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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Learning. Leadership. Service.

November 2020

south dakota
SPECIAL EDUCATION

Special Education Programs

SPED Program Highlights

CHILD COUNT - 5 year old kids in kindergarten and Infinite Campus

As a reminder, all five years old kids in **kindergarten** must be placed in one of the 100s placement categories for the upcoming 2020 child count.

The update needed for campus to correctly capture 5 year olds in junior kindergarten and kindergarten has not occurred. Because of the missing update, in our child count report in Infinite Campus, the report will generate a flag with a value of one for this group of kids, even though they have the correct placement code. There will be more detailed information in our SPED Directors call on November 17,2020 and how districts should proceed with fixing this error prior to submission.
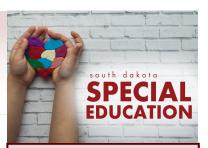
DOE Program Highlights

Free Youth Mental Health Trainings for educators. Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMFA) trainings are designed for adults who regularly interact with adolescents (teachers, administrators, coaches, etc.). This six-hour training introduces participants to risk factors and warning signs of mental health problems in adolescents, builds understanding of the importance of early intervention, and teaches individuals how to help an adolescent in crisis or experiencing a mental health challenge. YMHFA meets the suicide awareness and prevention training requirement for educator certification. The training is offered virtually in addition to other formats. Click here to view more information. To request a YMHFA training for your school, contact Jana Boocock at the Department of Social Services, (605) 367-5236. Funding is provided by DOE's Project AWARE grant.

K-12 Connect program launched. K-12 Connect is a program designed to provide internet service, at no cost, to eligible K-12 students in their homes for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year. The program was launched last week. Eligible households should have received a letter indicating eligibility and identifying a telecommunications company to call to access free internet service through K-12 Connect. Eligible households must meet all of the following requirements:
1. Have at least one student currently enrolled in an accredited South Dakota K-12 school; and
2. Must meet the income eligibility guidelines for the free and reduced school lunch program; and
3. Must not have been subscribed to a fixed broadband internet service as of July 1, 2020.

Enrollment closes Nov. 20, 2020. Learn more at k12connect.sd.gov. The program is a joint effort of the Governor's Office, Bureau of Information and Telecommunications, and Department of Education.

SPED PROGRAM STAFF

Linda Turner, Director

Wendy Trujillo, Assistant Director

Rebecca Cain, Program Specialist

Angel Corrales, Data Manager

Melissa Flor, Program Specialist

Debra Willert, Program Specialist

Jessica Ahlers, Program Specialist

Beth Schiltz, Program Specialist

Brandi Gerry, Program Specialist

Lindsey Bomesberger, Secretary

Regional Representative List

Contact: 605.773.3678

Next SPED Director Call

November 17, 2020 - 10am CT

Connect through ADOBE:

https://taese.adobeconnect.com/sdta/
For audio dial: 888-387-8686
Passcode: 249 918 9596
Agenda Items

- Child Count

Re-imagining Remote Education in South Dakota: ESF-REM Project

The U.S. Department of Education has awarded the South Dakota Department of Education a Rethink K-12 Education Models Grant in the amount of $6,883,481 to support the state's efforts to better serve students during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. This three-year grant project aims to provide a comprehensive road map to successful learning so that students can learn at school, at home, or with blended learning approaches. It will also seek to empower parents and families in navigating these options.

Throughout the next three years, 1,600 South Dakota educators can apply for the opportunity to earn nine graduate credits by completing a series of online courses to increase their capacity in competency based, knowledge-rich, and whole child approaches to instruction to support a continuum of learning. Continuing education credits will be available. All costs for courses, texts, and credits are covered by grant.

For more information: https://doe.sd.gov/grants/rem.aspx

Federal Highlights

On October 23, the Department of Education released a Parent and Family Digital Learning Guide, a resource to help parents and guardians understand how digital tools can provide tailored learning opportunities, engage students with course materials, encourage creative expression, and enrich the educational experience. The guide has advice and best practices about topics such as how to leverage flexibilities and innovations of technologies and digital tools, like accessibility options, to meet the unique needs of every learner; steps parents can take to keep their children safe online and foster safe digital behavior, like accessing security features on a child's device, tracking log-on information, and monitoring videoconferencing; how competency-based learning, which measures a student's knowledge of a subject rather than time spent on the subject, can harness technology for the benefit of students; and simple primers on major federal laws governing student privacy and safety. This publication is the first in a series that will also provide digital learning knowledge and resources to educators and school leaders.

The Department's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE), Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), and Institute of Education Sciences (IES) have developed "Welcoming Safe and Supportive Learning Environments" -- resources to support teachers and school and district leaders. These resources include School Climate Improvement, Creating a Safe and Respectful Environment in Our Nation's Classrooms, Mindfulness in Education: An Approach to Cultivating Self-Awareness That Can Bolster Kids' Learning, Returning to School During and After Crisis, and Supporting Students with Disabilities at School and Home. Similar resources are available at OESE Resources, the Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), the National Center for Pyramid Innovations, and IES COVID-19 Evidence-Based Resources.

SEP Program Staff Highlights

Rebecca Cain - Behavior and Professional Development

I grew up an only child in Harrisburg , SD. Instead of siblings, I had many cats, dogs and horses to keep me occupied. Between 4-H and open shows, most of my summers were spent grooming and showing horses.

I've been a member of the SD DOE for 15 years. I work with Multi-tiered System of Supports , dyslexia, suspension and expulsion, and conference planning. Before moving to Pierre for my husband's job, I worked at Southeastern Behavioral Healthcare, where I found my passion for working with kids with challenging behaviors. There's nothing better than watching kids who have come from adversity, find success and become independent adults!

I'm a mother of three and wife of one. My husband Matt, is the CEO of Independent Living Choices in Sioux Falls. My oldest daughter Emily is a sophomore at USD and has found her passion for working with students at LifeScape.   My middle child Abbie is a senior at West Central and likes to run, paint and play the ukulele My son Hayes, prefers baseball but will play whatever sport is in season. I enjoy running, reading, watching my kids play sports and hanging out with my two dogs, Oakley and Rio.

To register, please click on the title.

Legal Issues Related to Bullying, Restraint and Seclusion
When: November 18th, 2020
Time: 2pm - 4pm CT

In this webinar, Elena M. Gallegos will address Bullying, Restraint and Seclusion, and the legal parameters and implications of each, including the role of the IEP Team. Ms. Gallegos will also expand the discussion to our COVID world, and address cyberbullying including during remote learning, and enforcing mask wearing during in-person learning. You will walk away with the an understanding of a school's duty with regard to bullying, restraint and seclusion, how to document, and most importantly, how to best serve and protect the students in your district.

Battelle Developmental Inventory II (BDI2) Modules
- Six modules on using, administrating, scoring, interpreting, and fidelity of the BDI-2
- For teaching and supporting Early Childhood educators and providers
- Complete at own pace
- Available for undergraduate, graduate credit or 1 CEU (15 hours)

Note: BDI modules will be available until June 2021. At this time the modules will be closed for all registered participants.

Battelle Developmental Inventory-3
Informational Webinar
When: November 23, 2020
Central Time: 4:00 –5:00

This session will focus on the logistics of transitioning from the BDI-2 to BDI-3, district subscriptions and kits, training options, and resources available.

Save the Date:
The Multi-tiered Systems of Supports Conference will be held in Sioux Falls on June 29 and 30. June 29 will feature Mike Veny speaking on how to incorporate mental health practices in your school. Day two features David Kilpatrick with strategies for struggling readers. Contact Rebecca.cain@state.sd.us with any questions.

The links for the **paraeducator trainings** can be found at:
https://doe.sd.gov/sped/webinars.aspx

Resources to Support Specialized Instruction and Specific Disability Areas

*Each month we will feature different organizations and resources that will help you expand your toolkit to meet the needs of a variety of learners. **Disclaimer:** The information is being shared as a potential instructional or professional resource. Most are from state or nationally funded or recognized entities. Please evaluate individually to determine how it meets your needs.*

Literacy Resources

Ohio State University Language and Reading Research Consortium (https://larrc.ehe.osu.edu/**)** - LARRC conducted a five-year study designed to substantially increase our understanding of language- and reading-comprehension development for children ages 4-8 years old (pre-kindergarten to grade 3). As part of the study, the LARRC team developed a 25-week curriculum supplement for children in grades pre-kindergarten to third grade designed to improve children's language skills as a means to improving their reading comprehension.

The Meadows Center for Preventing Educational Risk (https://www.meadowscenter.org/library **)** - The Meadows Center developed a library of instructional practice resources to improve outcomes for students. Resources are available for reading instruction, behavior, math instruction, and other topics.

SERP Institute (https://www.serpinstitute.org/stari) - Using research-based practices and highly-engaging texts, the SERP Institute created STARI, a strategic adolescent reading intervention. STARI addresses gaps in fluency, decoding, reding stamina, and comprehension, aiming to move struggling students to higher levels of proficiency at the end of one year.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing

National Deaf Center website provides information and resources in response to the COVID 19 pandemic. A free upcoming webinar November 17 will focus on 'Get Answers About the Effectiveness of Automatic Speech Recognition Technology'. Register here for that webinar.

November is National Epilepsy Awareness Month:

Center for Disease Control and Prevention: Epilepsy in Schools

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