Special Education Update

East Central Indiana Special Services.....November 18, 2020

December 1 Child Count is Almost Here! Please Help!

Please help to make this year's count as accurate as possible by:

- Carefully checking your class list for any errors or omissions and scanning/emailing it back to Mindy by this Friday, November 20. Please make sure to include all homeschooled students with ISPs that are on your caseload!
- Making certain that all move-in students get counted contact whoever does your DOE-RT for the school/district and ask them to complete a special upload of the move- in student and send a new enrollee form to the East Central office for all move-ins
- Turning in withdrawal paperwork for all students who have moved away, transitioned to homeschooling, etc.
- At a minimum, obtaining and sending in the signed consent form for any initial placements that occur from now until December 1st. Mort's Tech Tip: Text a picture of the consent form to the parent's cell phone. Direct the parent to save the photo to their phone, then use "mark up" in the editing features to sign and date it and have them text the signed form back to you. You can then email the signed form to yourself and print it out.
- Finalizing all draft and pending IEPs, and getting rid of those blue envelopes in IIEP, please!

NEW Read Aloud Accommodation Guidance for Grades 3-12

The IDOE has developed new guidance on the use of text to speech or a human reader for the read aloud accommodations on state testing. Effective immediately, please make sure to utilize this document at case conferences when determining need for this accommodation: https://www.in.gov/sboe/files/TTS_%20Human%20Reader%20Guidance%20F2.pdf.

Be Proactive! Avoid These Mistakes! - Top Reasons Complaints and Due Process Were Filed in Indiana Due to COVID

As some of our schools are moving to virtual instruction again and others may do so in future, I wanted to share the list below from DOE so that we can be proactive in our planning. These are actual issues from cases that have been filed in Indiana. Please make sure to avoid these things if your school/corporation goes virtual again:

- Virtual instruction and services were not provided
- Virtual services did not include direct special ed services only uploaded assignments
- Virtual instruction and services were provided but were not sufficient to meet goals/FAPE
- Evaluations were not conducted in a timely manner
- Annual case conference meetings were not held in a timely manner
- Required committee members were not present at case conference meetings
- IEPs were revised without permission or without a case conference being held
- Placement changes were made without a case conference meeting
- ESY/retention was not considered at a case conference meeting
- Progress monitoring was not completed/progress reports were not provided to parents

High School Special Education Teachers - Letter For Students and Families

To assist schools in making sure students and families are aware of the Post School Outcomes Survey (Indicator 14), IDOE and the Center on Community Living and Careers (CCLC) have written a <u>letter</u> for schools to give to students and their families during their final two years in school (most likely junior and senior year). This <u>letter</u> will also be available to download in the documents section of IIEP in December. Please include this letter with the materials you provide at the annual case review conference for these students.

Just Breathe.....Another Exercise for You to Share with Your Students



Use Rewordify.com to Reduce Text Complexity for Your Students

Rewordify.com helps with reading comprehension and vocabulary development by simplifying text to a lower reading level. It lets you reword a sentence or a paragraph. It will simplify English by reducing text complexity. It can also improve comprehension and help with vocabulary. Check it out today! <u>https://rewordify.com/</u>

PATINS Lending Library - Try It Before You Buy It!

The PATINS Lending Library is a **free** service that loans assistive technology devices, software, resource materials, apps, etc., to Indiana school personnel. These items are shipped directly to you at your school. Items are loaned for a six-week evaluation period but may be renewed. Click on this link for the lending library catalog: **PATINS Library Catalog** (opens new window)

PATINS also has Apple Apps for you to borrow. Please use this <u>Google Document</u> to search. You can borrow an iPad with apps, both paid and/or free apps or they can send apps directly to your device as long as it is not being managed by an MDM solution such as Filewave.

Find something you'd like to try? Here is the form to check out an item from the PATINS Lending Library: **PATINS Lending Library Loan Request**

