

School Plan

Arkansas Virtual Academy District

Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement Plan

2009-2010

The mission of the Arkansas Virtual Academy (ARVA) is to support, guide, and assist families and colleagues in a positive way through teamwork to promote academic growth that leads to high achievement for the entire ARVA community. We will do this by keeping sight of our vision and embracing change through teamwork and good communication to assure family commitment to accomplish our purpose.

Grade Span:

Title I: Not Applicable

School Improvement:

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Priority 1: Administrative Support

Goal: The goal of the Arkansas Virtual Academy is to ensure that each school has the necessary tools to ensure that all students are performing at proficient or above on the Arkansas benchmark by the end of the 2013-14 school year.

Priority 2: School Safety

Goal: To provide parents and students with information and resources to establish safe on-line learning environments/communities and safely attend school sponsored events.

Priority 3: Wellness

Goal: The district will provide opportunities for students and families to have resources regarding living a healthy lifestyle with a goal to increase their overall wellness.

Priority 1: Provide administrative support for improving district wide math and literacy skills through the extended use of state and federal funds.

1. 2008-09 MAT 8 scores for Kindergarten indicate that these students have a strong foundation in math (average 61% NPR) and sounds and print (57 NPR). 2008-09 SAT10 scores for 1st grade students indicates that ARVA students have a strong foundation in math problem solving (58 NPR). However the reading scores indicate areas of deficit across 1st grade (44 NPR). ARVA will implement the HeapSprout program at a larger scale for the 2009-10 school year to address needed reading skills. 2008-09 SAT10 scores for 2nd grade students indicates that ARVA students have a strong foundation in math problem solving (53 NPR). However the reading scores indicate areas of deficit across 2nd grade (40 NPR). ARVA will implement the HeapSprout program at a larger scale for the 2009-10 school year to address needed reading skills.

Supporting Data:

2. Across 3rd through 8th grade ARVA students on average performed above the state average with the areas of Reading comprehension and Language. However, in the 8th, 7th, and 4th, ARVA students perform below the state average on the SAT 10 on the Math sections. The Scantron Achievement Series data indicates that students who took at least 2 achievement series assessments performed at the proficient or above level in the area of reading. We will continue to implement the use of Scantron Achievement assessments to provide point in time data on student performance throughout the year allowing us to provide immediate interventions. However, in 7th and 8th grade math scores on the state benchmark increased by 10% points and in 8th grade we saw an increase by 8% - those that performed at proficient or advance.
3. In summary, the intense focus on math deficits during the 08-09 school provided significant gains on the state benchmark exams. ARVA teachers will expand the focus on math to the student body as we move into a school wide Title I program. As we examined our

test scores there were strong gains in those students that were basic or below basic as reported on the 07-08 test scores, but we noticed a pattern of advanced and proficient students enter not making signicate gains or having some loss in performance. Therefore, ARVA teachers will implement targated focus across the entire student body and drill down on all levels of student performance. The focus will continue to be on improving student performance in math in the open response domains.

Goal The goal of the Arkansas Virtual Academy is to ensure that each school has the necessary tools to ensure that all students are performing at proficient or above on the Arkansas benchmark by the end of the 2013-14 school year.

Benchmark As established in the State of Arkansas' No Child Left Behind Annual Yearly Progress(AYP) Workbook, the Arkansas Virtual Academy students in grades K-5 will meet or exceed an AYP of 71.20 percent of the students proficient in Literacy, students in grades 6-8 will meet or exceed an AYP of 67.60 percent of the students proficient in Literacy; students in grades K-5 will meet or exceed an AYP of 70.00 percent proficient in Mathematics, and students in grades 6-8 will meet or exceed AYP of 64.55 percent proficient in Mathematics.

Intervention: Provide administrative support for both the Elementary and Middle school staff and students to increase focus on academic gains.				
Scientific Based Research: (1) Enhancing Professional Practice, A framework for Teaching, by Charlotte Danielson,1-127 (2003) (2) Reflective Practice to Improve Schools by York, Sommers, Ghere and Montie Pgs1-158 (2000) (3) Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Professional Development, (2005)				
Actions	Person Responsible	Timeline	Resources	Source of Funds
Staffing: One (1) FTE Highly qualified Title I Math Coach that will serve teachers, parents and students in grades Kindergarten through Eighth grade. This position will provide direct support for teachers by conducting instructional modeling sessions with students and parents. These sessions will provide ARVA teachers' new math instructional strategies and/or sharpen existing strategies that are utilized with students. This position will also work collaboratively with all staff, administrators, parents and community stakeholders to ensure that identified areas of academic need with mathematics are met. Action Type: Title I Schoolwide	Karen Ghidotti, Head of School	Start: 07/01/2009 End: 06/30/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Staff Title Teachers 	Title I - Employee \$11700.00 Benefits: Title I - Employee \$45000.00 Salaries: <hr/> ACTION BUDGET: \$56700
Professional development will be provided to enhance the knowledge, skills, and expectations necessary to increase student learning. Professional development will be guided around the thirteen focus areas: k-8 content area; instructional strategies, assessment; advocacy/leadership; systemic change process; standards, frameworks, and curriculum alignment; supervision; mentoring/coaching; educational technology; principles of learning/development stages; cognitive research; parent involvement; and building a collaborative learning community. The content of activities will be driven by the data disaggregation of state test scores, student attendance information and other data sources. State and federal professional development funds will be used for appropriate staff to attend conferences, workshops, in-services and other professional development opportunities. Funds will also be used for consultant fees, associated travel cost for conferences and workshops and materials and supplies that are needed to conduct or attend a professional development event. Funds may also be used to establish a professional resource center for teachers to have immediate access to high quality professional resources. Professional development may include training on utilized student programs such as, k12 curriculum,	Lisa Williams	Start: 07/01/2009 End: 06/30/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Staff Computers Outside Consultants Teachers Teaching Aids Title Teachers 	Title II-A - Purchased \$8305.24 Services: PD (State-223) - Purchased \$20460.00 Services: PD (State-223) - Materials & Supplies: \$7975.92 <hr/> ACTION BUDGET: \$36741.16

<p>Headsprout, Study Island, Scantron assessments, first aid and CPR, AETN IDEAS, Odyssey Math, Arkansas History, Elluminate, Curriculum Alignment and Gap Analysis. Title II A funds will be used to obtain professional development in the areas of technology such as, the use of Study Island, HeadSprout, and Elluminate. Professional development needs will be evaluated throughout the year by utilizing on-going student assessment tools and staff surveys and as needs arise, professional development will be utilized to address those identified needs. Action Type: Alignment Action Type: Collaboration Action Type: Professional Development Action Type: Program Evaluation Action Type: Special Education</p>				
<p>The ARVA administration will collaborate with school level administration and teachers to ensure that any student identified as Homeless within the guidelines of the McKinney-Vento Act will receive needed supplies and materials. Teachers will identify and refer students through the federal guidelines and needed services/materials will be provided. Action Type: Equity</p>	<p>Susan Underwood</p>	<p>Start: 07/01/2009 End: 06/30/2010</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrative Staff • Central Office • Teachers 	<p>Title I - Materials & Supplies: \$500.05</p> <hr/> <p>ACTION BUDGET: \$500.05</p>
<p>The Arkansas Virtual Academy will support school level implementation of appropriate components of Act 307 through parent information packets distributed at the start of the school year and as new students enroll, conducting parent involvement meeting through on-line web meetings to keep parents actively engaged; establish a volunteer resource book through the assistance of a parent booster club (PTA/PTO); an ARVA teacher will be compensated to serve as a parent facilitator for both schools in accordance with Act 603 of 2003; and the parent/student handbook will provide information on the process for resolving parental concerns. Parent surveys are conducted annually. Results from the 2007-08 parent survey indicated that 86% of parents feel they are recognized as a member of their students' education team; 71% of parents felt their parent/teacher conferences were useful; 95% of parent reported a high level of satisfaction with their child's teacher; 48% felt the school does a good job creating a school community; 95% of parents reported that they felt the teacher created and maintained a positive relationship with their child; 89% of the parents felt the teacher had a good understanding of the curriculum; 85% of the parents indicated they received timely information about school events; 85% of parents are satisfied with the amount of communication they have with their child's teacher; and 85% reported that school policies had been clearly communicated. Over 30 questions were asked in the survey, the above data only represents general questions regarding the school. Responses from the survey allow the school to be better informed about the service level to parents and students and identify areas that need the most attention to ensure a high level of parent satisfaction and engagement. Action Type: Parental Engagement</p>	<p>Tara Richardson</p>	<p>Start: 07/01/2009 End: 06/30/2010</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrative Staff • Teachers 	<hr/> <p>ACTION BUDGET: \$</p>

Action Type: Program Evaluation				
Administration will ensure that Title I Math Coach has the needed resources to performed job functions by providing local internet access, travel reimbursement to required staff development and other office meetings, reimbursement for home business phone and general office supplies. Action Type: Technology Inclusion	Karen Ghidotti	Start: 07/01/2009 End: 06/30/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District Staff Title Teachers 	Title I - Capital Outlay: \$2000.00 Title I - Materials & Supplies: \$10821.43 <hr/> ACTION BUDGET: \$12821.43
Special Education Contractual Services: Special Education services are provided through contractual services. Licensed professionals provide services outlined in a students' Individual Education Plan (IEP). Action Type: Collaboration Action Type: Special Education	Tara Richardson	Start: 07/01/2009 End: 06/30/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District Staff Outside Consultants 	Special Ed. IDEA: \$140626.59 <hr/> ACTION BUDGET: \$140626.59
Parent involvement is a vital component of both the success of the student and the school. ARVA administration will ensure that all levels of staff from the teachers to the general office personel understand how to reach out to and communicate with parents in order to build ties between parents and the school. Action Type: Collaboration Action Type: Parental Engagement Action Type: Professional Development	Karen Ghidotti, Head of School	Start: 07/01/2009 End: 06/30/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Staff District Staff Teachers 	<hr/> ACTION BUDGET: \$
ARVA administration will reach out to statewide programs that would possibly interact with in coming kindergarten students. Programs such as Head Start, HIPPY and Parents as Teachers, may have interacted with students and parents prior to enrolling in ARVA. Shared information between programs will enable ARVA teachers to provide additional support and services to these families. Action Type: Collaboration	Susan Underwood, Director of Operations	Start: 07/01/2009 End: 06/30/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Staff Community Leaders 	<hr/> ACTION BUDGET: \$
ARVA will use Title I funds to purchase materials and supplies to support activities prior to the start of the school day, during the adminsitration of required state testing. Action Type: Collaboration Action Type: Title I Schoolwide	Lisa Williams, Academic Admin	Start: 03/01/2010 End: 06/30/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Staff Teachers 	Title I - Materials & Supplies: \$8000.00 <hr/> ACTION BUDGET: \$8000
The Arkansas Virtual Academy has a district wide Parental Engagement policy in place for the district. Action Type: Parental Engagement	Karen Ghidotti, Head of School	Start: 09/15/2009 End: 06/30/2010		<hr/> ACTION BUDGET: \$

Total Budget:	\$255389.23
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- Priority 2: To help provide and foster a safe on-line and drug-free learning environment that supports academic achievement.
1. 1)According to Family Online Safety Institute, 93% of 12 to 17 year olds are actively using the internet and of those 32% have reported being contacted by a stranger. Of those that reported "stranger" contact an alarming 21% responded to the stranger to obtain more information about the person and provided more information about themselves. Even more alarming, only 3% of those that reported stranger contact reported it to an adult or to the authorities. June 2008. <http://www.fosi.org/>
 2. 2)According to the Family Online Safety Institute, 32% of on-line teens reported being a victim of some type of cyber bullying. June 2008. <http://www.fosi.org>
 3. 3) According to the Family Online Safety Institute, 42% of on-line teens reported being exposed to pornography. June 2008. www.fosi.org
 4. 4)The Internet Education Foundation (<http://www.neted.org/updates/27>) reported from a Zogby poll that (72.2%) of individuals agreed that the Internet, specifically social networking, is eroding younger people's respect for their own personal privacy
- Supporting Data:
- Goal To provide parents and students with information and resources to establish safe on-line learning environments/communities and safely attend school sponsored events.
- Benchmark To increase, as determined by pre and post surveys, the awareness of internet safety and to reduce, among the ARVA student population, the reported number of cyber bullying and inappropriate contact through an on-line environment.

Intervention: Arkansas Virtual Academy staff will provide educational materials and learning opportunities for students and parents to assist them in making positive and safe choices that will have a positive impact on student learning environments and academic achievement.				
Scientific Based Research: (1) Family Online Safety Institute: American Teens & Online Safety: What the research is telling us... (Dec. 2007); (2) Online Victimization, by The Crimes Against Children Research Center, June 2000. (3) Protecting Children in Cyberspace: The ICAC Task Force Program, U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, January 2002. (4) Online Victimization: Five Years Later, by The Crimes Against Children Research Center, June 2006.				
Actions	Person Responsible	Timeline	Resources	Source of Funds
Materials and supplies will be purchased to inform and educate parents and students about internet safety protocols. Action Type: Parental Engagement	Tara Richardson	Start: 07/01/2009 End: 06/30/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrative Staff • Teachers 	ACTION BUDGET: \$
An internet safety parent education night will be held with the sponsorship of the Arkansas Virtual Academy Booster Club. The focus of the presentation will be social networking, internet communications, internet safety protocols, and resources for parents. Action Type: Collaboration Action Type: Parental Engagement Action Type: Program Evaluation	Tara Richardson	Start: 07/01/2009 End: 06/30/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrative Staff • Community Leaders • Teachers 	ACTION BUDGET: \$
Through web based meetings or face to face opportunities students and parents will hear from local law enforcement or other speakers on the risk and safety measures to take around the on-line community. Funds may be used to cover speaker cost, travel and materials. Post surveys will be conducted to determine the effectiveness of the events. These sessions have not been provided in prior years, therefore data is not available. Action Type: Parental Engagement Action Type: Program Evaluation	Karen Ghidotti	Start: 07/01/2009 End: 06/30/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Office • District Staff 	ACTION BUDGET: \$

<p>Funds will be used as needed to provide counseling and referral services for students at risk of violent behavior, illegal drug use, students in need of intervention services as a result of a major incident that disrupts the learning environment. Surveys will be conducted with families that access these services to determine level of utilization and effectiveness. These services have not been provided to students and families in prior years therefore, data of its effectiveness is not available. Action Type: Collaboration Action Type: Equity Action Type: Parental Engagement Action Type: Program Evaluation Action Type: Wellness</p>	<p>Susan Underwood</p>	<p>Start: 07/01/2009 End: 06/30/2010</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Staff • Outside Consultants • Teachers 	<p>ACTION BUDGET: \$</p>
<p>Funds will be used to purchase items for students that will help identify them as ARVA students at school sponsored events. Funds will be used to purchase a student ID badge system.</p>	<p>Susan Underwood</p>	<p>Start: 07/01/2009 End: 06/30/2010</p>		<p>Title IV-A - Materials & Supplies: \$3571.92</p> <p>ACTION BUDGET: \$3571.92</p>
<p>Total Budget:</p>				<p>\$3571.92</p>

Priority 3: The district will support and promote healthy lifestyles for students, staff, and parents through school level curriculum and promotion of physical activity and healthy lifestyle choices that will result in an improvement in the school health index score in module 7 from 40% to 60% level to 61% to 80% level.

Supporting Data:

1. See school level BMI data.
2. See school level, school health index scores.
3. Arkansas 2003 Kids Count Data indicates among children and teens that 29% of Females and 37% of males are overweight; and 49% do not exercise regularly. http://www.kidscount.org/datacenter/profile_results.jsp?r=5&d=1&c=6&p=5&x=133&y=9

Goal: The district will provide opportunities for students and families to have resources regarding living a healthy lifestyle with a goal to increase their overall wellness.

Benchmark: By 2010-2011 school year the district score on the school health index will increase in the areas that are appropriate to a virtual school.

<p>Intervention: Provide information and resources to students and families that will encourage students and parents to make healthy lifestyle choices.</p>				
<p>Scientific Based Research: Physical Activity Fundamental To Preventing Disease by United States Department of Health and Human Services, June 2002. http://aspe.hhs.gov/health/reports/physicalactivity/ NUTRITION EDUCATION RESEARCH SUMMARY: MESSAGE FRAMING, USE OF INTERACTIVE TECHNOLOGY TO TAILOR MESSAGES, AND INTERVENTION INTENSITY, USDA Food Nutrition Division, June 2007. http://www.fns.usda.gov/oane/MENU/Published/NutritionEducation/Files/LitReview_Summary.pdf</p>				
<p>Actions</p>	<p>Person Responsible</p>	<p>Timeline</p>	<p>Resources</p>	<p>Source of Funds</p>
<p>The school district will support schools by utilizing HealthTeacher.com curriculum to promote healthy lifestyle choices. HealthTeacher.com curriculum is aligned with Arkansas Curriculum Frameworks. Action Type: Alignment Action Type: Wellness</p>	<p>Karen Ghidotti</p>	<p>Start: 07/01/2009 End: 06/30/2010</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrative Staff • Teachers 	<p>ACTION BUDGET: \$</p>

The ARVA school newsletter will include information on nutrition and fitness. This information will focus on healthy lifestyles for students as well as their families. Action Type: Parental Engagement Action Type: Wellness	Monique Houston	Start: 07/01/2009 End: 06/30/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Staff Teachers 	ACTION BUDGET: \$
Teachers will receive training in First Aid and CPR to insure that appropriate safety measures and actions take place at ARVA sponsored outings and events. Action Type: Parental Engagement Action Type: Program Evaluation Action Type: Technology Inclusion Action Type: Wellness	Karen Ghidotti	Start: 07/01/2009 End: 06/30/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Staff Central Office Computers Teachers 	ACTION BUDGET: \$
Families will be given the option to complete a wellness pre and post survey which will assist the school in gathering information in the areas of physical activity levels, nutrition, tobacco use, first aid knowledge, and asthma to be able to better target student needs through the school year. Action Type: Parental Engagement Action Type: Wellness	Lisa Williams	Start: 07/01/2009 End: 06/30/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Staff 	ACTION BUDGET: \$
Total Budget:				\$0

• Planning Team

Classification	Name	Position	Committee
Classroom Teacher	Amy Jett	1st Grade Teacher	Parent Involvement, Math Committee
Classroom Teacher	Carol Hooder	Title I Teacher	Math Committee, ACSIP Leadership Committee, Testing Committee
Classroom Teacher	Debbie Howard	5th Virtual Math Tutor	Math Committee
Classroom Teacher	Desiree Rutter	Virtual Math Tutor	Math Committee
Classroom Teacher	Ginger Weaver	Teacher	Math Committee, Community Outreach, Handbook Committee, K-2 Grade Level Committee
Classroom Teacher	Hollie Gumm	7th Grade Virtual Math Tutor	Math Committee
Classroom Teacher	Kelley Williams	4th Grade Teacher	Wellness, Science
Classroom Teacher	Leah Childress	Virtual Math Tutor	Math Committee, 7-8 Grade Level Committee, Teacher Professional Development
Classroom Teacher	Mitzi Bingaman	6th Grade Teacher	Art Committee, Wellness Committee
Classroom Teacher	Pamela Broadston	SPED 4-8th	Testing Committee
Classroom Teacher	Patsy Carter	Teacher	Literacy Committee, Handbook Committee, 3-6 Grade Level Committee, Testing Committee
Classroom Teacher	Regina Moore	Teacher	Literacy Committee, Community Outreach, K-2 Grade Level Committee, Teacher Professional Development
Classroom Teacher	Renee Bissell	6th Grade Virtual Math Tutor	Math Committee
Classroom Teacher	Tammy Williams	Teacher	Literacy Committee, Community Outreach, Wellness Committee, 3-6 Grade Level Committee
Classroom Teacher	Tracy Ragen	Teacher	Math Committee, Parent Training, 3-6 Grade Level Committee
Community Representative	Jerry Jones	Community Member	ACSIP Leadership Committee

District-Level Professional	Karen Ghidotti	Head of School	Parent Involvement, Parent Training Committee, ACSIP Leadership Committee
District-Level Professional	Lisa Williams	Academic Admin.	ACSIP Leadership Team, Parent Training Committee, Literacy Committee
District-Level Professional	Tara Richardson	Special Education Teacher	Parent Involvement, ACSIP Leadership Committee, Testing Committee
Non-Classroom Professional Staff	Brazier Watts	Special Program Mgr.	Handbook Committee
Non-Classroom Professional Staff	Susan Underwood	Dir. of Operations	Handbook, ACSIP Planning Committee
Parent	Dixie Dorflinger	Parent	Parent Involvement Committee
Parent	Jenni Dodson	Parent	Parent Involvement Committee
Parent	Wanda Quenzer	Parent	Parent Involvement Committee