assessment Modules that share basic information to participants on the assessment selection process, employment/education training assessments, and independent living skills assessments. We have almost completed the fourth module that focuses on transition assessments for students with complex needs.
- ATS partnered with the University of Kansas and the State Systemic Improvement Plan to give 2300 students access to the Self-Determination Inventory, an online assessment that is part of the evidence-based practice, Self-Determined Learning Model of Instruction. The first round of assessments resulted in 889 students completing the Inventory. Data analyses will be done Dr. Alfred Daviso with Ohio State University has been our featured presenter in a series of webinars on different apps to use for transition planning. Topics so far have included: Introduction to choosing apps using Substitution, Augmentation, Modification and Redefinition model (SAMR) and Technological Pedagogical Content Knowledge model (TPACK) models; Apps for employment and job seeking skills; Apps for College readiness and post-secondary education. The next one (Feb. 4) will be on Apps for Self-Determination and Independent Living Skills
- ATS completed a Public Service Announcement Project with Joey Travolta of Inclusion Films and eight students. After a series of four sessions on voting rights and responsibilities, script writing, acting exercises, filming exercises and editing, a final product was ready. The PSA was shared on several websites and was featured on KTHV's "The Vine."
- ATS completed seven Person-Centered Planning meetings for CAYSI's pilot program aimed at improving outcomes for students with deaf-blindness. We are currently working to follow through on all action plans for these students.
- ATS held a "Meeting of the Minds" with schools who are currently implementing work experience programs--working to collaborate and connect them with schools who want to provide work experience programs (even in pandemic times). Districts shared the innovative work they are doing, from virtual work experiences to virtual agency connections.
- Communicating Interagency Relationships and Collaborative Linkages for Exceptional Students (CIRCLES) schools are gearing up for virtual Student Level Team meetings in which students will present goals and future plans to agencies and agencies in turn will share information and guidance to assist students in reaching those goals. One of the first CIRCLES participants in Harrisburg has graduated, participated in Project Search, and is now working full-time at St. Bernard's Hospital. She just purchased a brand-new car! We will hold a refresher training in January or February for districts who were first trained January 2020, but have not had a chance to implement due to COVID-19.
- ATS continues to provide remote file reviews and virtual technical assistance and professional development for all school districts.