

SCHOOL DISTRICT GUIDANCE FOR SELECTING DIGITAL PROVIDERS

STAFFING ISSUES

District and campus staff should know -

- What documents the provider will supply the district/campus to show that each teacher in a core content area is highly qualified.
 - The term 'core academic subjects' means English, reading or language arts, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history, and geography.
 - See the federal definitions for "core content" and "highly qualified" at the link below:
<http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/index.html>
 - See the federal definition for a "highly qualified" special education teacher at the link below:
<http://idea.ed.gov/explore/view/p/%2Croot%2Cstatute%2C>
- The maximum number of students per teacher for each class
- The maximum number of students to be assigned to a teacher
- If a teacher in the district could be assigned to teach -
 - At multiple campuses in the district;
 - At campuses in multiple districts in Arkansas; and/or
 - At campuses in other states

CURRICULUM ISSUES

District and campus staff should know -

- That the provider is approved by the Arkansas Department of Education for the **specific course** to be taught in the district
- The process used by the provider to ensure that all courses are aligned to Arkansas Curriculum Frameworks
- The methods to be used in science classes to ensure that students are engaged in at least 20% of hands-on laboratory experiences as required in science frameworks approved by the Arkansas State Board of Education
- The methods used to differentiate instruction to meet the needs of each student
- If an entity has refused to use credits earned through courses offered by the provider in determining a high school student's grade point average for scholarships

SAFETY AND WELFARE ISSUES

District and campus staff should know -

- The methods used by the provider to check each potential employee for a criminal background
- The issues in a criminal history that preclude employment
- The provider process for receiving and responding to reports of inappropriate staff actions

OTHER ISSUES

District and campus staff should know -

- Methods used by the provider to ensure compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
- Methods used by the provider to ensure staff and student academic integrity and fidelity
- Information about the entity or entities that accredited the provider, if any

CONSIDER SPECIFYING THE DETAILS OF ALL ISSUES THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO THE DISTRICT IN THE DIGITAL PROVIDER CONTRACT