

## Alternative Pathway To A Diploma

Susan Waggener, AEEN  
Mr. Jim Tucker, Superintendent  
Col. Cary Shillcutt  
Jonathan Crossley, TOY

## History/GED

- Research to find why GED students are counted as “DROPOUTS” in Arkansas
- Arkansas Accountability Plan (Under No Child Left Behind) Filed With the U.S. Department of Education in 2003...Page 28
- GEDs Will Be Counted as DropOuts

## Arkansas School Laws

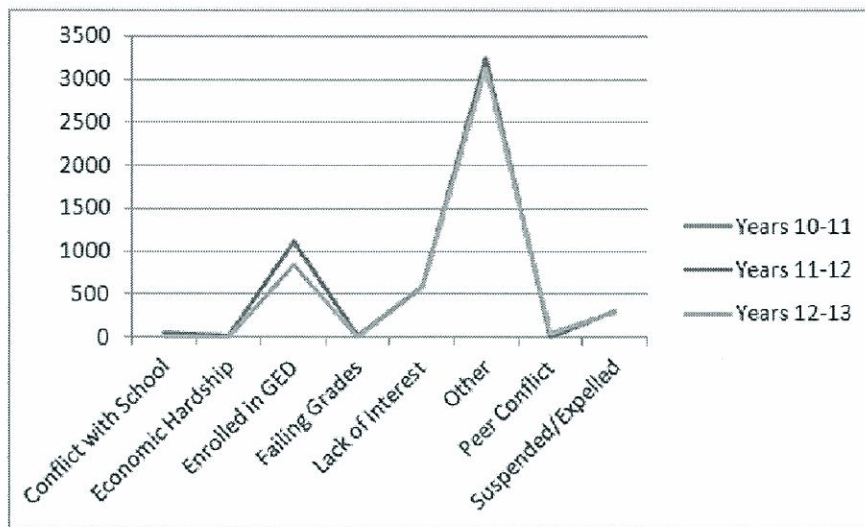
- 6-18-201 (2)(A)(B)(6) The adult education program shall report attendance of 16 & 17 year olds to the sending school district
- (7)(A) The adult education program shall require for continued enrollment 20 hours per week of class attendance & instruction
- (7)(A)(B)(10) In the event that a student does not attend class as mandated, the student shall reenroll in a public school within 5 days from the release date\*

## ESEA Waiver

- Goal 3 (pg. 12/13)
- Keep students engaged and on-track to graduate by increasing personalized support; ensuring multiple pathways are available to help students stay on track academically and accelerate learning. Using data to respond to students at-risk of failing.

## Dropouts and Withdrawals

(Arkansas Department of Education, 2014)



## Accountability Workbook

- The computation of completion rate is a four-year model that tracks students by cohort groups, beginning with a 9<sup>th</sup> grade cohort and following progress through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Students who completed the GED program were counted as dropouts and were not counted as high school graduates. (Critical Element 7.1)

## High School Completion Alternative Pathway To A High School Diploma

- The purpose of the High School/Alternative Pathway to Graduation Program is to provide youth, ages 16-21 inclusive, with an individualized learning plan and the educational services of the scope and rigor needed for the attainment of a Local High School Diploma.

## High School Completion/Graduation

- Increases the Graduation Rate
- Applicable to a student, ages 16-21, who has been enrolled three years and is not on track to graduate.
- Student remains enrolled in school.
- Student is recommended for the program after the high school counselor, principal, parent/guardian, review the student transcript (transcript is used as a baseline for planning the Individual Graduation Plan (IGP)).

## High School Completion/Graduation

- Student receives an Interest Inventory Assessment.
- Students IGP is reviewed and developed with Individualized Instruction.
- Student is assigned to a Counselor.
- Counselor tracks student to ensure IGP progress.
- Counselor can assign mentors or tutors as needed by the student.

## High School Completion/Graduation

- Program is student driven and skills based.
- Classes would correlate with the student interest inventory.
- Learning opportunities can be developed to fit the personal needs and interests of each student.
- Student meets the Proficiency Level with the Rigor of Algebra I and English I.

## High School Completion/Graduation

- Student will continue to receive transportation, meals, tutoring and guidance throughout the program
- District will continue to receive the per pupil funding and those funds can be applied to the GED/Career and Technical Courses

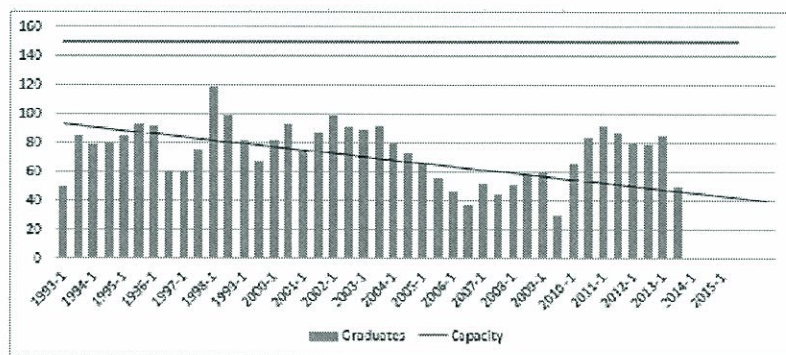
## High School Completion/Graduation

- District partners with community college for GED and career/technical classes.
- District may partner with the National Guard Youth Challenge
- An array of educational services may be included in the IGP including tutoring, workshops, work based and service learning projects, technical or occupational skills development and possible college credits
- Student graduates with a high school diploma on completion of their IGP.

## National Guard Youth Challenge

- Students who complete program currently receive a GED
- Students with a GED are not considered Tier 1 and it is very difficult to enlist in the Military\*
  - Enlistment standards will likely become more rigorous as the Military draws down

## YC Graduation Rates



## High School Completion and Alternative Pathway to a Diploma

- GOAL: The High School Completion Alternative Pathway to a Diploma and Graduation will increase the graduation rate by keeping students interested in school by engaging them in a personalized learning. This program will reduce the student dropout rate and increase the graduation rate.

## Alternative Pathway to Graduate

- Standard diplomas are offered in all 50 states.
- 37 states allow students to meet course work requirements with proficiency credit.
- 19 states award Honors/College Prep Diplomas.
- 11 states award Technical Diplomas.
- 14 states award "Other" Diplomas.



## Other Diplomas

- European Model diploma for students who complete a portion of their high school curriculum in a community college.
- Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Nevada, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia, Wisconsin, offer Other Optional Diplomas

## Conclusion

- Wrap up of presentation
- Q&A



School Year 2011-2012  
Dropout and Withdrawal Data  
Arkansas Department of Education

## Dropouts & Withdrawals by Race & Gender by Race

Dropout/ Withdrawal	Dropout Description	2 or More Races Total	Asian Total	Black Total	Hispanic Total	Native American/Native Alaskan Total	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Total	White Total	Male Total	Female Total	Student Total
12	Alcohol/ Drugs	0	0	0	1	0	0	5	5	1	6
7	Conflict with School	0	0	27	4	0	0	17	40	8	48
3	Deceased	0	0	17	5	0	2	43	48	19	67
8	Economic Hardship	0	0	1	7	0	0	10	13	5	18
1	Enrolled in another school	195	197	4,125	889	128	39	12,473	9,002	9,044	18,046
11	Enrolled in GED	7	6	205	76	5	2	818	652	467	1,119
4	Failing Grades	0	0	14	1	0	0	7	15	7	22
13	Health Problems	1	0	10	1	0	0	27	24	15	39
2	Incarcerated	4	2	144	27	4	0	110	232	59	291
6	Lack of Interest	4	2	208	72	7	1	299	371	222	593
14	Other	31	24	1,136	282	29	18	1,732	1,853	1,399	3,252
10	Peer Conflict	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	2	2	4
9	Pregnancy/ Marriage	0	0	4	5	1	0	27	1	36	37
5	Suspended or Expelled	2	1	98	24	1	3	174	256	47	303

School Year 2012-2013  
Dropout and Withdrawal Data  
Arkansas Department of Education

## Dropouts & Withdrawals by Race & Gender by Race

Dropout/ Withdrawal	Dropout Description	2 or More Races Total	Asian Total	Black Total	Hispanic Total	Native American/Native Alaskan Total	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Total	White Total	Male Total	Female Total	Student Total
12	Alcohol/ Drugs	0	0	10	1	0	0	0	6	5	11
7	Conflict with School	2	0	4	0	0	0	2	4	4	8
3	Deceased	0	0	21	3	0	1	55	61	19	80
8	Economic Hardship	0	0	0	2	0	0	4	4	2	6
1	Enrolled in another school	238	189	4,326	1,009	135	49	11,916	9,126	8,736	17,862
11	Enrolled in GED	10	4	165	73	5	3	578	512	326	838
4	Failing Grades	0	0	1	0	0	0	7	6	2	8
13	Health Problems	1	0	21	1	0	0	21	18	26	44
2	Incarcerated	4	0	119	20	4	0	111	202	56	258
6	Lack of Interest	10	6	213	75	4	3	273	352	232	584
14	Other	20	34	1,298	269	18	29	1,457	1,755	1,370	3,125
10	Peer Conflict	0	0	42	0	0	0	7	28	21	49
9	Pregnancy/ Marriage	2	0	2	4	1	0	9	0	18	18
5	Suspended or Expelled	3	1	107	29	5	3	145	243	50	293