

Special Education Programs

Information, News, and Events

March 2016

“A good teacher is like a candle- it consumes itself to LIGHT the way for others.”
-Unknown

STAFF:

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

Sped Program Highlights:

The South Dakota Department of Education is asking for further documentation for text-to-speech or read aloud accommodation requests for the ELA reading passages for students in grades 3-5. More information can be found in the attachment.

Sped Director Monthly Meeting, March 15, 2016, 10:00 central

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

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

- IDEA Federal Application
- APR Submission
- Accommodations
- Students Graduating or Aging Out
- Students Ages 3-5 Evaluation/Progress Monitoring Requirements

DOE Program Highlight – ESSA Resources and Work Groups:

The South Dakota Department of Education has launched an [Every Student Succeeds Act webpage](#). Resources include an ESSA Summary, PowerPoint, and links to important resources.

The new law requires all states to develop a State Plan, which will outline strategies for implementing key requirements of ESSA, including accountability and school improvement. SD DOE is seeking broad collaboration in formulating this State Plan. Four work groups will be critical in that process (see list below). To apply to participate in a work group, fill out the [online application form](#). The deadline to apply is March 14.

- The Accountability Work Group is expected to meet up to five times in a face-to-face setting. (April-September)
 - Some virtual meeting time may be necessary
 - First meeting is April 12
- The School Improvement Work Group is expected to meet up to three times in a face-to-face setting. (April-September)
 - Some virtual meeting time may be necessary
 - First meeting is April 13
- The Educator Effectiveness Work Group is expected to meet up to two times in a face-to-face setting. (April-September)
 - Some virtual meeting time may be necessary
 - First meeting is April 19
- The English Language Learner Work Group is expected to meet up to three times in a face-to-face setting. (April-September)
 - Some virtual meeting time may be necessary
 - First meeting is April 20

Information, News and Events

Sped Program Feature Presentation: Free Session at Sped Conference **Brain-Powered Strategies to Engage Your Child in Learning (Including Homework)!**

Please encourage the parents and students in your district to attend the FREE Parent Session with LaVonna Roth March 22, 2016, 6:30PM-8:00PM CST, Pierre Ramkota, Amphitheater 1. No registration necessary. **Students and teachers welcome too!**

As parents, we want the best for our kids and are willing to do whatever it takes! One of the frustrations we can experience is with the homework blues or seeing our child struggle to understand or be successful in their learning. In this session, be prepared to tackle those issues and create a place where your child is ready to learn and thrive in school. We will discover how the brain learns and remembers information; participate in a few strategies that you can use with your child immediately- no matter what they are learning, and the importance of celebrating their successes! This engaging and interactive session, based on LaVonna's highly sought after books, will give you the keys you need to unlock the secrets to captivating and engaging the minds of your child. Get ready to arm yourself with the strategies you need to dramatically increase your student's learning. <http://www.mindthatmatterinc.com>

Please contact Becky Cain at Rebecca.cain@state.sd.us

Federal Program Highlights:

- Ruth Ryder has been named Acting Director for OSEP
- OSEP publishes a Monthly Update newsletter—They are welcoming new readers and anyone can [subscribe](#) to their newsletter.
- The U.S. Department of Education published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), which allows the public to comment on a proposed **standard approach for defining significant disproportionality**. This new rule, "Equity in IDEA", seeks to address widespread racial and ethnic disparities in the treatment of students with disabilities. An analysis of data related to the proposed rule can be found [here](#). The official NPRM will be published on the [Federal Register website](#). The public comment period will be open until May 16, 2016. *(SEP will be reviewing the rule and impact for SD)*

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

- **SAVE THE DATE – Flyer attached**
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. Registration information coming soon!
- [SLD Eligibility Document Webinar](#). Special Education Programs is pleased to announce training March 30 at 3:30 where you will get step-by-step guidance on how to complete the information on the eligibility document for a student who qualifies for SLD. See attached flyer for more details.

Information, News and Events

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

- Final: [How to REACH those you TEACH](#)
March 14- Autism Spectrum Disorder
 - Registration is closed, however you can still view the webinars without being registered.
 - The office of special education is excited to offer webinars that are specifically designed for general educators that will help you reach all students in your classrooms. The past year we received many requests from teachers and administrators asking for professional development in assisting with students with disabilities that who are integrated in the general classroom. Participants will learn tips, tricks, and the basics of special education. Contact [Wendy Trujillo](#), South Dakota Department of Education, at (605) 773-8195 with questions.
- The power point for the webinar on the **Work Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)** held on Feb. 29, 2016, has been posted on the [Department of Human Services](#) provider website under training/video conference. The webinar recording will be posted soon.
- [Accommodation Recorded Trainings](#) are now available on the South Dakota Smarter Balanced website. The two that are currently available are the Read Aloud Protocol and the Scribe Protocol. They are located in the Designated Supports and Accommodation Information table in the right-hand column. More will be coming soon.
- [2016 Special Education Conference](#) in Pierre on March 22 and 23.
 - Topics include: Transition planning, Effective programs, Technology, Innovative methodology, Employment, Lifespan Folder, Behavior Supports, Learning outcomes, and much more, including our featured speaker LaVonna Roth!
- [Save the Date for the 2016 Transition Summer Institute](#). The 2016 Transition Summer Institute will be held at NSU, Aberdeen, SD on June 7-9, 2016. The theme for the Institute is Person Centered Approaches in Schools and Transition Planning. More information and registration will be coming soon.
- Save the Date – Culturally Responsive Teaching with Dr. Geneva Gay. As part of the CEEDAR grant project USD will be hosting this workshop in Vermillion, SD. June 8th – 6-8 all are invited to a Keynote address and session for teachers and administrators June 10 from 9-12.
- [Education Summer Conference featuring Anita Archer](#) Registration now open!
 - June 28 and 29 at the Cedar Shores Hotel in Chamberlain (please see attached flyer for more information)
 - Please contact Becky Cain at Rebecca.cain@state.sd.us with any questions
- [Top 20 Training Save the Date](#)
 - July 18 and 19 in Rapid City
 - July 20 and 21 in Sioux Falls
 - More information and registration coming soon
 - Please contact Becky Cain at Rebecca.cain@state.sd.us with any questions