

Special Education Programs

Information, News, and Events

April 2016

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.”
-Dr. Seuss

STAFF:

Linda Turner, Director
Wendy Trujillo, Assistant Director
Rebecca Cain, Program Specialist
Angel Corrales, Data Manager
Vacant, Program Specialist
Ben Morrison, Program Specialist
Beth Schiltz, Program Specialist
Ambrea Sikes, Program Specialist
Vacant, Program Specialist
Merle Doolittle, Administrative Assistant

Sped Program Highlights:

- Special Education Monitoring - Accountability Specialist ([Job Id 6306](#)) – *Open until filled*
- Several [video tutorials](#) on the Special Ed portion of Campus are now available in Campus Community

Sped Director Monthly Meeting, April 19, 2016, 10:00 central

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

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

- Data – Summer Indicators due dates
- Suspension/Expulsion
- CEIS

Federal Program Highlights:

- OSEP reiterated their policy in a [letter to State Directors](#) on determining eligibility for students considered twice exception. [Letter to Delisle](#) pointedly addresses children with high cognition who may be eligible for special education and related services as a student with a specific learning disability.
- [Attorneys attending IEP meetings](#). The public agency must inform parents in advance of the IEP meeting, including the purpose, time, and location of the meeting and who will be in attendance. There is no similar requirement for the parent to inform the public agency, in advance, if he or she intends to bring an individual with knowledge or special expertise regarding the child, including an attorney. It would be permissible to reschedule the meeting to another date and time if the parent agrees so long as the postponement does not result in a delay or denial of a free appropriate public education to the child, however there cannot be a condition placed on who the parent invites to participate.

DOE Program Highlights – Extraordinary Cost Fund:

- Districts may now access the Extraordinary Cost Fund (ECF) application. To be eligible for ECF funds, a district must have requested the maximum levy (\$1.409 per thousand) for special education. There are three types of applications for ECF: high cost student, high cost program and supplemental aid. All applications must be submitted by April 29. Visit the ECF [webpage](#) for more information, and look for the “2016 ECF Narrative Brief.” To access the actual application, click the hot link at the top of the page. Questions? Contact either [Susan Woodmansey](#) at (605) 773-4748 or [Bobbi Leiferman](#) at (605) 773-5407.

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Sped Program Feature Presentation – Parent Surveys

- The Parent Survey that is required to be provided to parents annually is also made available online in collaboration with South Dakota Parent Connection and SEP. Parent Connections will assist parents in reading and completing the survey as needed. The online survey can be found at:
 - www.surveymonkey.com/s/Q6JW6HJ (English)
 - www.surveymonkey.com/s/MJNWNVJ (Spanish)

*All Parent Surveys must be disseminated no later than April 30th and post-marked by May 31st.
- **2016 Governor's Awards**

The Board of Vocational Rehabilitation (BVR) is seeking your assistance in making nominations for the 2016 Governor's Awards which recognizes South Dakotans for their contributions to the employment of people with disabilities. In the past, schools have been recognized for Outstanding Transition Services. [Nomination forms](#) must be completed and postmarked by Friday, April 29, 2016.

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

- What Principals Need to Know about Suspension and Expulsion for Special Education Students? April 20 and 21. Please encourage your principals to attend this one hour webinar. *See attached flyer for more details.*
- [2016 Transition Summer Institute](#) will be held June 7 to 9, 2016 at Northern State University campus. Participants will learn:
 - Person Centered Thinking Skills & Tools provide ways to:
 - Listen, gather information, learn, problem-solve and plan.
 - Learn strategies to assist in gathering person centered information specific to a student's interests, abilities, vision for their future, support needs, and MORE!
 - Inform the IEP team to help identify achievable transition goals that result in better life outcomes for students.

More information and registration for the event is now available (see attachments for details).
- Culturally Responsive Teaching: Keynote on June 8 from 6-8 and session for K-12 teachers June 10 from 9-12 in Vermillion, SD at USD. *See attached flyer for more details.*

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

- **2016 Summer Institute: Virtual Teaching and Classroom Strategies for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Please see attached flyer for more details.**
 - Box Elder, SD, June 21-24
To register: https://www.regonline.com/2016SummerInstitute_BoxElder
 - Sioux Falls, July 12-15
To register: https://www.regonline.com/2016SummerInstitute_SF
- [2016 MTSS Summer Education Conference](#). General and Special Education Teachers. See attached handouts for more information. June 28-29, 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Cedar Shore Resort, Chamberlain, SD
- [Northern Plains Law Conference](#)
The Northern Plains Law Conference will be in Bismarck, ND October 4-5, 2016. There will be a preconference for School Attorneys, Special Education Directors, and School Administrators on Oct. 3rd, 2016.