

1

# ALE's Role in Adequacy

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2

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## Alternative Learning Environment

3

- ▶ Brief overview
- ▶ Funding and Expenditure trends
- ▶ Student outcomes



## Alternative Learning Environment

4

- ▶ Created by Act 59/2<sup>nd</sup> Extraordinary Session of 2003
- ▶ Supplemental to matrix funding
- ▶ **Equity:** For schools to educate students who don't learn well in traditional environment



# ALE Students

5

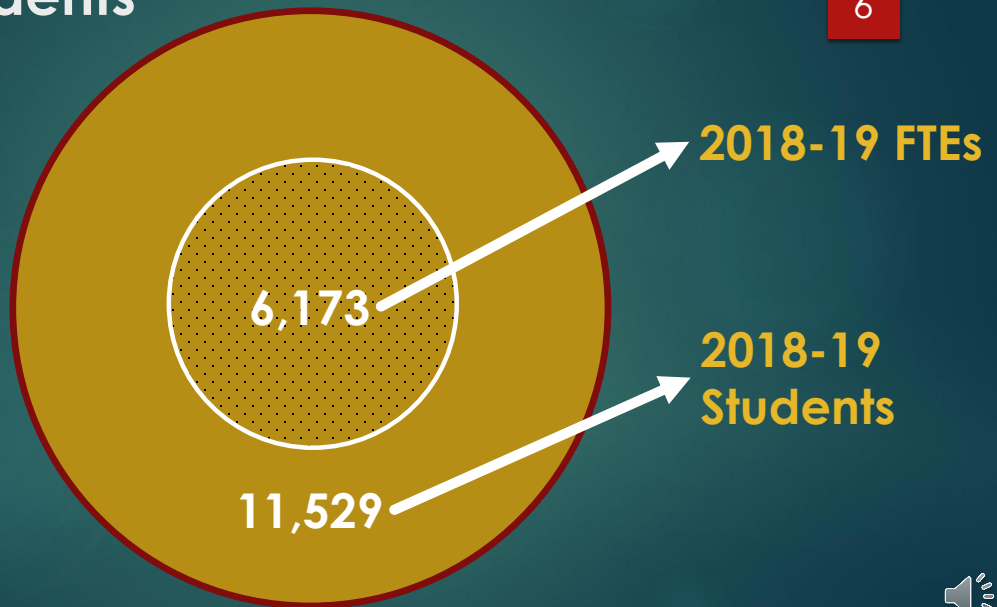
*Students cannot be placed in an ALE program for academic problems alone.*

- ▶ Abuse: physical, mental, or sexual
- ▶ Frequent relocation of residency
- ▶ Homelessness
- ▶ Inadequate emotional support
- ▶ Mental/physical health problems
- ▶ Pregnancy
- ▶ Single parenting
- ▶ Personal or family problems or situations
- ▶ Recurring absenteeism
- ▶ Dropping out of school
- ▶ Disruptive behavior



# ALE Students

6



# ALE Students

7

$$\text{FTE} = \frac{\text{ALE minute a day}}{360 \text{ minutes}} \times \frac{\text{ALE days a school year}}{178 \text{ days}}$$



# ALE Students by Grade Level

8

2018-2019



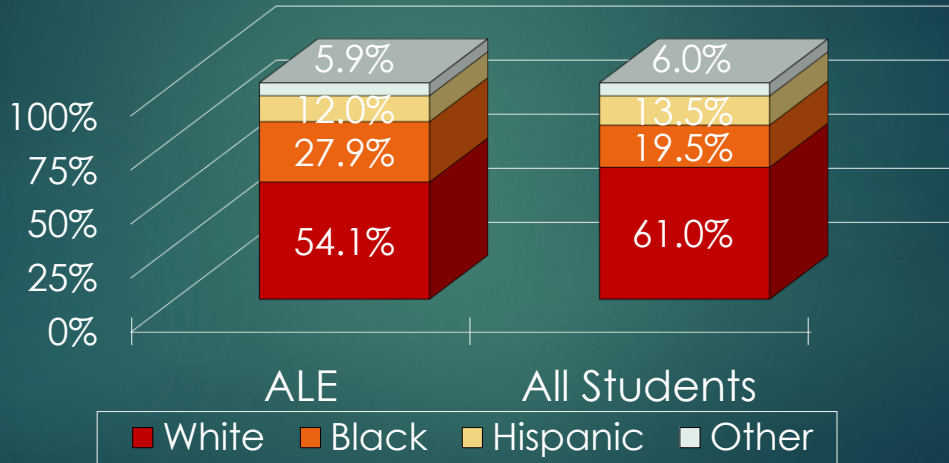
■ Individual Students ■ FTEs



# Student Demographics

9

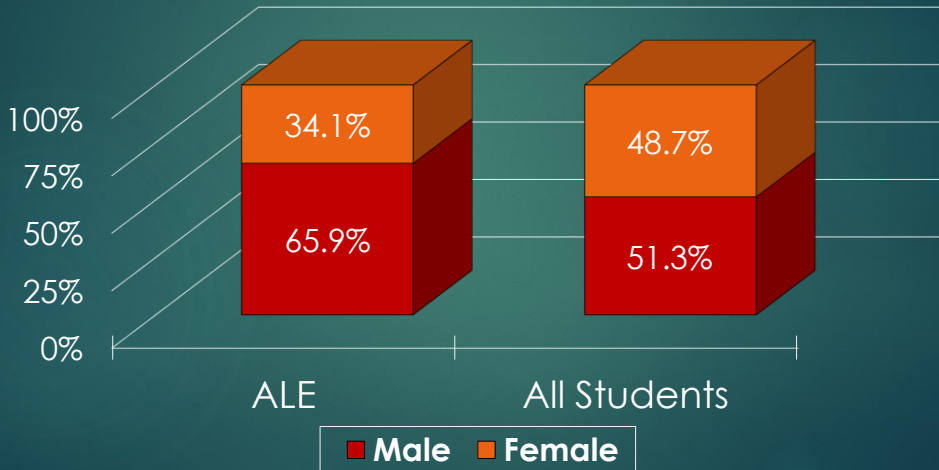
## Race/Ethnicity



# Student Demographics

10

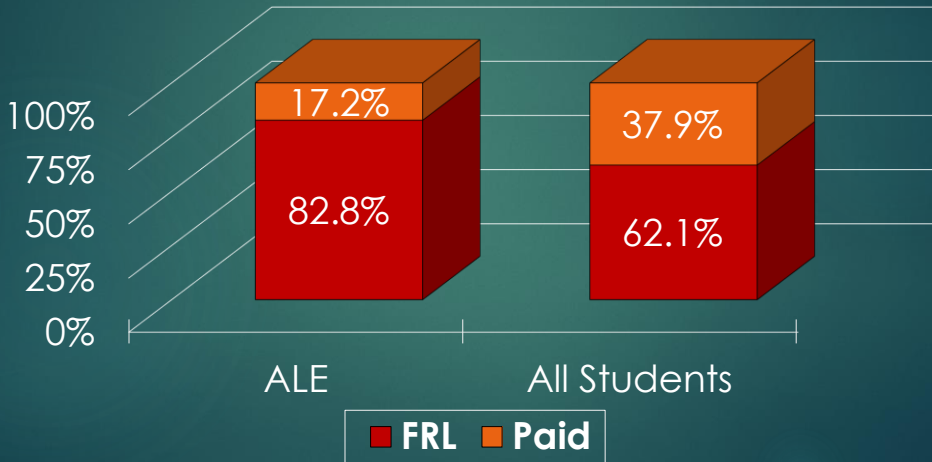
## Gender



# Student Demographics

11

## Poverty



# ALE Students

12

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## ALE Settings

13

- ▶ District run embedded or stand-alone
- ▶ District-based partnership or consortium
- ▶ ESC-run consortium
- ▶ Partner with higher education institution or technical institute



## No ALE Programs

14

• Armorel	• Lead Hill	• Ouachita
• Blevins	• Magnet Cove	• Palestine-Wheatley
• Deer/Mt. Judea	• Mountain View	• Parkers Chapel
• East Poinsett Co.	• Nevada	• Prescott
		• Spring Hill



## Teachers/Staff

15

Class Size Limits	Traditional Classroom	ALE Classroom
Kindergarten	20, or 22 w/aide	10, or 12 w/aide*
Grades 1-3	25	
Grades 4-6	28	
Grades 7-12	30	15, or 18 w/aide

\*Middle school programs that encompasses 5th and/or 6th grade mixed in with 7th and/or 8th grade may have a ratio of 15, or 18 with an aide



## ALE Teacher Salary

16

Legislative intent is to support one ALE teacher for 12 students, but ALE funding alone doesn't support that:

- ▶ **Matrix average teacher salary/benefits for 2019-20: \$67,127**
- ▶ **ALE per student funding \* 12: \$56,400**





# ALE Teacher Numbers

17

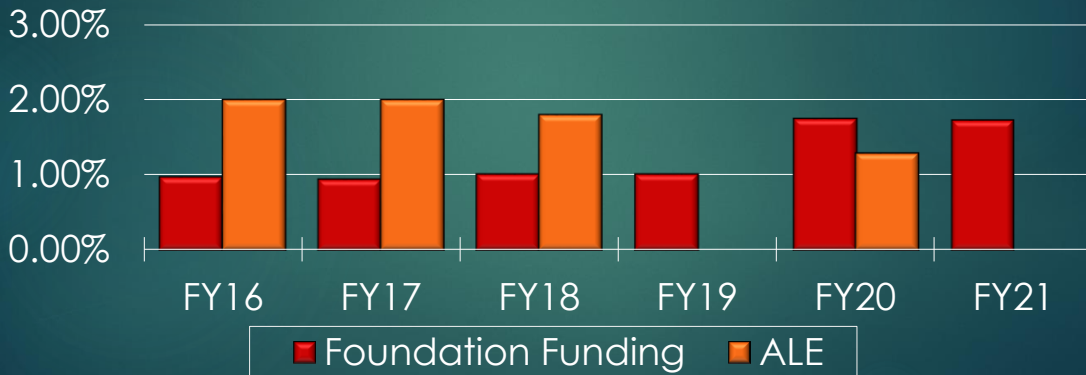
- ▶ Decreasing number of ALE FTE Teachers in school districts:
  - ▶ **2015-16:** 561.6 teachers / 330 parapro's
  - ▶ **2018-19:** 452.6 teachers / 286 parapro's



# Funding Increases

18

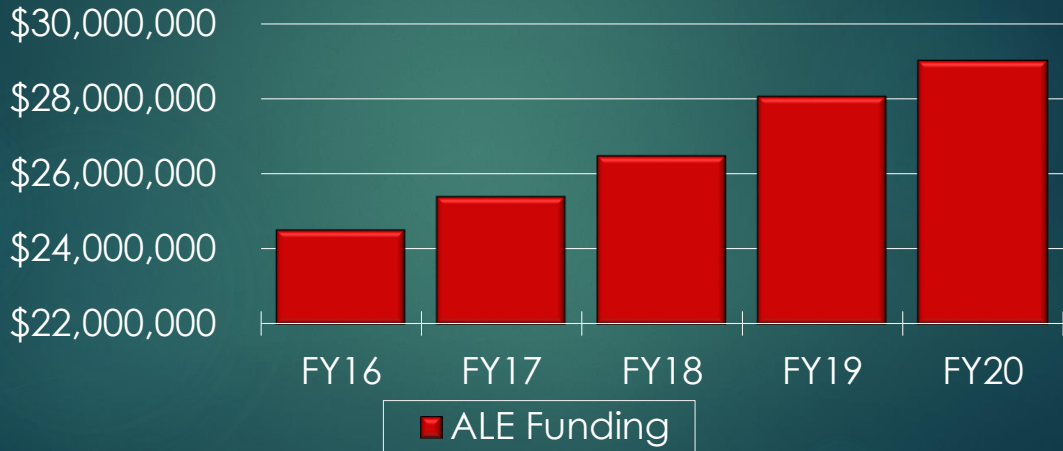
### Percentage Increases in Per Student Amount



# Total Funding

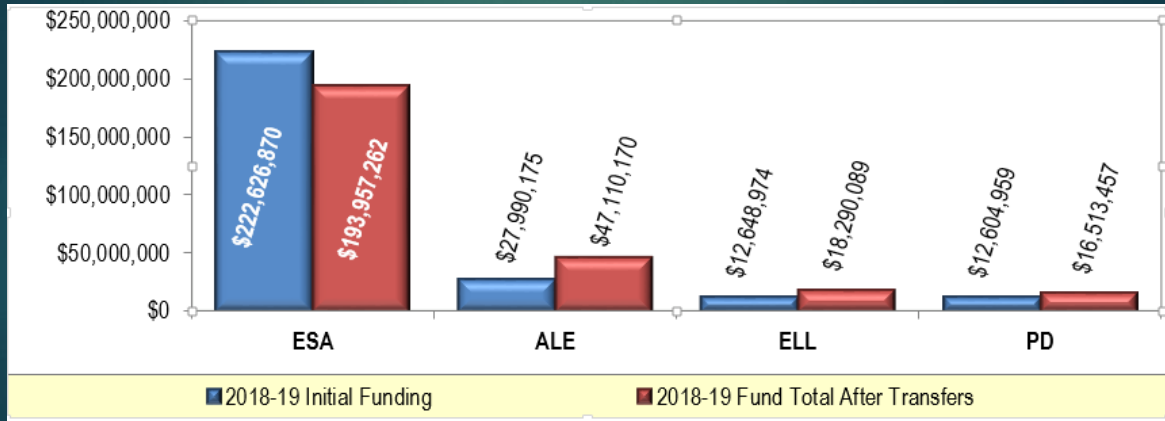
19

## ALE Funding



# Funding Amounts After Transfers

20



## Expenditures / Funding

21

	Per Student ALE Funding	Per Student Foundation Funding	Per Student ALE + Foundation	Per Student ALE Program Expenditures
2016-17	\$4,560	\$6,646	\$11,206	<b>\$10,633</b>
2017-18	\$4,640	\$6,713	\$11,353	<b>\$10,612</b>
2018-19	\$4,700	\$6,781	\$11,481	<b>\$10,169</b>



## Expenditures

22

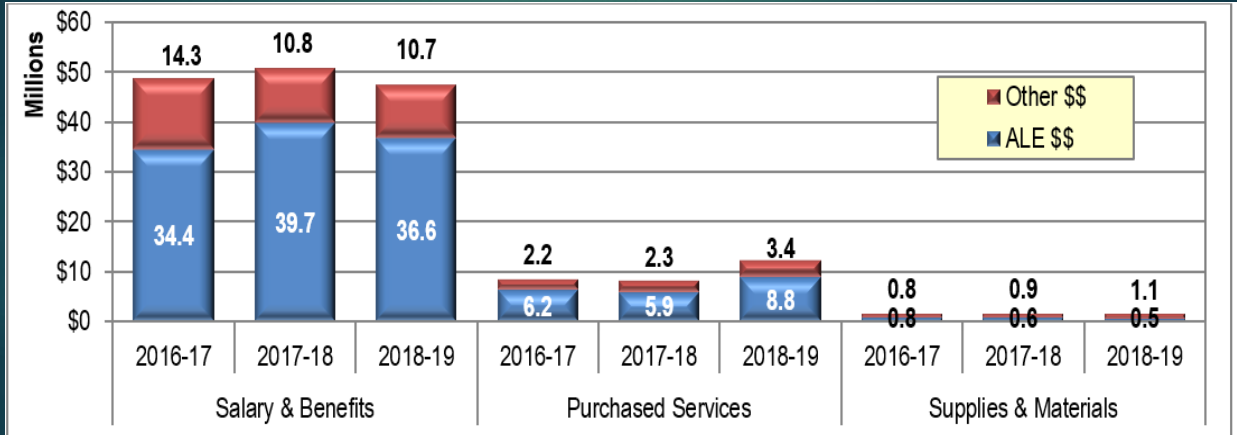
	Total Expenditures from ALE Categorical Funds*	Total Expenditures on ALE Programs Using Funds Other than ALE Categorical Funds	Total Expenditures on ALE Programs**
2018-19	<b>\$46,088,330</b> (75.0%)	<b>\$15,302,095</b> (25.0%)	<b>\$61,390,425</b>

Note: After transfers to and from other categoricals.



# Districts and Charter School ALE Expenditures

23

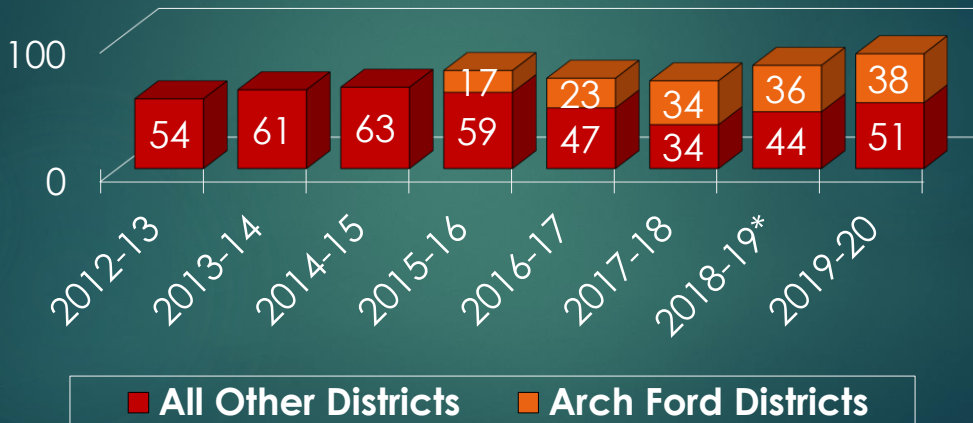


Note: The expenditures in the chart do not include transfers made from ALE funds to other categorical funds.

# ALE Consortia

24

## Districts Participating in ALE Consortia



## Variety of Costs

25

Self-reported data through BLR's survey of superintendents:

- ▶ Arch Ford ESC: \$4,535 / FTE
- ▶ Arkansas River ESC: \$5,455 / FTE
- ▶ School district-based consortia: \$6,310 / FTE
- ▶ STRIVE: \$8,000 / FTE



## Arch Ford ESC Consortium

26

- ▶ 2 types of programs: traditional and Hub
- ▶ Hub has 4 levels:
  - ▶ Bronze
  - ▶ Silver
  - ▶ Gold
  - ▶ Platinum



# Costs Vary Among Arch Ford Participating Districts

27

- ▶ Range from \$0 to \$5,709 (chart on page 17)
- ▶ Five districts pay more than \$4,700 per student ALE funding



# ALE Student Outcomes

28

Returned to a traditional educational environment

All Districts		Arch Ford Districts	
2,487	21.8%	327	15.5%



# ALE Student Outcomes

29

Graduates who received ALE intervention at any point during K-12

All Districts		Arch Ford Districts	
2,519	8.1% of all graduates	504	9.7% of all graduates



# ALE Student Outcomes

30

ALE Students Receiving a GED

All Districts		Arch Ford Districts	
135	1.2%	27	1.2%



# ALE Student Outcomes

31

Exited ALE in previous year returning to ALE in current year

All Districts		Arch Ford Districts	
2,980	25.8%	515	22.9%



# Outcomes

32

Exited ALE in current year and returned to ALE in current year

All Districts		Arch Ford Districts	
694	6%	88	3.9%





# ALE Student Outcomes

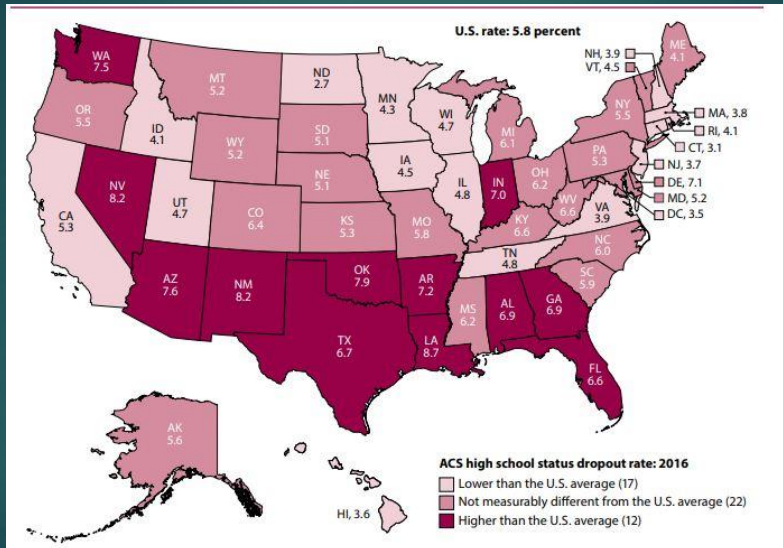
33

2018-19		District % Scoring 3 or 4		Arch Ford Districts Scoring 3 or 4	
# of Test Takers		Math	ELA	Math	ELA
ALE Students	4,617	8.6%	9.7%	9.2%	9.9%
Non-ALE Students	287,335	48.2%	45.2%	53.3%	49.4%



# ALE Student Outcomes

34



# ALE Student Outcomes

35

Percent of students in grades 9-12 dropping out of school:

- ▶ **2018-19 Non-ALE Students:** 1.2%
- ▶ **2018-19 ALE Students:** 12.1%
- ▶ **2018-19 Arch Ford districts' students:** 10.3%



36

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