Newsletter

Welcome Back to Another School Year

Welcome to the 2024-25 school year. I would like to start out by introducing you to some new staff.

Ms. Ta'Tianna Lee is our administrative specialist. She joined us over the summer and is your first contact when you call the office. Ta'Tianna is currently working on her bachelor's degree and has a young daughter. You can reach Ta'Tianna at 501-916-3219 or tllee3@ualr.edu

Dr. Laura Goadrich is the new co-director of IDEA Data & Research. Dr. Goadrich will be working with me over the next year to take over as director on July 1, 2025. She came to us from DESE Learning Services and previously served as the State's NAEP Coordinator. She has a wealth of data knowledge and strong analytical skills which will enhance the Office and the services we provide to LEAs. You can reach Dr. Goadrich at laura.goadrich@ade.arkansas.gov.

Good News, but you have work to do.

The good news is there are no changes to the data you are submitting.

However, there are plenty of things you need to remember to update in eSchool before Cycles 2-9 kick off October 1.

Personnel to Student

- Linking students and staff in the school age or early childhood modules **MUST** be updated annually.

  - You **MUST** add new staff to staff information so you can add them to the Sped Employee module.

  - You cannot link a teacher or speech path to a student in the School Age or Early Childhood screens unless they are in sped employee.

  - **ALL lead teachers (folder holders) and speech paths MUST be updated in the student screens for School Age and Early Childhood.** This information is used with monitoring and tracks speech pathologist caseloads.

Sped Employee and LEA Supervisors

- LEA Supervisors, even those housed and/or paid through the cooperatives, MUST be in the sped employee data for each district which they serve and the FTE is appropriately broken out among them.

  - LEA Supervisors and EC Coordinators are to have a Title Code 01 with a certification code of E.

  - Other administrators are coded as a 02 with certification code E.

  - License endorsement codes information must be in the licensure/endorsement field.

  - **Failure to code LEA Supervisors correctly can result in a loss of funds**

- Make sure you remove any personnel no longer with the LEA.

  - Making personnel in active in staff information does not remove them from Sped Employee.

  - Open their Sped Employee record and delete the rows.

  - You can run the employee listing report under registration in eSchool to verify who currently has a Sped employee record.

Alternate Port/Assessment Fields in the School Agew Module

- **MUST be updated to ensure students are pulling in to the correct assessment**

  - Students entering grade 3 will need to be updated from NA to ALMS if they are taking DLM.

  - EL students who are taking both Alt ELPA and DLM should be marked Both

  - Students in Grade 11, 12, or staying beyond and participated in DLM in high school should be coded with PAAHS. This ensures they will not be pulled into an end of course (EOC) exam.

Alternate Pathway to Graduation

- Students in grades 9-12 whose IEP indicates they are on the alternate pathway to graduation **MUST** be flagged on the SIS/Misc Items Screen in eSchool. This flag should not be removed.

- A student's record in eschool should not be marked until the enter Grade 9.

- Only students in grades 9-12 who are taking the alternate assessment (DLM) are eligible to receive an alternate diploma (alternate pathway to graduation).

- If you remove a student from the alternate assessment (high school) or remove the alternate pathway flag, the experience course codes will not transfer credits to a regular diploma and it could affect the LEAs 4-year graduation cohort rate.

Cycle 7 Review

- **Cycle 7 review opens in MySped Resource on September 1, 2024 and Closes September 30, 2024**

- All data must be corrected in MySped Resource and eSchool should be updated where appropriate. You cannot update last year's referrals in eSchool.

- If you have zero referral records or zero discipline records and it is correct, you MUST email Dr. Fields (jafields@ualr.edu) or Albert Kyei-Mensah (akyeimensah@ualr.edu) stating the data is valid. Failure to notify us that the data is valid may affect your annual performance report determination and could result in a finding of non-compliance.

- Some data sets are linked. For example, early childhood exits and outcomes. If you add a record with one of the four exit reasons linked to outcomes, a new error will occur until you enter the outcomes.

While we do cross reference grade 12 students with cycle 4 data, we do not know if other student records are missing or if a student's record is incorrect. We are looking for things that will affect federal reporting.

- You are responsible for reviewing your data and **NOT** relying on the items we can identify as having issues.

  - For example, a student has 5 disciplinary records totaling 15 days of OSS, we will take at face value. We do not know if the 15 days is correct or if someone in the district entered it incorrectly.

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SURE YOUR DATA IS CORRECT!

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Process for Requesting Scantron Survey Forms has Changed

To request Family Survey Scantron Forms fill out the request form on the OSE [website](#) under the related links heading.
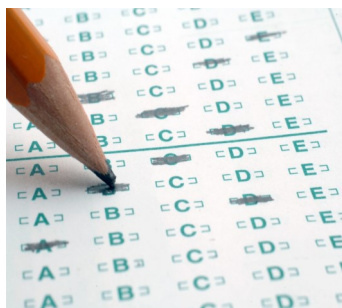
When sending forms to IDEA Data & Research remember we cannot scan a photocopy. All photocopies MUST be entered into the family survey online site by the LEA.

If you need your online Family Survey Passcode reach out to Ta'Tianna for assistance.

IDEA Data & Research Office
UA Little Rock
2801 S. University Ave
Stabler Hall - Suite 406
Little Rock, AR 72204
(501) 916-3219

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

- Data Entry Training for eSchool and MySped Resource is being offered virtually at this time.

- Training can be scheduled for an individual or group for your LEA.

Please refer to ASTIS for dates and times. ASTIS is located on the [ARKSPED Portal](#) page.

Watch for Commissioner's Memo for details about Cycle 4 and Cycle 7 webinars.

Questions about training opportunities?

Reach out to

Khala Quarles

(501) 916-3219 or kpquarles@ualr.edu

Important Resources

IDEA Data & Research Office
UA Little Rock
2801 S. University Ave
Stabler Hall - Suite 406
Little Rock, AR 72204
(501) 916-3219

DIS/APSCN
(501) 682-HELP (4357) Option 3
1-800-435-7989 Option 3
DIS.CallCenter@arkansas.gov (24 hour email)

Special Education Home Page
https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/offices/special-education

Important links from the Special Education home page:

The IDEA Data & Research web page (https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/Offices/special-education/data-research) is where you can find links to the
- Data Dictionaries
- User Guides (in MySped Resource under Support)
- Training Opportunities
- DATA Talk video series
- Recorded webinars, and more.

Please visit regularly as we are always adding new information.

ARKSPED Portal
A secured web portal where LEAs review and submit data to the ADE via MySped Resource. There is also a link to the **School Age and Early Childhood Family Outcomes Survey.**
Click here to visit the ARKSPED Portal

Just for Fun Recipe

Garlic Bites (Keto Friendly)

Ingredients:
- **1 ½ cups shredded mozzarella cheese**
- **2 tablespoons cream cheese**
- **1 cup almond flour**
- **1 large egg**
- **1 teaspoon baking powder**
- **2 cloves garlic, minced**
- **2 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted**

1 teaspoon dried parsley

Instructions:.
1. **Preheat Oven:** Preheat your oven to 400°F (200°C). Line a baking sheet with parchment paper or a silicone baking mat.
2. **Melt Cheese:** In a microwave-safe bowl, combine the shredded mozzarella and cream cheese. Microwave in 30-second intervals, stirring in between, until the cheeses are melted and well combined. This usually takes about 1 to 1 ½ minutes total.
3. **Mix Ingredients:** In a large bowl, mix together the almond flour, egg, and baking powder. Then add the melted cheese mixture to the bowl and stir until well combined.
4. **Form Dough:** Use your hands or a spoon to form the dough into small bite-sized balls or mini rolls and place them on the prepared baking sheet.
5. **Prepare Garlic Butter:** In a small bowl, combine the minced garlic with the melted butter. Brush the garlic butter mixture generously over each dough ball.
6. **Season:** Sprinkle each bite with dried parsley, dried oregano, and a pinch of salt and pepper.
7. **Bake:** Bake in the preheated oven for 12-15 minutes, or until the bites are golden brown and firm to the touch.
8. **Cool and Serve:** Let the bites cool slightly before serving. Enjoy them warm as a tasty snack or side!