

# Arkansas Department of Education



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## Business Challenges

- Modernize their technology
- Automate manual processes
- Unify and stabilize the platform
- Make reporting more useful

## Impact

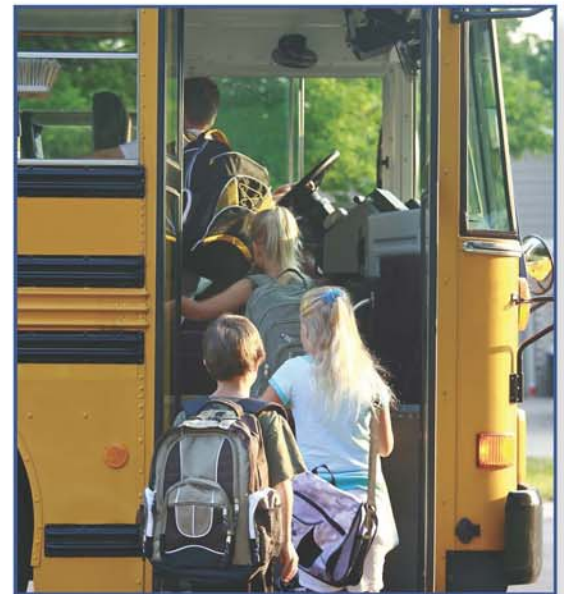
- Easier to use and understand
- Better business intelligence and reporting
- Improved visibility into activities
- Better integration with other systems

Mainstream Technologies has been supporting the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) Research and Technology Division on various projects since 2010. The ADE R&T Division's unofficial mission is to find ways to leverage technology in a manner that provides a flashlight to pertinent issues, rather than using it as a hammer for punitive corrective measures.

Over time, Mainstream Technologies has become subject matter experts for the department, becoming intimately familiar with their data sources and how to efficiently tap them to produce the information their users need. Various ADE departments and school district personnel across the state use the tools co-developed with Mainstream Technologies.

## **ACCREDITATION**

District accreditation is tracked within the Standards Accreditation System. This system uses 21 distinct criteria which are collected at the district level to assure that each school district is current and compliant with their legislative mandates. Measurements collected range from teaching credentials and certifications to class sizes, teacher class assignments and other staffing and resource requirements.



*Mainstream was asked to help migrate the legacy system into a web-based architecture (using .NET and SQL Server) along with integrating with the Student Information System (SIS) and the Arkansas Educator Licensure System (AELS). Once the new application was completed and integrated with SIS and AELS, it effectively provided a stable and unified platform for the Department, resulting in usability improvements which allowed the districts to easily see shortfalls and address much more quickly than previously possible with the older system.*



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