



**DATE:** February 24, 2014  
**TO:** Arkansas Educators  
**FROM:** Arkansas Department of Education, Curriculum and Instruction Section  
**SUBJECT:** ListServ Message #70: LDC/MDC Roll-out for 2014-2015

Opportunities for professional learning for English language arts and mathematics teachers will be available through a partnership of the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE), Arkansas Department of Career Education (ACE), educational service cooperatives, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Centers, and Educational Renewal Zone (ERZ). This partnership has allowed for professional learning focused on the Literacy Design Collaborative (LDC) and Mathematics Design Collaborative (MDC).

LDC offers a fresh approach to incorporating literacy into middle and high school content areas. Designed to make literacy instruction the foundation of the core subjects English Language Arts (ELA), Science, Social Studies, and Career Technical Education (CTE), LDC allows teachers to build content on top of a coherent approach to literacy. This is drastically different than past, less structured notions of "adding" reading and writing when possible to the teaching of content.

MDC focuses on building student understanding of mathematics concepts by working through problems, rather than memorizing formulas and plugging them into a page of workbook problems. Participating teams will receive three days of professional learning in the summer with three follow-up days during the 2014-2015 school year.

Participants will design, implement, and reflect on rigorous units of study based on a student-centered approach to Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Professional development and ongoing support for participants engaged in this work will be provided by the ADE, ACE, local educational service cooperatives, STEM centers, and/or ERZs.

The project began with five pilot districts in 2011-2012. Since then, more than 130 middle, junior high, and high schools in Arkansas are implementing LDC and/or MDC. This professional learning will now be offered to another cohort of schools.

Interested educators who wish to learn more about this work may participate in the session via CIV at their local educational service cooperative, tri-district location or via live streaming on Thursday, March 6 from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. To access the session, please click on this link: <http://ideas.aetn.org/live>

*Please share this information with others that might be interested. Thank you for serving the students of Arkansas.*

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To be added to the ADE CCSS ListServ please send your name, e-mail address, and district name to [abby.cress@arkansas.gov](mailto:abby.cress@arkansas.gov).



All information and materials presented during this session and needed for the application to participate in LDC/MDC will be posted on <http://ideas.aetn.org/commoncore/leadership#leadership-5>

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