



## January 2017 Parent Newsletter

[www.arkansased.gov/divisions/communications/my-childmy-student](http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/communications/my-childmy-student)

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### Preparing for the Future

Parents want their children to be happy and successful. Even at an early age, children will say those telling words, “When I grow up, I want to be a ...” As parents, it is important to help your children discover their passion and fully develop their natural talents.

Start by learning more about your child’s interests. The quiz at <http://www.parents.com/kids/career-quiz/> is one tool you can use to find out what careers match your child’s interests. Look for opportunities for your child to job shadow people who work in these careers, and look for school clubs and other extracurricular activities that match your child’s interests.

It is never too early to start searching for scholarships. To learn more about financial aid and scholarship opportunities, visit the Arkansas Department of Higher Education’s website: <http://www.adhe.edu>. Visit with your child’s school counselor to learn more about how your child can graduate ready for college, career and community engagement.

Consider asking yourself or your child’s teacher the following questions.

- What are my child’s goals for the future?
- How do I support my child so he/she reaches his/her goals?
- What courses does my child need to take to be prepared for the future?
- How do I know if my child is performing on grade level?
- How and when does my child apply for scholarships and college?

### Bullying Prevention

Let’s all work together to stop bullying. Consider teaming up with your child’s school to help educate all students about bullying, its consequences and how to prevent it. Talk with your child about bullying, and remind your child that everyone is unique and deserves to be treated with respect and kindness.

Be sure to check out the resources on the Arkansas Department of Education’s website at <http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/communications/safety/anti-bullying>. Also, learn more about your child’s school policy on bullying.

Consider the following questions as you prepare to talk to your child about bullying.

- What anti-bullying resources can I share with my child?
- Who do I contact if my child is being bullied?
- What do I do if my child is being a bully?
- How can I let my child know that bullying is not acceptable behavior?
- How can I reinforce kindness with my child?