

Special Education Programs

Information, News, and Events

August 2015

“If we
teach today
as we
taught
yesterday,
we rob our
children of
tomorrow.”

John Dewey

STAFF:

Linda Turner, Director
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Sped Program Highlights:

- A new [Parents Rights and Procedural Safeguards Guide](#) was posted July 2015
- The *IEP Technical Assistance Guide* has been updated. The evaluation information has been removed and placed into the *Eligibility in SD Guide Appendix*. Access the updates and a crosswalk of the changes [here](#).
- Campus has rolled over special ed data, please check student data for accuracy.

Sped Director Monthly Meeting, August 18, 2015, 10:00 central

Connect through Skype for Business at: [Join Skype Meeting](#)

Direct dial: 1(866)410-8397 Participant code: 1286289700

Agenda Items:

- State Determination
- Early Childhood Updates
- Indicator 11 & 12 Updates
- Campus updates

Federal Program Highlights:

- Service Animal Guidance: Four years ago, the U.S. Department of Justice issued [revised rules](#) on service animals under the Americans with Disabilities Act. They have followed up with a new 8-page TA [document](#) answering questions they have received.
- Speech and Autism Spectrum Disorder: In a [letter](#) to states, officials from the U.S. DOE have heard that an increasing number of kids on the spectrum may not be receiving services from speech-language pathologists at school, and are frequently left out of the evaluation process and not present at meetings to determine services.
- Preschool age 3-5 Draft Inclusion Policy Statement: The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) has drafted a policy statement on the inclusion of young children with disabilities in high-quality inclusive programs. You can view the draft version of this [policy statement](#).

DOE Program Highlights – Content Standards:

Over the past year, DOE has been revising and updating some of the state core content standards. The most recently adopted were Science, Fine Arts, and K-12 Technology. On the docket for August 24th is Social Studies.

Recently adopted standards can be found at: <http://doe.sd.gov/ContentStandards/>

Workgroup overviews are available to provide insight into the process. Comparison documents will help users transition to the new documents. Plans for implementation and transition have been or will be posted to this site under the respective content areas.

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Sped Program Feature Presentation

The first [Northern Plains Law Conference on Students with Disabilities](#) will be held in Rapid City, South Dakota Sept. 22 & 23. This is a partnership between South Dakota, North Dakota and Montana Special Education Programs. The Conference will cover special education legal issues, including the latest information from due process hearings, circuit court cases, OSEP/OCR guidance letters, and basic IDEA procedural requirements. Registration is \$90 and it is open to everyone. Jose Martin will be presenting a [Pre-Conference](#) session on Sept. 21 targeting school attorneys and administrators. The purpose of this session is to expand participant's knowledge of special education law and provide a toolbox of information. Registration closes August 31 for both.

Professional Development: (click on the titles to go to registration site)

- [IEP Workshops](#)
Department of Education is offering two types of IEP workshops again this fall. The IEP Back to Basics is geared for teachers with 3 years or less experience, where the IEP Process in Action workshop is more advanced. This training is designed to provide an overview of criteria used in the Special Education Process. Participants will be reviewing the special education process to think about how the whole team can be involved in the IEP process.
- [Transition Fall Indicator Training:](#)
Training will help participants to develop results-driven transition IEPs which lead to improved outcomes for students. Four trainings are available: September 14- Rapid City, September 15- Mitchell, September 16-Sioux Falls, and September 17- Aberdeen. Participants will have opportunities for hands-on instruction in using your District's outcomes trend data.
- [Classroom Teaching and Students Who Use Augmentative Alternative Communication \(AAC\) :](#)
Special Ed Programs in conjunction with SDSLHA will be hosting a pre-conference workshop October 1, Sioux Falls, focusing on how language intervention can be informed by developmental language acquisition research with a set of tools to organize instruction to make teaching more intentional while supporting the generalization of skills across educational and communication contexts.
- [Sped Teacher Effectiveness Trainings](#)
Special education teachers and administrators who evaluate them are invited to attend this training, which will provide clarification on SLOs and dig deeper into the South Dakota Framework for Teaching. Educators will learn how the SD Framework for Teaching and SLOs work together, along with how to write differentiated SLO goals which is the recommended practice. In addition, they will break down the SD Framework for Teaching and the different Special Education scenarios.
 - September 30: Spearfish
 - October 7: Pierre
 - October 6: Aberdeen
 - October 9: Sioux Falls
- [BIE students ages Birth to 5 Guidance: Who's responsible?](#)
October 13th - 1pm-5pm – Cedar Shores Oacoma, SD
SD Part B and Part C programs and the Technical Assistance for Excellence in Special Education (TAESE) center have collaborated to update the BIE Birth to 5 guidance manual regarding children living on reservations within the Local Education Agencies (LEA) jurisdiction. This training will focus on who is responsible for child find, federal reporting, and location of services. This training is designed for school districts and tribal agencies who work together on providing services to children living within LEA jurisdiction.