ADE Launches New Standards for Accreditation Tool

LITTLE ROCK — The Arkansas Department of Education launched a new Standards for Accreditation online tool that will provide more timely feedback to districts and increase transparency to the public.

The tool gives the public access to a district's and school's approved annual accreditation report and allows public school administration to view data and preliminary accreditation reports. Districts can then take necessary corrective action in a timely manner instead of being identified for cited or probationary status.

"ADE is committed to providing leadership, support, and service to schools and districts around the state," said Deborah Coffman, ADE assistant commissioner for Public School Accountability. "This new online Standards for Accreditation tool replaces the Standards Annual Accreditation System that was previously available and allows ADE to improve communication with schools and districts, in addition to providing greater transparency to the public."

The Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts (2018) set the requirements for every public school in the state. The 2018-2019 Standards for Accreditation Monitoring Tool was developed to provide a comprehensive review of the standards monitoring process. ADE has the responsibility of monitoring districts to ensure that schools are meeting these standards.

Through this online reporting system, ADE will send notifications to superintendents, assistant superintendents and principals on the 21st of every month. This notification will allow districts and schools to review their accreditation status and make corrections quickly to better serve students.

The Standards for Accreditation online tool is available at https://adedata.arkansas.gov/sfa.

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