Vision for Excellence in Education

**Vision**
The Arkansas Department of Education is transforming Arkansas to lead the nation in student-focused education.

**Mission**
The Arkansas Department of Education provides leadership, support, and service to schools, districts, and communities so every student graduates prepared for college, career, and community engagement.

The Arkansas Department of Education is collaborating with stakeholders on a common vision to transform Arkansas to lead the nation in student-focused education so that every student graduates ready for college, career, and community engagement.

The mission of the agency is to provide leadership, support and service to meet that vision.

The vision has five specific goals. The first four goals are student-focused. The fifth goal sets the tone for the leadership, support, and service the Arkansas Department of Education will provide to LEAs through development of Department personnel.

**Goals for the Vision for Excellence in Education**

1. **Prepared Graduates**
   Each student will meet or exceed educational milestones along pathways to graduate prepared for college, career, and community engagement.

2. **Student Growth**
   Each student will meet or exceed his/her expected individual growth annually.

3. **Personal Competencies**
   Each student will develop and apply personal competencies that promote learning and success in life.

4. **Student Success**
   Each student will be actively engaged in college, career preparation, military service, and/or competitive employment one year after graduation.

5. **Customer Service**
   The Arkansas Department of Education will build the capacity of each team member to provide efficient and effective customer service that benefits students, respects taxpayers, and serves all stakeholders.
The Arkansas Department of Education established key values within which to anchor and support the vision.

**Values Anchoring the Vision for Excellence in Education**

**Leadership**
- Striving to be a model of excellence that is dedicated to professional and ethical standards, the whole child, and effective results.
- Driving action toward excellence through informed risk-taking.
- Protecting the public trust by ensuring quality and accountability.

**Support**
- Collaborating with others through mutual respect, trust, and professionalism.
- Communicating in an open, honest, and transparent manner.
- Fostering new ideas and promoting effective practices.

**Service**
- Providing quality service in a respectful, effective, and professional manner.
- Administering agency programs and services with integrity, honesty, and transparency.
- Leveraging state resources in a wise, efficient, and productive manner.

The vision is an opportunity for the Arkansas Department of Education and LEA's to aim beyond the traditional educational paradigm and set a course to prepare Arkansas students for a future that may be different from the current college and career paradigm. Already, the lines between college, technical, and career postsecondary readiness have blurred. The academic content and skills that students must acquire and demonstrate for success are deeply rooted in complex thinking and learning, creative problem solving, synthesis, and design. Students need to develop internal motivation and the tenacity to persist in a future where change and innovation will be the norm.

To learn more about the vision, please visit the Arkansas Department of Education website at [http://www.arkansased.gov/about-ade/vision-for-excellence-in-education](http://www.arkansased.gov/about-ade/vision-for-excellence-in-education).