

Special Education Update

East Central Special Services.....February 27, 2023

THE SPECIAL EDUCATION NEWSLETTER IS BACK!

The East Central leadership team has decided to revive the newsletter as a platform to provide information to special education staff and administrators of our participating corporations. We plan on sending this update out on a biweekly basis to ensure that all special education teachers and administrators receive access to the same info in a timely manner. Please make sure to look through each newsletter when you receive it as there may often be time sensitive information that you need to know! As always, don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need anything.

Thank you for all that you do,
Liza, Arika, Lisa, Jordyn, Yvonne, and Mindy

IEP COMPLIANCE CORNER

Just a few IIEP reminders for you.

1. **Get those BLUE ENVELOPES converted into GREEN CHECKMARKS! This is imperative prior to testing season. TIDE will only pull accommodations from the last IEP that has been accepted.**
2. Make sure you are adding detailed notes that tell the case conference story! When SPED administrators are called about problems or called into meetings, that is the first section we look at to get a feel for how things have been going.
3. Make sure ALL areas of the IEP are up to date and current! Goals need to be REPLACED at least once a year. Having the same goal year after year reflects badly upon those working with the student on those goals. Do you need to change your approach? Your materials? Your frequency and duration? Make adjustments as needed.
4. Keep updating the Transition Summaries and Transition goals. Make sure that it flows well, and is consistent with changes in future plans, year after year. Sometimes our 'tweaking' leads to confusion because previous discussions don't fit the new interests of our students.
5. UPDATE your School Files in the office for special education documents. EVERY IEP that is created needs to be placed in the school file. Every REPORT that is written needs to be placed

in the school file.

6. Keep up the great work! We appreciate all those who are working so diligently to stay compliant ahead of our next audit! Thank you for your time and efforts on behalf of our students. Let us know how we can help!

FREE AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL) CLASSES

Do you have a need or desire to learn ASL? Now is the time! Please use the link below to access 16 pre-recorded, self-paced ASL lessons. These free classes are available until July 31, 2023. You will earn a certificate at the end that can be used toward your PGP points.

<https://courses.osd.k12.ok.us/>

NEW SLD OBSERVATION TOOL

There is now a new observation form for you to fill out when you are required to complete an observation on a student who is in the process of being evaluated for a specific learning disability. Linked below, you will find the new-hopefully more user friendly-form. TORs are required to complete an SLD observation on any student who is being evaluated for a Specific Learning Disability. When you receive the evaluation paperwork email from Mindy, you will now notice a 20 day date. The PSYCH team would like to have these observations back from TORs by that 20 day date when possible. When planning these observations, please try your best to observe the student during instruction in the biggest area of concern. Then write up a paragraph describing what you observed. There is now also a box for you to begin recording present levels of academics for the student as well. Please look over the form and ask your coordinator if you have any questions.

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=2d8c6f5d66&attid=0.1&permmsgid=msg-a:r-6136591187563356909&th=18613369d38b40a5&view=att&disp=inline&realattid=f_lndu9ic0

SECONDARY APPLIED SKILLS TEACHERS: Alternate Diploma Work Group

You may already be aware that the DOE just rolled out the Indiana Alternate Diploma. East Central Special Services is creating a work group to develop a framework to be used by each of our participating districts regarding the criteria to be met for students to earn an alternate diploma vs a certificate of completion. This group will need to work together to develop standards-based expectations for the applied skills courses that count toward the alternate diploma as well as develop criteria for the transition portfolio and other requirements. It is our plan to complete much of this work virtually throughout the spring, but we may also need to come together during the summer to ensure that we have a plan in place for this new diploma at the start of the 23-24 school year.

If you would like to be a part of this work group, please take a moment to fill out this form:

<https://forms.gle/jZdvmWhBp5YFACfB8>

Info from DOE about the Indiana Alternate Diploma:

The [Indiana Alternate Diploma](#) is available to students with the most-significant cognitive disabilities who participate in alternate assessments and satisfy graduation requirements. Eligible students in Cohort 2023 may earn the Indiana Alternate Diploma beginning this spring. IDOE has provided answers to [frequently asked questions](#) regarding this new diploma. Refer to the [IAM Alternate Assessment Participation Guidance and Flowchart](#) for additional support in determining eligibility for the Indiana Alternate Diploma.

RESULTS DRIVEN ACCOUNTABILITY INFO

The 21-22 Results Driven Accountability (RDA) data is in! RDA is the process used by the Indiana Department of Education to monitor each school corporation's special education outcomes and compliance with various requirements. The highest rating given by the state is "Meets requirements," followed by "Needs Assistance," and then "Needs Intervention." Here are the findings for each of our districts:

Franklin County Community School Corporation - Meets requirements

Union County Schools - Meets requirements

Western Wayne Schools - Needs assistance

Northeastern Wayne Schools - Meets requirements

All four districts were found to be at 100% with the compliancy indicators assessed. That is great! The areas we need to work on are related to special education student growth and proficiency on state assessments. We will be sharing more about this in the near future!

BEHAVIOR STRATEGIES - VIDEO BRIEFS FOR YOU!

These 2-4 minute video clips have nuggets of wisdom for elementary and secondary teachers, alike! Check them out, and if she sparks some ideas....keep digging into her YouTube channel! She seems to have been peeking into some of our classroom door windows! ;)

Classroom Management/ Disruptive Behavior with Polly Bath

[Every Behavior Has a PURPOSE!](#)

[How I Respond to Escalating Behaviors](#)

[Taking Back Control When Behavior Goes TOO FAR!](#)

[How to meet oppositional defiance with a consistent limit...](#)

[Do I Keep Control or Lose Control?](#)

[Emotional disturbance in the classroom: don't give up on Bobby](#)

Strategy Tip: STOP TALKING! Ask yourself....'What are they trying to say?'

Keep watching her videos and check out her website!

[What Kids Need After Massive Uncertainty](#)

<https://cristialesher.com/polly-bath/#>

FREE WEBINAR FROM PATINS

Digital ≠ Accessible: Learn How to Create Accessible Content in Canvas & Beyond

In an age of digital learning, we must ensure that we are creating accessible digital resources for all students. Retrofitting accessibility into current content or old documents and worksheets can prove cumbersome and challenging. In this webinar, attendees will explore essential design & accessibility elements to include and how to make this happen in Canvas and other digital spaces when creating new content for students and families. [Register for this webinar](https://www.google.com/calendar/event?eid=N3RsYnQwOTg3OGpwdDFuZHJodGM4MGgzYXUgbzdzZjRINTN2Mms2ZG1yN3JydXZ2MnVlaGNAZw)

Date: March 9, 2023, 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Url: [https://www.google.com/calendar/event?](https://www.google.com/calendar/event?eid=N3RsYnQwOTg3OGpwdDFuZHJodGM4MGgzYXUgbzdzZjRINTN2Mms2ZG1yN3JydXZ2MnVlaGNAZw)

[eid=N3RsYnQwOTg3OGpwdDFuZHJodGM4MGgzYXUgbzdzZjRINTN2Mms2ZG1yN3JydXZ2MnVlaGNAZw](https://www.google.com/calendar/event?eid=N3RsYnQwOTg3OGpwdDFuZHJodGM4MGgzYXUgbzdzZjRINTN2Mms2ZG1yN3JydXZ2MnVlaGNAZw)



Liza Bates

Liza is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters