

# A. R. C. Service Update

## Education Program Summary

### A.R.C. Education Mission

A.R.C.'s education program is comprehensive and designed to meet the unique academic needs of each student. Each facility has an educational program with a small learning community that inspires and educates students to maximize their successes within a safe, caring, and supportive environment. A.R.C. uses a holistic approach to teaching and learning in an environment that strives for excellence and embraces diversity. Students are challenged to excel and acquire the knowledge and skills they will need to be successful in secondary school, career education, college, and as life-long learners. Students prepare to complete high school requirements, pass GED tests, develop a career plan, and attend college and/or vocational education.

### Key components of the program

- \*Individualized Instruction as needed
- \*Group Instruction in Core Subject Areas
- \*Response to Intervention
- \*Credit Recovery-A+ Online Curriculum
- \*Personal Development, Life Skills and
- \*Health Career Education
- \*Vocational Education



### How We Are Structured

Each A.R.C. facility has a self-contained classroom with a fully certified teacher and teacher aide(s) employed by A.R.C. who are considered a direct adjunct to the program service team. In addition, a counselor is present in the classroom. A.R.C. also employs a career educator, math coaches, and reading coaches to support students who need additional assistance. Education and treatment programs are in each facility.

### Activities at A.R.C.

To enrich the general curriculum and instruction, we have a wide variety of hands-on learning events during the school year. These include A.R.C.'s African American History Events, Math Camp, Annual Science and Technology Challenge, Latino Day, The Pine Creek Rail Trail Bike Ride and other activities celebrating holidays, such as Thanksgiving and Christmas. Our recent activities were Olympic Days and Career Day at the Comcast facility in Harrisburg, PA. Olympic Days were held on June 6th and 8th. These assemblies expose students to new ideas and activities and give them experiences that create positive memories of the program as well as successful academic experiences.





### G.E.D. -High School Equivalency Diploma

A.R.C students who are 17 or older may return to school, but this often depends on grades and credits earned. Students lacking credits and grades to complete a high school diploma usually pursue a General Educational Development (G.E.D.) diploma. G.E.D. measures proficiency in science, mathematics, social studies, reading, and writing. Last school year, 90% of the students who took the tests passed the four sections of the G.E.D. (Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies and Science). These students received their high school equivalence diploma from the Pennsylvania Department of Education.



## Education Accomplishments

We are very proud of the following accomplishments and would like to congratulate students and education staff for their efforts:

### High School Diplomas

In school year 2015-2016, 25% of A.R.C. senior students who completed the required credits and graduation projects received a high school diploma in accordance to the graduation requirements of their home school district or/and host school district. In school year 2016-2017 we saw an increase of 10% with a total of 35% students leaving A.R.C. with a high school diploma. A high school diploma is the academic school qualification awarded upon high school graduation. The high school diploma is typically studied for over the course of four years, from Grade 9 to Grade 12. Even though we offered the courses in A.R.C., the diploma is awarded by their home school district or host school district, in accordance with the Pennsylvania state requirements. Requirements for earning the diploma vary by school district.

**Promotions to Next Grade-** A.R.C. requires middle school and high school students to successfully complete a minimum number of credits or courses before they can be promoted to the next grade level and/or graduate. In addition, they have to complete four marking periods in order to be promoted to the next grade. In school year 2016-2017, A.R.C. had 170 students who participated in the education program. Thirty four percent of the students completed the requirements to be promoted to the next grade level.



### Vocational Education

During the fall of school year 2016-2017, we offered our students career technical courses in coordination with the Dauphin County Technical School. The purpose of this initiative is to help students to develop job skills they need when they return to their communities. Career readiness is very important for our students, and is offered in addition to the career education program provided during the school day. During this school year, 22 students participated in courses such as building construction, carpentry, and Microsoft Office. They completed 90 hours of hands-on activities and learned practical and employability skills and concepts that will help them to develop job skills they need when they return to their communities. In addition, eleven students completed Forklift Certification and six students completed Culinary Arts. We also provided CPR Certifications to 74 students.

