Special Education Update

East Central Indiana Special Services.......January 3, 2022

Upcoming CPI Training Sessions

All staff in need of initial CPI certification or recertification will need to participate in a full day of training as well as complete about 2.5 hours of online coursework prior to the in person training. These trainings are being held monthly at the East Central Educational Service Center, 705 W 21st Street, in Connersville from 9 AM-4 PM. Lunch will be on your own. Please wear closed-toe shoes and comfortable clothing. Training dates are scheduled for 1/26, 2/10, and 3/3. The online modules will be emailed to participants 2 weeks prior to their in-person training.

Registration links:
January 26: https://forms.gle/6TPcAPTLSymvwd787.
February 10: https://forms.gle/6mFQVRrRQv9gponKA
March 3: https://forms.gle/MjfDaxRtFJxNWwt2A

When registering, please list Liza Bates, liza.bates@eciss.org, as the billing contact for this training.

Last Call to Join Book Study Group – Registration Closes This Friday!

Struggling with student behavior? This may help! Please consider joining our virtual book study group starting this month. We will be reading Lori Desautels new book, Connections Over Compliance: Rewiring Our Perceptions of Discipline.
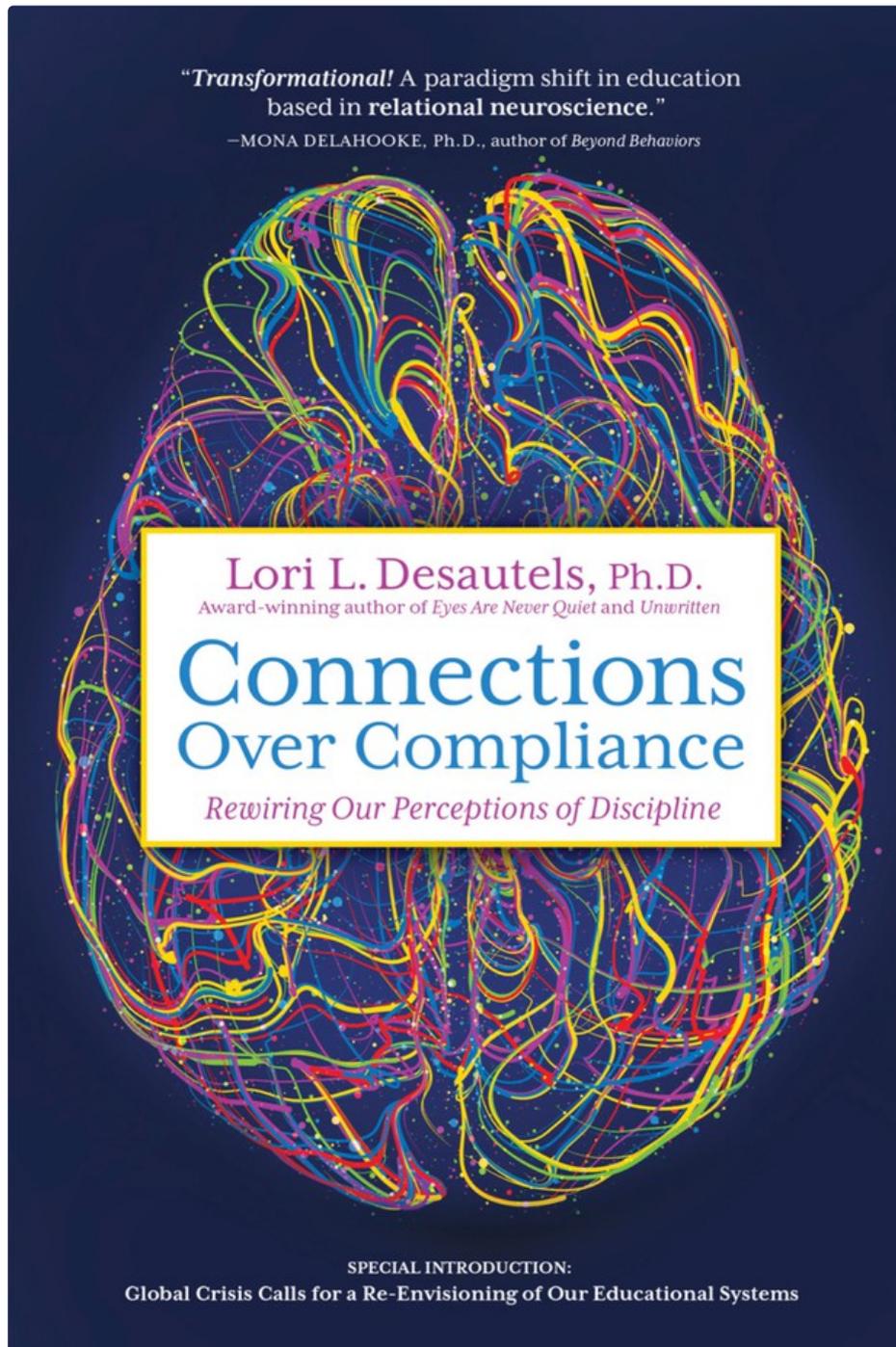
Info about the book:
The developing brains of our children need to "feel" safe. Children who carry chronic behavioral challenges are often met with reactive and punitive practices that can potentially reactivate the developing stress response systems. This book addresses the need for co-regulatory and relational touch point practices, shifting student-focused behavior management protocols to adult regulated brain and body states which are brain aligned, preventive, and relational discipline protocols. This new lens for discipline benefits all students by reaching for sustainable behavioral changes through brain state awareness rather than compliance and obedience.

Info about the book study group:
- Virtual meetings will be held biweekly during second semester

- A FREE BOOK will be provided to those who participate
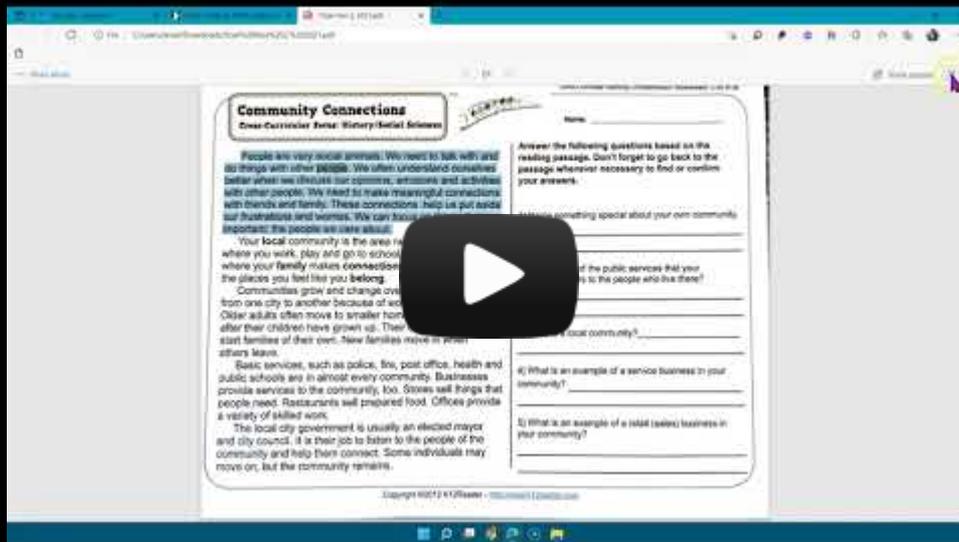- Professional growth points will be provided at the end of the book study

Register here: https://forms.gle/ENnjT28Ysvx1XjFt8 on or before Friday, January 7th!!

Use Microsoft Edge to Read Aloud PDFs

Are your students using the web browser, Microsoft Edge? If yes, they can take advantage of built-in accessibility features such as annotation and read aloud for PDF documents. When transitioning from a worksheet to a PDF, it is important to use a scanning system which has Optical Character Recognition (OCR) such as Adobe Scan or PDF2Go.com. By following the simple steps in the video, you can turn inaccessible worksheets into accessible PDFs for use by all students in the classroom.

PDF Read Aloud and Annotation in Microsoft Edge

Secondary Teachers – SAT Accommodations Resource For You

The College Board has prepared an accommodations crosswalk document, which clarifies how College Board accommodations relate to the accommodations in Indiana IEP. Print this off and keep a copy on hand for case conferences!

PLEASE READ – Update from DOE Regarding Homebound Placements and Shortened Instructional Days

If a student's behavior impedes their learning or the learning of others, the CCC must consider positive behavioral interventions, supports, and other strategies to address those behaviors. The focus of the CCC should be on appropriately addressing the behavior with positive supports and instruction, a functional behavioral assessment (FBA), and a behavioral intervention plan (BIP). **Shortening the student's instructional day or placing the student on homebound instruction should not be utilized in place of appropriately addressing behaviors that may negatively impact the student's ability to receive a free appropriate public education (FAPE).** For examples of positive, proactive, and responsive classroom behavior intervention and support strategies for teachers, please see Supporting and Responding to Behavior- Evidence: Based Classroom Strategies for Teachers. For questions, please contact specialeducation@doe.in.gov.

The length of the instructional day for students with disabilities must be the same as the instructional day for nondisabled students. Indiana Code 20-30-2-2(a) specifies that a school must provide at least 180 days of instruction per school year. A student's instructional day consists of at least five hours of instruction for grades one though six and at least six hours of instruction for grades seven through 12. Lunch and recess are not considered instructional time.

511 IAC 7-42-11 provides for instruction for students at a student's home or an alternative setting. This is only appropriate when the case conference committee (CCC) determines such arrangements to be the least restrictive environment (LRE) for the student to benefit from special education and related services. **If the CCC determines the LRE to be the student's home or an alternative setting, the**

determination must include the reasons the student is not attending school, other options tried or considered, and the reasons why the other options were rejected. The CCC must convene at least every 60 instructional days.

NO BLUE ENVELOPES - Make Sure Your Students Receive Their Accommodations!

Please review students' accommodations in Indiana IEP ahead of the state testing windows. Ensure that the correct accommodations appear in Indiana IEP and that the IEP with the most current accommodations is finalized. Only accommodations from finalized IEPs will transfer to TIDE and be provided on the assessment.

ILEARN Info - New Embedded Speech-to-Text Feature

Embedded speech-to-text (STT) is available for the ILEARN and ISTEP+ Retest assessments. To properly document the use of this accommodation within the student's plan (IEP, SP, CSEP, or 504 plan), please specify that STT is needed in the classroom as well as on statewide assessments. Please include this accommodation in Indiana IEP (IIEP) when describing additional accommodations needed by a student or within the conference notes. Information on the embedded STT accommodation can be found in the Accessibility and Accommodations Training Module. STT will be available for students to interact with once online practice tests are released later this month.