

Our Work in West Virginia

October 1, 2013–September 30, 2014

WV-01: Building a Rigorous Early Learning Trajectory for College and Career Readiness

The West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) is working with national, state, and local P-5 leaders to develop a comprehensive statewide early learning initiative to address literacy and third grade reading proficiency, better prepare children for school, close the reading achievement gap by third grade, and set children on a course for career and college readiness. ARCC will provide technical assistance to WVDE with articulation of the statewide vision, facilitate the Early Learning Advisory Committee's Executive Team quarterly meetings, and support Early Learning sub-committee team leaders. ARCC will advise WVDE in refining current resources and developing new resources that define school readiness. ARCC will also help WVDE develop dissemination and public engagement strategies for resources developed by the Early Learning Advisory Committee.

WV-02: Aligning Education to Workforce Needs and Career

WVDE has sought ARCC assistance with its workforce initiatives, including gathering and analyzing feedback from teachers on the *in/site website*, revising the site accordingly, and helping establish an *in/site* Advisory Council. ARCC will also work with WVDE to design a marketing strategy to acquaint parents with the simulated workplace environment. In terms of the *in/site* online platform, ARCC will participate as a member of the *in/site* Advisory Council and assist WVDE in strategizing how to constantly refine *in/site*.

WV-03: Improving Teacher Preparation and In-service Programs

The ARCC will assist WVDE in facilitating meetings of teacher preparation stakeholder groups convened to prepare for the newly created standardized entrance requirements for teacher preparation programs at the state's IHEs. Additionally, the ARCC staff will participate in the WV Board of Education's High Quality Educator committee which is considering how best to look at professional development for the state's educators.

WV-04: Promoting Data-Based Decision Making

WVDE has requested technical assistance from ARCC to build knowledge and skills for effective data utilization by the state agency, RESA, and LEA. WVDE plans to use needs assessment and gap analysis information to develop resources to assist state, regional, and local personnel in determining desired program outcomes based on data and data-based decision making. ARCC will facilitate cross-office WVDE activities to determine the needs of staff in terms of professional development. ARCC will also help WVDE staff identify and synthesize best practices and ideas from other SEAs engaged in similar data governance, focusing on developing frameworks and data dictionaries, modeling data warehousing, creating effective documentation, mapping data elements to models, and identifying examples of strong policy and data governance. ARCC will also collaborate with WVDE to build the capacity of school

districts—through toolkits and examples of data use—to understand the comprehensive assessment system and data-based decision-making.

WV-05: Initiatives of West Virginia State Board of Education

The WVDE will work with ARCC to determine a process and timeline for building the capacity of RESA staff to assist LEAs in their efforts to improve teaching and learning. ARCC will also partner with the WVBE to facilitate the meetings of the Governor’s County Governance Commission and to document the Commission’s findings concerning the efficiency and effectiveness of the state’s system of 55 county school systems. ARCC will also collaborate with WVBE in conducting a search for a way to evaluate the Board of Education’s effectiveness.