Division of Elementary and Secondary Education – Office of Special Education Advisory Council for the Education of Children with Disabilities Arkansas Transition Services, October 2023

- The Film Camp Premiere was held October 3 at the University of Arkansas Pulaski Technical College. Twenty-five students and their families, as well as many teachers, and several from the public, attended the event. The three short films developed within the theme, "Tales of the Grave," were shown on the big screen and the talents of the teams were quite evident as the films were quite creative and entertaining. A special showing was held in Hot Springs on October 4, prior to the LEA Academy. The Arkansas Transition Services team also presented on Film Camp and College Bound Arkansas at the LEA Academy to raise awareness and increase attendance to these camps.
- We now have 33 schools that will be part of the Communicating Interagency Relationships and Collaborative Linkages for Exceptional Students (CIRCLES) project. Some schools will implement CIRCLES, and some will be trained in a variety of transition assessments. A second cohort will take place in the spring.
- Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, Career and Technical Education, and Arkansas Transition Services held a Summer CTE Camp July 20-24, at the Saline County Career Technical Center in Benton. Instruction and skills competition in welding, construction, medical sciences, and automotive were provided during the camp. Sessions were also held on career readiness, self-determination, workbased learning, and career exploration. The Arkansas Workforce Services Career bus was also brought in. All students reported that the camp was beneficial and raised their awareness of Career and Technical Education courses. We will follow these students to determine if they enroll in those courses in the future.
- Arkansas Transition Services is finalizing a set of questions for parents to use during IEP meetings to gain more information while planning transition services. The original set of questions was acquired during a session at the Division of Career Development and Transition conference in Little Rock in 2022. The questions have been adapted to better fit Arkansas and we plan for schools to use the questionnaire in future meetings with parents. The goal is for the tool to increase family engagement during IEP meetings.
- Arkansas Transition Services is helping recruit participants for the Goal Setting Challenge app study, Examining the Initial Efficacy of the Goal Setting Challenge App: Impacts of Technology-Delivered Self-Determination on Secondary/Transition Outcomes. The study will compare the effects of the GSC App on the outcomes of 10th and 11th graders with disabilities to a control group who conducts business as usual and to a group where teachers deliver the Self-Determined Learning Model of Instruction (SDLMI).
- Members of Arkansas Transition Services will present sessions at the Division of Career Development and Transition Conference in Nevada October 18-20 on our assessment graphic organizers, College Bound Arkansas, CIRCLES, and videos that were created to show the difference between high school and post-secondary education.
- Arkansas Transition Services is planning for the February Cadre meeting for local transition teams. Our focus will be on work-based learning programs.