LUNCH & RECESS

ACT 428

makes it against the law for students to be shamed or stigmatized for not paying for lunch. It prohibits schools from providing a different meal or snack than other students, from requiring a wristband or hand stamp, or requiring the student to dispose of the meal. It also requires the Department of Education to implement a system of best practices in collecting for unpaid lunches.

ACT 641

provides 40 minutes of recess for elementary school students.
DISCIPLINE

ACT 557

STATES THAT A SCHOOL DISTRICT AUTHORIZING THE USE OF CORPORAL PUNISHMENT SHALL NOT USE CORPORAL PUNISHMENT ON A CHILD WHO IS INTELLECTUALLY DISABLED, NON-AMBULATORY, NON-VERBAL, OR AUTISTIC.

ACT 640

AMENDS SCHOOL DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES, REPEALING MANDATORY EXPULSION FROM SCHOOL FOR POSSESSION OF WEAPONS. REQUIRES ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF EDUCATION DURING SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION.
FUNDING

ACT 667
INCREASES THE FOUNDATION FUNDING FOR K-12 TO $7,018 PER STUDENT.

ACT 170
BRINGS THE MINIMUM STARTING TEACHER SALARY TO $36,000 BY 2023.
SAFETY

ACT 190
STATES A SCHOOL COUNSELOR SHALL SPEND AT LEAST NINETY PERCENT (90%) OF HIS OR HER WORKING TIME PROVIDING DIRECT AND INDIRECT SERVICES TO STUDENTS.

ACT 629
ALLOWS SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO HIRE CERTIFIED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AS SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS.

ACT 288
MAKES IT A PRIMARY OFFENSE TO USE A HANDHELD WIRELESS DEVICE IN A SCHOOL ZONE.

ACT 1029
REQUIRES PARENTS OF THE VICTIM OF BULLYING BE NOTIFIED AS SOON AS REASONABLY PRACTICABLE. IT REQUIRES SCHOOLS TO INVESTIGATE AND WRITE A REPORT ON THE COMPLAINT WITHIN 5 SCHOOL DAYS.
ACT 83

ENHANCES THE RIGHT TO READ ACT. THIS BILL WOULD REQUIRE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND OPEN-ENROLLMENT PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS TO INCLUDE A LITERACY PLAN IN THEIR ANNUAL SCHOOL LEVEL IMPROVEMENT PLAN. THE PLAN WOULD HAVE TO INCLUDE CURRICULUM & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ALIGNED WITH THE LITERACY NEEDS OF THAT SCHOOL AND BASED ON THE SCIENCE OF READING INITIATIVE. THIS BILL ALSO REQUIRES THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO MAKE A LIST OF MATERIAL AND RESOURCES AVAILABLE THAT ARE SUPPORTED BY THE SCIENCE OF READING.
ACT 245
REQUIRES THAT BLEEDING CONTROL TRAINING BE TAUGHT AS PART OF HIGH SCHOOL HEALTH COURSES.

ACT 466
ALLOWS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO EARN CREDIT FOR THE REQUIRED FAMILY FINANCE COURSE STARTING IN 9TH GRADE.