

**SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT TO THE PUBLIC
EAST END PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
OCTOBER 10, 2016**

Act 35 of the 2nd Extraordinary Session of 2003 and Act 2152 of 2005 requires that each school district in the state report annually to the district's patrons. This report comments on East End School District's progress in meeting its stated goals and objectives and describes the needs of each school. Other information pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-1402 and 6-15-2006 can be found at <https://adesrc.arkansas.gov/>. This report reviews and summarizes the efforts of the East End Public Schools during the 2015-2016 school year to provide a quality instruction for its students.

CURRICULUM

The East End Public School System continues to make progress in the area of curriculum development and implementation. Each school continued aligning curriculum with state frameworks during the 2015-2016 year. The high school will continue to monitor course compliance with state standards for all courses used to meet the 38 required for accreditation. The high school was accredited-cited due to a teacher license issue which has been resolved. The elementary school was accredited.

Act 35 of the 2nd Extraordinary Session of 2003 requires that, beginning in 2005-2006, all K-12 students who do not demonstrate proficiency on state-mandated exams shall receive intense remediation and that those students shall have an Academic Improvement Plan (AIP) developed by the school personnel and the child's parents. Implemented by law during the 2005-2006 year, students in grades 1-6 who do not participate in the AIP at the level set by the AIP shall be retained. The district has in-school remediation in elementary, junior high, and high school and will continue to provide tutoring opportunities to all students. However, compliance with this law will require the active involvement of all parents to help every child learn.

An intense professional development program that provides 60 hours of professional development and exceeds the requirements for no less than 36 hours found in ACT 44 of 2015 that changed Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-2402 is in place to assist faculty, administrators, and support staff to become more effective and efficient in the performance of their responsibilities.

The state implemented a new rating system for all Arkansas public schools during the 2015 school year. This rating system examined a number of factors to arrive at a letter grade. Remember that some of the factors actually penalized schools who had a history of success since it looked heavily at the differences between prior year's test scores and current scores. Anne Watson Elementary received a C grade with a score of 223. Bigelow High School's grade was a B with a score of 243.

The District is continuing a series of intervention strategies that include during-the-school-day supplemental instruction, after-school tutoring, and point-in-time remediation. The District will continue to remediate every child who falls below the proficient level in order to assure that all children succeed.

The District is continuing its efforts to integrate technology into its instructional programs. Advancements are continuing to be made possible through the use of \$37,659.67 in E-rate discounts from the Federal Communications Commission for the 2015 funding year. This money, available through a competitive bidding process, provides discounts on internet access and partial telecomm bills which makes local funds available for other uses such as technology.

The District supplements local funding with external sources such as federally funded programs. Title I funding allotment for the 2015-2016 year was \$149,466.57. Title II provided over \$27,459.47 for the 2015-2016 year that financed professional development and other programs providing services to our students. The Title VI-A program provided \$32,592.00 for professional development and technology.

The state provided categorical funds to the District during 2015-2016. These funds were allocated in the following areas: \$16,038.00 for professional development and \$5,359.00 for Alternative Learning. National School Lunch census funds, \$158,166.00, were used to pay the portion of salaries that exceeded state-mandated levels. Act 59 funds were accounted for in the District improvement plan.

Bigelow High school continues to work on school improvement and curriculum through the Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement Process (ACSIP). The high school had no students transferring pursuant to the unsafe school provision and no students transferred pursuant to the Arkansas Opportunity Public School Choice Act of 2003. The high school free/reduced lunch rate was 55.29%.

Anne Watson Elementary school instructional staff continued to address curriculum mapping and aligning curriculum with the Arkansas Frameworks. The elementary school retained no students after the 2015-2016 year. The elementary school free/reduced lunch rate was 63.2%.

The district's overall free/reduced lunch rate was 59.7% from a total 668 students enrolled on October 1, 2015.

PRESCHOOL SERVICES

The East End School District, through an ABC grant, provided preschool services to 20 students during the 2015-2016 year.

STAFFING

The District employed 100 people, 97 of which were full-time, for the 2015-2016 school year. The district is currently operating in compliance with all state mandated pupil-teacher ratio standards at all levels.

GROWTH

Growth in student numbers is always a good sign and East End is looking forward to great things. The last quarter average of the 2015-2016 school year was 658 which was a decrease of six students over the first three quarters average of 664. The 658 number is 42 students over the 2014-2015 school year average of 616 students. The October 1, 2015, child nutrition report indicated a k-12 student enrollment of 668. The district is currently teaching 659 students as of October 1, 2016, a decrease of nine students from the same date last year.

PHYSICAL PLANT

The District is currently sharing two campus locations in six instructional buildings.

The hard work of the District's maintenance and custodial staff continues to assure a clean and safe

facility for the use of its students, faculty, and patrons. The district hired a new Maintenance Director for the 2016-2017 school year.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

The District had nine established bus routes during the 2015-2016 year. Of this number, seven were regular routes, one was a special needs bus, and one transported students to Conway Career Center. The district hired a new Transportation Director for the 2016-2017 school year.

FINANCES

The cash balance for the District ended the 2015-2016 year at \$1,029,150.00. This figure includes all funds including categorical funds that the state has designated into certain areas that are not subject to discretionary spending by the District, all activity accounts, and the total building fund.

SUMMARY

The District welcomes 13 new people to the school system this year. The District appreciates the high degree of support it receives from the local community. The District and its programs are mentioned frequently by other schools in Arkansas. In fact, student success has become an expectation at the East End Schools. The District is fortunate to have parents, students, faculty, staff, and community members who strive every day to make the East End Public School a place to love learning and to prepare for a life-long journey. The District measures success by every graduate succeeding in life.