

Special Education Programs

Information, News, and Events

May 2016

“Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think.”

-Albert Einstein

STAFF:

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Sped Program Highlights:

- Districts are required to submit a variety of data at the end of the school year. Data due and resources needed, are outlined in the attached letter.

Sped Director Monthly Meeting, May 17, 2016, 10:00 central

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

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

- Transition Summer Workshop
- CEIS
- BDI-2 Updates
- STARS
- Indicator 14
- Developmental Disabilities: External Conflict Free Casemanagement

Federal Program Highlights:

- May is [Better Hearing and Speech Month](#), the theme this year is Communication Takes Care. OSEP would like to raise awareness about the importance of face-to face communications and encourage the public to make time for device-free interaction.
- OSEP Memo: RTI in Preschools. This memo reiterates that once an LEA receives a referral from a preschool program, the LEA must initiate the evaluations process under IDEA to determine if the child is a child with a disability. See attached memo for further details.
- Public comment due May 16: The *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)* aims to ensure fairness in the identification, placement, and discipline of students with disabilities. Yet disparities persist. Students of color remain more likely to be identified as having a disability and face harsher discipline than their white classmates. The U.S. Department of Education took a critical step towards addressing these widespread disparities by issuing a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM). Comments should be submitted at www.regulations.gov using the Docket Number ED-2015-OSERS-0132.

DOE Program Highlights – SLO Training

DOE is offering regional SLO trainings from April to June. Teachers will:

1. Get a sense of the big picture of SLOs (presenters will share lessons learned from learning year; clear misconceptions; discuss how SLOs fit with other school-, district-, and state-initiatives),
2. Learn about Smarter Balanced data reports,
3. Practice reviewing data (Smarter Balanced, D-STEP, local) for the SLO process,
4. Practice differentiating SLOs to include all students in the class by using a color-coded excel spreadsheet which helps with this process, and
5. Look at their personal SLOs (modify if needed and ask the trainers questions)

[SLO Promotional Video with Teacher Testimonials](#)

[SLO Updates & Training Opportunities Video](#)

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Sped Program Feature Presentation – Dyslexia Stakeholder Group

A Dyslexia Stakeholders Group has been created as a result of conversations generated by 2016 HB 1198, with the goal of discussing the challenges facing struggling readers and how to best address their needs. The group will provide input in updating the South Dakota Dyslexia Handbook. Topics will include identification of potential indicators and risk factors of dyslexia, potential screening procedures, instructional methodologies, teacher preparation programs, professional development needs, and promoting awareness of dyslexia and its related issues among teachers and parents. The first meeting will be held June 14.

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

- [Special Education Legal Update](#) - May 16, 2016 from 2:00 – 4:00pm CST
Attorney Elena Gallegos will provide a review of new and important legal developments in serving students with disabilities, including case law and Office of Civil Rights (OCR) and U.S. Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) guidance pertaining to student eligibility, IEP meetings, FAPE, discipline, bullying, parent rights and other issues. The emphasis will be on the practical with plenty of time for Q and A.
- [Legal Requirements on Grading, Report Cards, and Class Ranking for IDEA Students](#):
Questions often arise about how to grade special education students' work in a manner that complies IDEA and Section 504. This webinar will address the legal issues surrounding grading of IDEA students' work, including alternate grading systems, the role of IEP teams, requirements on report cards and progress reports, notations on transcripts of IDEA students, modified curriculum coursework and class rankings, how to properly design weighted systems for calculating GPA, and other practical issues that can arise in measuring the progress of special education students.
 - Webinar May 19th, 2016 from 2-4pm CDT
- SAVE THE DATE: BDI-2 Administration Certification Training
 - November 15-17th, 2016
 - Location: TBD
 - 2 day BDI administration training with a 3rd day option of train-the-trainer.
- Please encourage principals to watch the Discipline for Special Education webinar at <http://doe.sd.gov/oess/sped-pbis.aspx>
- [Fall IEP Workshops](#): registrations will be available beginning June 1st, 2016. We will be featuring an IEP Back to Basics for new teachers (0-3 years), IEP in Process I Action (3+ years), and new this year IEP Transition for teachers who work with children at transition age.
- 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....

- [Civil Rights Regulations in the Educational Setting](#)
 - June 21, Rapid City
 - June 23, Watertown

The full-day session will feature specialists from the regional U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights in Kansas City, MO.

The department encourages K-12 staff as well as post-secondary personnel to attend. Please inform staff who serve in any of the following capacities about these trainings:

- Title IX Coordinator
- Section 504 Coordinator
- School Administration
- School Counselor
- Career and Technical Education Teacher/ Director
- School District Attorney

Space is limited. Eight contact hours towards CEU credit are available for full-day attendance. If you have any questions contact Carol Uecker, South Dakota Department of Education, at (605) 773-4771.

- [Effective Instruction](#): Augustana has partnered with the CEEDAR Center, the South Dakota Department of Education, and Learner's Edge to offer four online on demand workshops to K-12 teachers throughout the state of South Dakota. The workshops were developed by a team with representatives from Augustana, Northern State University, the University of South Dakota, South Dakota State University, and the South Dakota Department of Education. The focus of all four workshops is on features of effective instruction. The features of effective instruction are especially designed to support the learning of students who struggle with learning, including students with disabilities. The workshops are designed to provide teachers with an opportunity for guided exploration of a variety of excellent resources in each specific area addressed. There is no limit to the number of teachers who can enroll in the workshops. The workshops will be available from the period from July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017. One CEU is available for the completion of all for workshops.
- **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