Learning Services ALE Future Planning



Arkansas Department of Education

Debbie Jones, Assistant Commissioner

2014-15 ALE Statistics

- 10,966 ALE Students in Arkansas
- 2,781 Returned to traditional school
- 3060 Graduated after an ALE intervention any year
- 248 Received their GED
- 2926 Exited ALE in 2013-2014 and returned in 2014-15

2014-15 ALE Statistics

- \$4,383 per ALE FTE in 2014-2015
- Range from \$1.8 million to \$0 in the state
- 1 semester = .5 FTE
- Student must be enrolled in ALE for 20 consecutive days
- Total **\$24,025,594.00** distributed to districts for ALE enrollment.

More than a Statistic

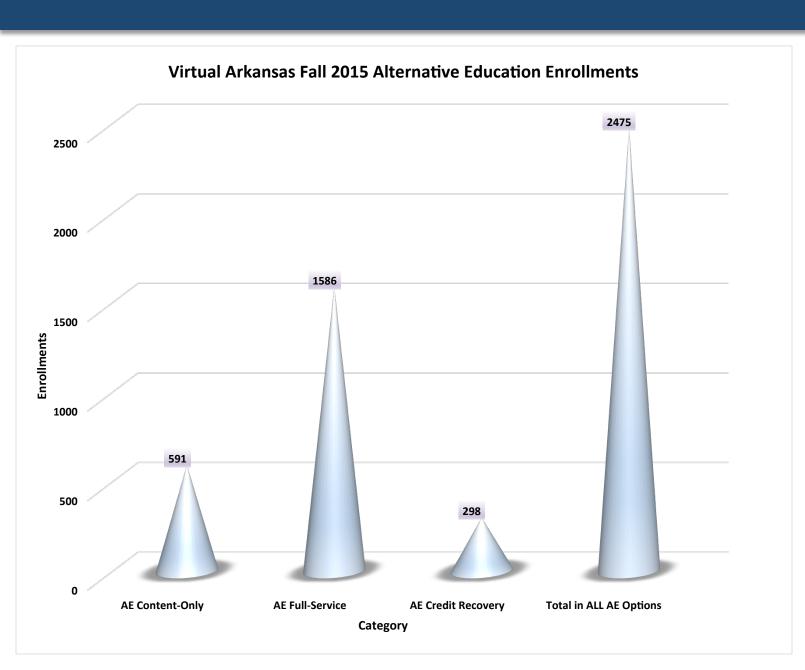
Goals of an Alternative Environment:

- Seeks to <u>eliminate traditional barriers</u> to learning for students whose academic and social progress are negatively affected by the student's personal characteristics or situation; and
- Is not a punitive environment but is one that is conducive to learning.



Non-traditional Environments

- Re-engagement programs:
 - Act 1260 Differentiated Pathway to HS Diploma
 - Arkansas National Youth Guard Challenge
 Program <u>LS-16-017</u>
- Focus on developing career pathway opportunities
- Real focus on graduating students will skills to pursue a career.





National Guard Youth Challenge

- Reengagement Opportunity for likely drop outs
- District retains ADM for pupil
- Opportunity to earn HS credit or GED
- Guidance for HS credit
- LS-16-017

More than a Statistic

- <u>Focus</u> is the success of each student not the paperwork.
- Become <u>knowledgeable</u> about successful alternative programs that produce successful results.
- Communicate all the pathways for students in need of alternative setting.
- Work collaboratively with state leaders.
- Be <u>strategic & responsive</u> to the needs of our districts.

Involve AE Leaders in the State

Create an ALE Strategic Planning Council:

- Create a committee that is knowledgeable of ALE but also progressive and willing to lead change.
- Survey sent to superintendents asking them to nominate a qualified candidate.
- 42 Applicants as of 9/11/15



ALE Strategic Planning Council Tasks

- Investigate current policies, procedures & practices
- 2. Investigate highly effective ALE programs
- 3. Make recommendations for creating model unit and programs in the state

Alternate Education

- AE Unit will continue to provide technical assistance.
- Standards through OSR visits will determine standards approval.
- AE Unit will work with Strategic Planning Council to evaluate current activity and explore changing.

Questions/Comments

