



Arizona Department of Education Early Childhood Education



NEWSLETTER

MAY 2017

Please share this publication with all of your preschool and related services staff (speech pathologists, occupational therapists, etc.) and other interested parties. [Past publications](#) are online.

Smart Talk: A Partnership on Awareness and Professional Development

We are excited to partner with state literacy director Terri Clark and Read On Arizona to promote high-quality language and literacy foundations as an integral component of the development of strong reading ability. *Smart Talk* is an awareness campaign for parents and caregivers of young children (ages 0-3) to gain a deeper understanding about the importance of quality, back-and-forth conversations. *Smart Talk* is designed to help strengthen the skills and confidence of parents and caregivers as they support their child's learning and development at home.

In addition to increasing families' awareness of the importance of conversations, there is a need for supporting practitioners of young children (ages 0-3). To do this, ADE's Early Childhood Unit has partnered with Read On Arizona, Southwest Human Development, First Things First, and Arizona's Child Care Administration to develop a professional development series on *Smart Talk* for practitioners. The following is a description of the learning modules:

- ⇒ Smart Talk: Let's Talk with Babies, Module 1: An Introduction
- ⇒ Smart Talk: Let's Talk with Babies, Module 2: Brain Development and Research
- ⇒ Smart Talk: Let's Talk with Babies, Module 3: Language Nutrition
- ⇒ Smart Talk: Let's Talk with Babies, Module 4: Language Transactions

Please look for opportunities to attend a *Smart Talk* module on ADE's Events Management System.

Warmly,

Nicol Russell

Deputy Associate Superintendent, Early Childhood Education

High Academic Standards Division, Arizona Department of Education &
Director, Head Start State Collaboration Office

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www.azed.gov/ECE

What's New in Early Childhood Education?

2017 Summer Institute



Inclusion Task Force

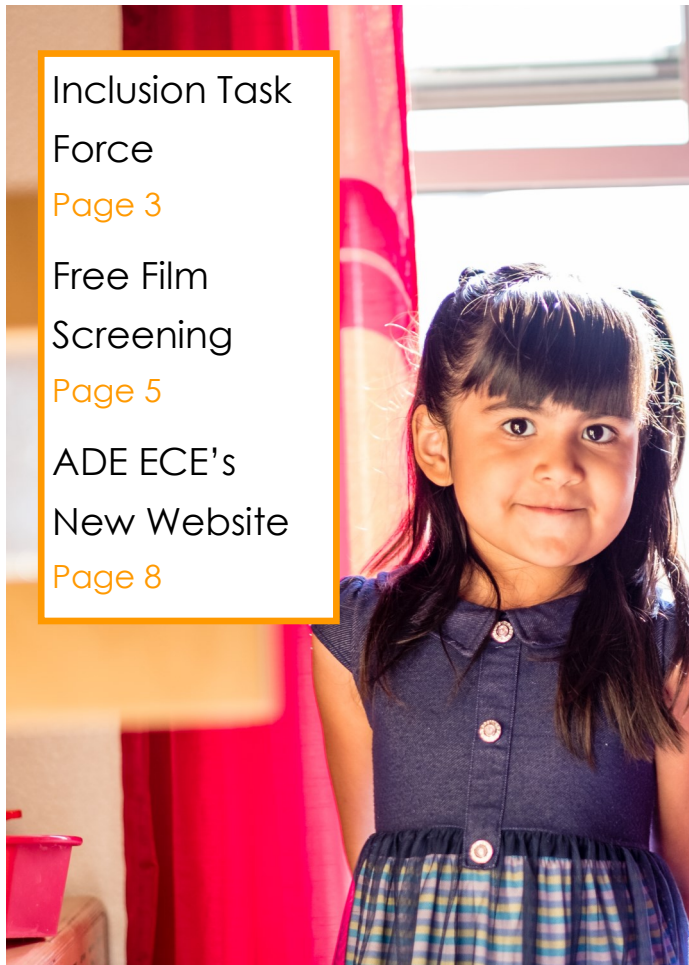
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Resources

[Arizona Early Learning Standards](#)

[ECQUIP Manual](#)

[HELP Manual](#)

[Early Literacy Guide for Families](#)

[Arizona's School Readiness Framework](#)

[The Assessment Continuum Guide for Pre-K Through 3rd grade in Arizona](#)

We'd love to hear from you!

Send your thoughts on this issue, as well as topics you'd like to read about in future issues to

ECEinbox@azed.gov



Early Childhood Inclusion Task Force

Millie Archer and Lori Masseur,

ADE ECE Program Specialist and ADE ECE Director

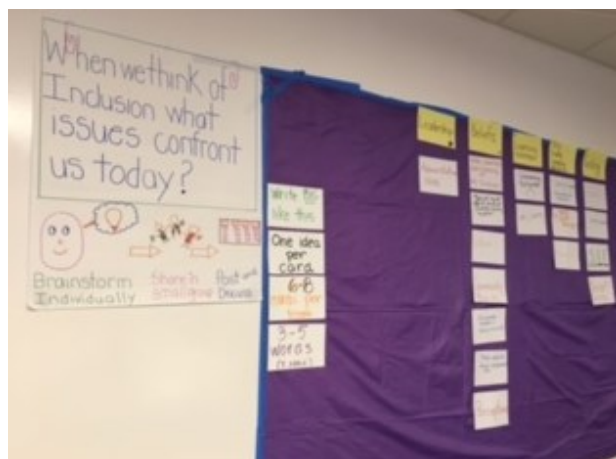
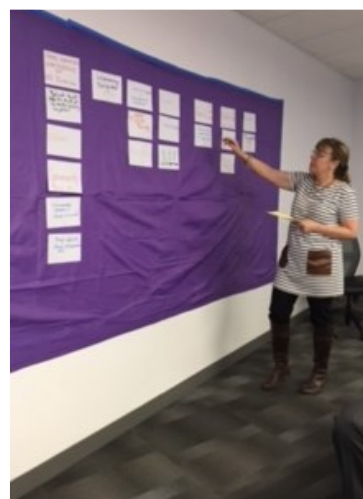
The Arizona Department of Education began work on the development of the Task Force for Inclusion in January of 2016. The core group is led by Millie Archer, with support by Lori Masseur, Heather Drinovsky, and Suzanne Perry. The Task Force was created and is made up of a partnership of educators, administrators, practitioners and families from across our state.

Our task force is committed to raising awareness at a statewide level about the value of inclusion by working collaboratively to share research and inform practice. We are committed to increasing the number of children who access services to and within high quality inclusive environments. The Task Force is utilizing the Leading by Convening model for the structure of the community of

practice and following implementation science as the core mechanism for moving the group from theory to practice.

Since its inception, the focus of the group's work has been comprehensive. We began by looking closely at the defining voices in the world of early childhood inclusion. We also looked at and evaluated data related to early childhood special education. This data included a statewide survey, student outcomes, and child placement as it pertains to least restrictive environment (LRE). Currently, we are in the process of appraising the complex barriers standing in the way of high quality inclusion for our students.

As the group moves forward, it has aligned its initiatives with national organizations committed to advancing the access to inclusive communities. We are participating

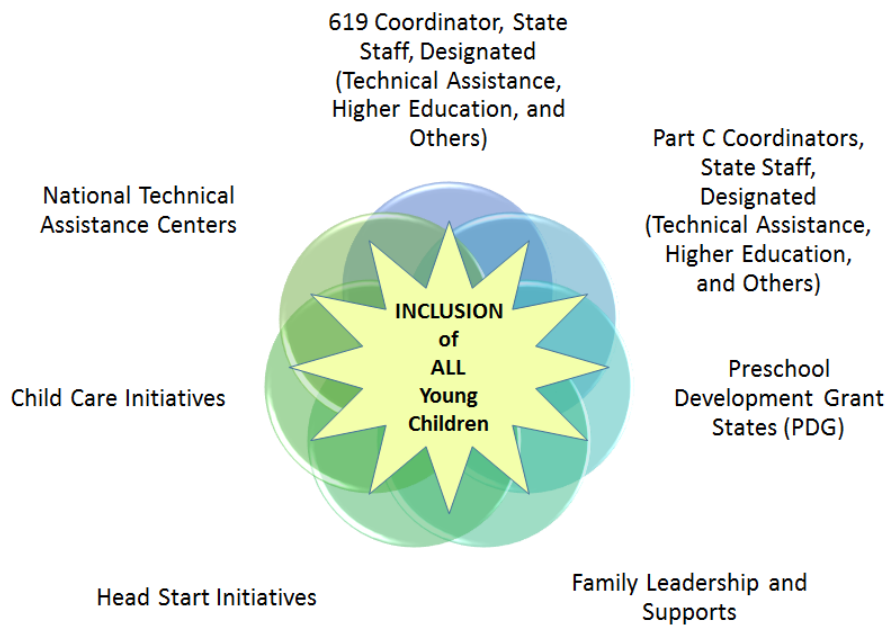


in the ECTA; Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center's work which supports the National IDEA early childhood inclusion community.

A proposal will be submitted to present at TASH's national conference in December to share the work of our Task Force. TASH works to advance inclusive communities

through advocacy, research, professional development, policy, and information and resources for parents, families and self-advocates.

If you are interested in learning more about the Task Force for Inclusion, please contact Millie Archer.



Deepen your knowledge of early learning by becoming part of Arizona's community of early childhood professionals!

Grow your skills, advance in your career, register for professional development, and even apply for scholarships at <http://azearlychildhood.org/> !



ARIZONA
EARLY CHILDHOOD
Career and Professional Development Network



ARIZONA
EARLY CHILDHOOD
WORKFORCE REGISTRY

Film Screening: *Most Likely to Succeed*

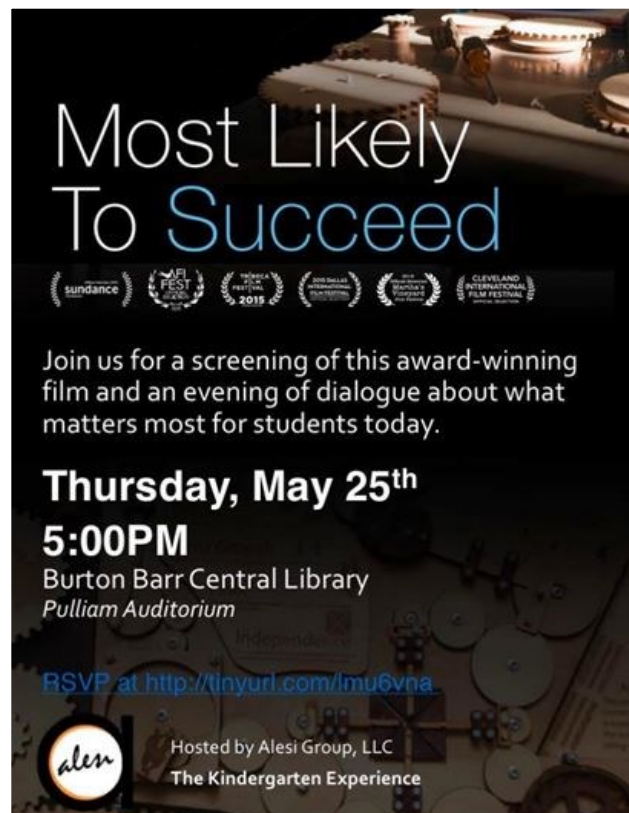
A film documenting the changing tides in American education and asking the tough question: Are we truly preparing students to be successful?

Join the Alesi Group as they host a free screening of the riveting documentary, *Most Likely to Succeed*. Read the summary below for a glimpse into the film's message:

"The current educational system in the United States was developed a century ago during the rise of the industrial age and was once the envy of the world. However, the world economy has since transformed profoundly, but the US education system has not. Schools are attempting to teach and test skills, when mastered, that still leave graduates woefully unprepared for the 21st Century.

After presenting this problem, the documentary focuses on the story of a school in San Diego that is completely rethinking what the experience of going to school looks like. As we follow students, parents and teachers through a truly unorthodox school experience, the audience is forced to consider what sort of educational environment is most likely to succeed in the 21st century?"

-IMBD



There will be a panel discussion following the film screening featuring ADE ECE's Deputy Associate Superintendent, Nicol Russell! Networking and hors d'oeuvres begin at 5pm followed by the film screening and panel discussion at 6pm. Don't miss your chance to view this important film and to engage in interesting discussion!

Meet ADE's New Early Childhood Director

Lori Masseur is the new Director of Early Childhood Education. Prior to becoming Director, Lori was a program specialist at ADE for 3 years serving Apache, Navajo, and Coconino counties. As the military liaison for the unit, Lori represents the Arizona Department of Education as a board

member on the statewide Military/Veteran Community Network (MVCN). The MVCN works to align those organizations from both the private and public sector to help connect service members, veterans, and their families to resources throughout the state and nationally.



In addition, Lori also currently represents the Arizona Department of Education on the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC). The ADDPC works to increase the inclusion of persons with developmental disabilities in their communities. Prior to her work with ADE, Lori served as an Education Technician at Davis Monthan Air Force base in Tucson, a Preschool Director in the civilian sector, and as a subcontractor for DDD providing VR and supportive Ed services.



- ⇒ Teacher's Institute & Leading Change, 6/12-6/16, 2017
- ⇒ 2017 Summer Conference, "Framing the Work: Achieving Excellence in ECE", 6/21-6/23
- ⇒ Kindergarten Transition Summit, 10/10-10/11, 2017 *
- ⇒ Family Engagement Conference, 12/8-12/9, 2017 *
- ⇒ Early Childhood Special Education Summit, 2/14-2/16, 2018 *
- ⇒ Brain Research Conference, 4/17-4/18, 2018 *

* More details to come

The Importance of Teaching Infants and Toddlers

Sas Jakeo-Singer, ADE ECE Program Specialist

In the past decade there has been a significant amount of brain research to validate our understanding of infant and toddlers. Ninety percent of a child's brain develops by age 5, thus, a foundation of learning must be set in order for our children to be successful as a lifelong learners. We can support that foundation in infant and toddlers, so they may be successful in preschool and beyond. Young infants seek security, mobile infants eagerly engage in exploration and toddlers continue to form their identity. Each developmental stage lays a foundation of learning for the next. Children must feel safe and secure before they can learn to explore.

The Arizona Department of Education: Early Childhood Unit, have used the latest research and recruited other early childhood leaders to help create and revise the Arizona's Early Learning Standards. In 2012, the department published the first



edition to Arizona's Infant and Toddler Developmental Guidelines. Early Childhood Education extends from birth to eight years old and each group is a stepping stone to the next developmental milestone.

We are able to support multiple programs that use the ITDG to support their infant and toddler classrooms. Currently, ADE is working on expanding more learning opportunities and resources for our field. Be on the lookout for new trainings such as the Smart Talk series.



Resources:

FTF <https://www.firstthingsfirst.org/>

YC NAEYC Journal

November 2015: Teaching Interactions with Infants & Toddlers by Deborah Norris and Diane Horm Pg. 84-91

Check Out Our New Website!



What's New?

In an effort to be inclusive of all internet users with a diverse range of physical capabilities, ADE upgraded its current website to be more accessible, specifically for those using screen readers. The transition from the old to new website gave ADE's ECE unit the opportunity to re-design the website in a way that is not only accessible to all users, but also visually pleasing and simpler to navigate.

As internet users visit the ADE ECE website, they will be redirected to our new website's

"When done right, web accessibility is a key element of social inclusivity and fulfills the promise of the Internet by making information available to everyone everywhere". - ADE IT

homepage (pictured above). Users can easily access desired information from any of the icons along the bottom and right hand side of the front page. Time sensitive information can

be found under "Hot Topics". The website was intentionally designed to provide users with access to the entire library of content in three clicks or less.

Enjoy the improved user ability and updated interface of ADE ECE's new site! As always, we welcome your feedback at ECEinbox@azed.gov.

Upcoming Conference “Framing the Work: Achieving Excellence in Early Childhood Education”

Don't miss your chance to register for ADE ECE's "Framing the Work: Achieving Excellence in Early Childhood Education" conference, June 21-23, 2017 at the Westward Look in Tucson, AZ!

A collaboration between ADE ECE, Southwest Human Development, and the Head Start State Collaboration Office, this conference will support the work of teachers and administrators in their effort to make high-quality educational opportunities available to all students and to improve student outcomes. Featured keynote speakers include Richard Cohen, creator of Zen and the Art of Early Childhood, and Rebecca Isbell, author of "Nurturing Creativity: An Essential Mindset for Young Children's Learning". Select the [Registration Link](#) to learn more!

Rebecca
Isbell



Richard
Cohen



Attending Leading Change or Teacher's Institute?

Catch members of ADE's Early Childhood Unit presenting on two hot topics surrounding education in Arizona:

- ⇒ *The Kindergarten Developmental Inventory*
- ⇒ *Early Childhood Education Comprehensive Assessment System*



Early Childhood Contact Information

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Assistant

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ECE Program Specialist	High Needs Community (HNC)	Monitoring	Counties
TBD 602-364-1910 TBD	Avondale Tolleson Littleton Paloma Riverside	Gila Bend, Littleton, Morristown, Nadaburg, Phoenix El	Maricopa County: Aguila, Arlington, Avondale, Buckeye, Dysart, Gila Bend, Isaac, Laveen, Liberty, Litchfield, Littleton, Madison, Mobile, Morristown, Murphy, Nadaburg, Palo Verde, Paloma, Phoenix, Riverside, Tolleson, Union, Saddle Mountain, Sentinel, Wickenburg
Erika Argueta 602-542-3160 Erika.Argueta@azed.gov	Gadsden/ San Luis Crane Somerton	Kingman, Valentine, Wellton, Yuma, Yucca	La Paz County: Bouse, Parker, Quartzsite, Salome, Wenden Pima County: Ajo Yuma County: Crane, Gadsden, Hyder, Mohawk Valley, Somerton, Wellton, Yuma Mohave County: Bullhead City, Hackberry, Kingman, Lake Havasu, Mohave Valley, Owens, Topock, Valentine, Yucca, Littlefield, Peach Springs, and Colorado City
Juliana Panqueva 602-542-8812 Juliana.Panqueva@azed.gov	Fiscal Support	Fiscal Support	Fiscal Support

ECE Program Specialist	High Needs Community (HNC)	Monitoring	Counties
Elizabeth Hamilton 602-364-1948 Elizabeth.Hamilton@azed.gov	Fowler Glendale Pendergast Stanfield	Blue Ridge, Florence, Fowler, Picacho El, Red Rock, Stanfield	Navajo County: Blue Ridge, Heber-Overgaard, Holbrook, Joseph City, Show Low, Snowflake, Whiteriver, Winslow Maricopa County: Fowler, Glendale, Pendergast, Pinal County: Eloy, Picacho, Ray, Red Rock, Superior, Toltec, Apache Junction, Casa Grande, Coolidge, Florence, J. O. Combs, Maricopa, Sacaton, Stanfield
TBD 602-542-1102	Roosevelt	Roosevelt	Maricopa County: Roosevelt
Lori Masseur 602-542-1137 Lori.Masseur@azed.gov	Alhambra Wilson Osborn	Alhambra, Kayenta, Round Valley, Vernon	Apache County: Alpine, Chinle, Concho, Ganado, McNary, Red Mesa, Round Valley, Sanders, St. Johns, Vernon, Window Rock Coconino County: Chevelon Butte, Coconino County Accommodation, Flagstaff, Grand Canyon, Maine Consolidated, Page, Tuba City, Williams and Fredonia Navajo County: Cedar, Kayenta, Pinon Maricopa County: Alhambra, Wilson, Osborn
Ariana Lopez 602-542-4615 Ariana.lopez@azed.gov	Douglas Willcox Santa Cruz	Cochise, Naco, Nogales, San Simon, Sonoita	Cochise County: Apache, Ash Creek, Benson, Bisbee, Bowie, Cochise, Double Adobe, Douglas, Elfrida, Fort Huachuca, McNeal, Naco, Palominas, Pearce, Pomerene, San Simon, Sierra Vista, St. David, Tombstone, Willcox Santa Cruz County: Nogales, Patagonia, Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz Valley, Sonoita

ECE Program Specialist	High Needs Community (HNC)	Monitoring	Counties
Millie Archer 602-364-1966 Millie.Archer@azed.gov	Sunnyside Flowing Wells Tucson Unified	Empire, Oracle, Pima, Solomon, Tanque Verde, Thatcher	Pima County: Altar Valley, Amphitheater, Baboquivari, Catalina Foothills, Continental, Empire, Flowing Wells, Marana, Pima Accommodation, Redington, Sahuarita, San Fernando, Sunnyside, Tanque Verde, Tucson, Vail Graham County: Bonita, Fort Thomas, Graham County Special Services, Klondyke, Pima, Safford, Solomon, Thatcher Pinal County: Mammoth-San Manuel, Oracle
Sas Jakeo-Singer 602-542-3183 Sas.Jakeo-Singer@azed.gov	Creighton Balsz Tempe	Chandler, Paradise Valley, Payson, San Carlos, Scottsdale	Gila County: Gila County Regional, Globe, Hayden-Winkelman, Miami, Payson, Pine Strawberry, San Carlos, Tonto Basin, Young Maricopa County: Chandler, Creighton, Fountain Hills, Gilbert, Higley, Kyrene, Mesa, Paradise Valley, Queen Creek, Scottsdale, Tempe Greenlee County: Blue, Clifton, Duncan, Eagle, Greenlee County Accommodation, Morenci
Eric Bucher 602-542-3143 Eric.Bucher@azed.gov	Washington Peoria Cartwright Deer Valley	Ash Fork Joint, Canon, Cartwright, Crown King, Hillside, Mayer, Seligman, Yarnell	Maricopa County: (North) Cartwright, Cave Creek, Deer Valley, Peoria, Washington Yavapai County: Ash Fork Joint, Bagdad, Beaver Creek, Camp Verde, Canon, Chino Valley, Clarkdale-Jerome, Congress, Cottonwood-Oak Creek, Crown King, Hillside, Humboldt, Kirkland, Mayer, Prescott, Sedona-Oak Creek, Seligman, Skull Valley, Walnut Grove, Williamson Valley, Yarnell

A Note About Contacting ADE ECE Specialists:

Although ADE ECE Program Specialists are assigned to specific geographic locations throughout Arizona, please do not hesitate to contact any available Specialist when calling or emailing with questions. If your designated specialist for your area is unavailable, feel free to reach out to another ADE ECE Specialist as they are all equally knowledgeable and eager to assist.

Thank you!



Diane Douglas
State Superintendent of Public
Instruction