Division of Elementary and Secondary Education – Office of Special Education Advisory Council for the Education of Children with Disabilities Arkansas Transition Services, July 2022

- We have completed additional PoPuP PD sessions on setting independent living skills goals, accessing different transportation options, and how to access various tools on the Arkansas Transition Services website, which will be on our website soon.
- With the help of individuals who attended the Video Modeling training ATS hosted Summer 2021 along with Dr. Ryan Kellems of Brigham Young University, ATS has completed ten different examples of video modeling. These examples are available to educators for teaching new skills to their students.
- Six schools participating in the Self-Determined Learning Model of Instruction completed implementation of this intervention in May 2022. We will soon begin gathering and analyzing data in conjunction with the University of Kansas.
- The Arkansas Transition Services group completed development of two professional learning opportunities and training for two summer sessions that will be held at every educational cooperative. The two sessions will be Secondary Transition Compliance Basics and Best Practices and Promoting Inclusive Practices through the PISA (Predictor Implementation School Assessment). We also revised content and tools for an updated Transition Class Guidance training which was held July 13. ATS will provide follow-up for all districts who attended the training.
- A transportation training in conjunction with Rock Region Metro was held at Parkview High School for local districts and agency personnel. They learned about transportation apps, scheduling and route planning. Additionally, they participated in some action planning for implementation of transportation training in the classroom next school year.
- Twenty seven students from around the state participated in Film Camp, April 25-29, at University of Arkansas Pulaski Technical College (UAPTC) in North Little Rock. Three teams, led by Inclusion Films instructors, produced a positive short film and a public service announcement while engaging in all aspects of the film industry. Each attendee was interviewed on camera by Joey Travolta. Attendees also participated in an animation class provided by a UAPTC instructor. We are excited to announce the premiere event will be October 6, 2022, in the auditorium at UAPTC in North Little Rock.
- College Bound Arkansas was held June 27-29, 2022 at the University of Central Arkansas with 19 students in attendance. Campers stayed in dorms and attended sessions in order to explore available supports that will help ensure success if they choose a post-secondary education. Sessions included a mock class, self-determination—including implementation of some aspects of the Self-Determined Learning Model of Instruction presented by University of Kansas professor, Dr. Sheida Raley--financial aid, organizational skills, mental health, social life on a college campus, agency services, and recreational activities in the evenings.
- Three members of the Arkansas Transition Services Team attended the Division of Career Development and Transition conference May 14-17 in Myrtle Beach, SC. We were able to attend many valuable sessions including transition assessments, Universal Design for Transition, and Digital Resource Mapping. This international conference will be in Little Rock in November 2-5, 2022, and has many submissions from Arkansas teachers! The Arkansas Transition Summit will be held the morning of November 2 in a slightly different format, but still providing valuable information for ATS teams.
- We are excited to announce that Communicating Interagency Relationships and Collaborative Linkages for Exceptional Learners (CIRCLES) was funded through the Institute for Education Sciences (IES)! We will soon begin recruiting thirty schools in Arkansas to be trained for implementation of this three-tiered approach to interagency collaboration.
- Six different districts agreed to participate in a Post School Outcomes Data Collection pilot which will begin this summer and continue for two additional summers. School personnel were recently trained and provided with resources to begin a new way of collecting post-school outcomes data. This will involve trained personnel personally contacting leavers from the previous school year for three summers and asking a series of questions that will help identify more specific post-school outcomes for a greater number of students. We hope the results of the pilot will show that when school personnel make the contact to former students, those students are more likely to answer the survey and give us better data to drive decisions and to improve programs within Arkansas schools.