

ACT 1039 Dyslexia Background:

In April of 2015, Governor Asa Hutchinson signed into law ACT 1268. The **Dyslexia Law**, as it is commonly known, was a direct response to concerns that ACT 1294 (2013) was not being properly implemented by the Arkansas public school systems.

ACT 1268 was designed to ensure that the needs of all Arkansas children with dyslexia are effectively being met. It defines dyslexia, describes required screening and intervention, and lists specific required actions by the state, educational cooperatives, and school districts.

In October of 2016, the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) updated the rules governing the implementation of ACT 1268. These updated rules provided further clarification, guidance, and instruction on how to meet the needs of students showing characteristics of Dyslexia.

In April of 2017, the Arkansas Legislature passed ACT 1039 (SB 708) to amend and clarify code provisions regarding Dyslexia screening and intervention, and to add specific enforcement provisions tied to school accreditation. ACT 1039 also added new public posting requirements. **The information on this page meets or exceeds all posting requirements.**

STUDENT DATA:

During the 2017-2018 school year, Jessieville School District identified a total of 63 students showing characteristics of Dyslexia. All of these students were placed within the appropriate researched based intervention program.

Jessievile Elementary School: 64 students

Jessieville Middle School: 8 Students

Jessieville High School: 2 students

Note: These are composite totals for the year. If students leave the district, these numbers may not exactly match final state report numbers.

UNIVERSAL SCREENING:

ACT 1039 requires universal screening in Kindergarten through 2nd grade for indicators of Dyslexia, as well as selective screening in grades 3rd-12th.

The Jessieville School District uses a combination of DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills), DSA (Developmental Spelling Analysis), AR-RA (Arkansas Rapid Automatized Naming Screener), Lexercise, and Scholastic: CORE Phonics Survey.

Note: Universal Screening is also a part of the Jessieville School District's comprehensive Response to Intervention.

DYSLEXIA PROGRAM:

ACT 1039 requires all Arkansas schools to have a Dyslexia Program in place to further evaluate students identified as having characteristics of dyslexia, and then to tutor those students who require interventions. The Jessieville School District uses the Sonday System, developed by the internationally recognized expert, Arlene Sonday. Students not ready for the Sonday System begin in Let's Play Learn.

Additional tools utilized as needed include: TOWL 4 (Test of Written Language), YCAT (Young Children's Achievement Test), Woodcock-Johnson, KTEA (Kaufman Test of Educational Achievement), NWEA tests, and the STAR test.

DYSLEXIA INTERVENTIONIST:

ACT 1039 requires that school districts utilize trained Dyslexia Interventionists. Dyslexia Interventionists have been trained in the Sonday System, by Winsor Learning. Dyslexia Interventionists for the Jessieville School District are:

Elementary: Ashley Layfield, Theresa Hunter, Jennifer Graves

High School: Amy Pederson

In addition, Corby Scully at Dawson Educational Cooperative serves as the regional dyslexia specialist.