

FROM THE DIRECTOR

May 11, 2018

INDIANA OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION UPDATES

May 11, 2018

The end of the school year is fast approaching and the days are filled with completing the curriculum, taking end of course assessments, holding final case conferences, and celebrating with special events and awards. Hopefully, it is also a time when educators are reflecting on their work and beginning to plan for yet another year. It's a good time for all educators to contemplate not only the lessons their students have learned but also the lessons they have learned. A three step mantra might provide a helpful guide for this reflection and planning.

First, dig deep. Most reflection occurs on a general level answering questions such as, "What did I teach? What did I do well? What could I have done better?" These questions are valid, but also fairly broad. This year, try going beyond the "whats" and focus on the "who, when, where, how and why" questions. "Who did I teach? Who did I impact? Who did I reach and how did I reach them?" "Why did some students learn while others floundered and where and when could I have handled something differently?" Dig deep.

Second, look ahead. As important as it is to reflect on the past, it is equally valuable to take more than a glimpse at the future. Think about new initiatives and challenges that are on the horizon...the Certificate of Completion revision, the new diploma, new graduation pathways, changes in assessment, changes in your own school. Ask yourself, for what do I need to prepare? Dig deep. Look ahead.

Finally, plan well! Begin with the "whats" again. Ask, "What do I need to do differently next year?" And because it sometimes takes more than just a commitment to do things differently, ask "What do I need that will help me do things differently?" Then move on to the "who, when, where, how and whys." Who do I need to prepare for? When and where will I need help? What additional training will help me? How can I change to better teach and reach?" Dig deep. Look ahead. Plan well.

Whether you are an administrator, teacher, paraprofessional, or any other school employee, you owe it to yourself and to your students to really think about your practice of teaching and learning. As schools continue to face multiple challenges, taking time now to dig deep, look ahead and plan well can make a significant impact on your own performance in the year ahead. Start making a summer to-do list now that will help you become even better than you were this school year! As for this current school year, thank you for all of your hard work and dedication on behalf of students with disabilities. -Pam

Looking for summer in-service opportunities to help with your plan? Turn to Page 5 for a list of spring and summer trainings offered by the Indiana Resource Network.



Dr. Pamela Wright

Director of the Office of Special Education

Inside this Issue

OSE News	2
State Guidance: Communication Disorders Memo	3
IRN FOCUS: The Equity Project IIEP Year End Recap	4
IRN Training Schedule	5
Assessment Update	6
Upcoming Dates and Deadlines	7

OSE Vision Statement

Every student, including those with disabilities, is held to high expectations and has equitable access to educational opportunities that enrich lives and prepare students for future success.

FROM THE DIRECTOR**OSE NEWS YOU CAN USE****Special Education Excess Cost (SEEC) Update:
New Allowable Cost Information**

With the help of a group of stakeholders, IDOE has revised and updated allowable cost information pertaining to the use of the SEEC fund. The document outlining the updated allowable costs can be found on the Special Education Administrators community, under the Files and Bookmarks tab, and in SEEC Updates in the SEEC Funding folder.

Any application for SEEC funding the OSE receives going forward will be reviewed with both the emergency measures (initiated December, 2017) and the new allowable cost document.

Any application requesting SEEC funding for services prior to July 1, 2018, will be approved or denied using the emergency measures. Any application requesting SEEC funding for services beginning on or after July 1 will be approved or denied using the new document with the exception of funds related to extended school year (ESY) services.

Funding for ESY services for the summer of 2018 will be reviewed using the emergency measures. Starting with 2018-2019 school year any requests for funding ESY services will be reviewed using the new allowable cost information.

Applications that have been approved and contracts that have been executed prior to the release of this document will not be affected by these changes and payments on invoices will continue.

The OSE is also working to complete a new application workbook template as well as a new invoice workbook template that will reflect the updated allowable costs. We hope to have the templates released soon, with the expectation that by July 1, 2018, all applications and invoices submitted will be completed using the new templates.

**No Mode of Communication Goal Audit**

The Office of Student Assessment and Office of Special Education participated in a collaborative audit of student goals for students who were designated as No Mode of Communication on the ISTAR alternate assessment for two consecutive years. We are happy to report that out of 210 IEPs reviewed, 196 had a communication goal. We strongly suggest that all students designated as No Mode of Communication have a specific goal related to communication. We are also pleased to share that the number of students that were designated as No Mode of Communication has decreased from last year: 528 students in SY 16-17, and 452 in SY 17-18. Special thanks to the Indiana [IEP Resource Center](#), [PATINS](#), and [Project SUCCESS](#) for their help in the reviews. Please reach out to them (or any of our [resource centers](#)) if you would like assistance in writing communication goals and/or working with students with little or no mode of communication.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

STATE GUIDANCE
Emergency Permits in Communications Disorders Discontinued

Please review and share with applicable staff this IDOE memo issued May 4, 2018.



Dr. Jennifer McCormick
Superintendent of Public Instruction

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Working Together for Student Success

TO: Superintendents, Principals, and Directors of Special Education

FROM: Department of Education

DATE: May 4, 2018

RE: Discontinuance of Emergency Permits in Communication Disorders

Since 2007, the Indiana Department of Education has exercised authority provided under IC 25-35.6-1-8.5 to issue and renew Emergency Permits in Communication Disorders for those candidates who hold a bachelor's degree in speech, language and hearing sciences and who are enrolled, and have a verified plan of study, in a graduate program for communication disorders or speech, language and hearing sciences.

This is notice to school employers and Directors of Special Education that the section of Indiana law giving the Department the authority to issue and renew Communication Disorders Emergency Permits expires on June 30, 2018. Consequently, the Office of Educator Licensing will not be able to issue or renew any Emergency Permits in Communication Disorders for the 2018-19 school year and subsequent school years unless future action by the Indiana General Assembly reinstates the IDOE's authority.

Because any changes would involve statutory fix, you are free to contact your state legislators. See who your state legislators are by clicking here: <http://iga.in.gov/legislative/find-legislators/>.



FROM THE DIRECTOR

IRN PARTNER FOCUS



<p>The Equity Project Indiana University (812) 855-4438 equityiu@indiana.edu</p>	
--	--

The [Equity Project](#) has long been a key contributor to the knowledge base about inequalities in education, and methods for schools and school districts to address those issues.

The Equity Project continues to collaborate with IDOE in order to evaluate LEA data for compliance with disproportionality Indicators 4a and 4b, 9, and 10 and evaluate LEA data for Significant Disproportionality in discipline, disability and placement. Additionally, the Equity Project at Indiana University maintains and updates the Equity in Indiana [web-site](#) to assist LEAs throughout Indiana in monitoring their own disproportionality. For an LEA specific password, please contact Kristan, ksievers@doe.in.gov.

Virtuoso Education/Consulting LLC has teamed up with The Equity Project and IDOE to provide a variety of types of technical assistance and professional development for LEAs on the topic of disproportionality.

<p>Virtuoso Education Consulting (317) 386-6060 admin@virtuosoed.com</p>	
--	--

Indiana IEP Year In Review

The 2017-2018 academic year has been a busy year for Indiana IEP maintenance and development. Thank you for sharing your wants and needs as we continue to support a best in the nation system.

Because of you, Indiana IEP...

- ◆ Now contains an embedded, dynamic translation feature that can translate IEPs into Spanish, German, French, Russian, Chinese, Japanese, and Vietnamese
- ◆ Now permits a user to locate or filter students by their date of birth
- ◆ Now allows for notification of a student who has an emergency evacuation plan and the location of the plan
- ◆ Now allows for notification of a student who has a health plan and the location of the plan
- ◆ Now contains a reorganized and more streamlined Documents Section making it easier for IIEP users to find the desired information, including the Notice of Procedural Safeguards in nine (9) languages: English, Spanish, German, French, Russian, Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, and Burmese

FROM THE DIRECTOR



TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Here are some of the spring and summer PD trainings offered by our IRN partners:

May	9	Indiana Deaf-Blind Services Project	Haptics Communication Training
May	10	PASS Project	EPO Webinar: Language, Literacy, and the Importance of Family Involvement
May	16-18	HANDS in Autism	Transition & Vocational Programming-IUPUI
June	5-6	IEPRC	The Co-Taught Classroom: How to Create an Amazing Nearly Miraculous & Earth-Shattering Partnership - Elementary Focus; Presenter: Paula Kluth
June	7-8	IEPRC	The Co-Taught Classroom: How to Create an Amazing Nearly Miraculous & Earth-Shattering Partnership - Secondary Focus; Presenter: Paula Kluth
June	11-15	IRCA	TEACCH Training-Indianapolis
June	12	Project SUCCESS	Summer Regional Training - Indianapolis
June	12-13	PASS Project	Reality AV Seasons 1 and 2
June	18-19	PASS Project	Indiana Deaf Educators and Educational Interpreters Conference
June	18-20	HANDS in Autism	Summer Training-IUPUI
June	20	Project SUCCESS	Summer Regional Training - Vincennes
June	21	Project SUCCESS	Summer Regional Training - Jeffersonville
June	26	Project SUCCESS	Summer Regional Training - Westville
June	27	Project SUCCESS	Summer Regional Training - Huntington
July	9-13	HANDS in Autism	Summer Training-IUPUI
July	16-17	PASS Project	Summer Institute for Educational Interpreters
July	16-20	Early Childhood Center	Effective Early Childhood Inclusive Services Summer Institute
July	18-20	HANDS in Autism	Transition & Vocational Programming-IUPUI

FREE TRAINING on Content Connectors Offered by Project SUCCESS

Do you have students utilizing the Content Connectors and taking the alternate assessment? Would you like to receive support and professional development at no-cost from the Project SUCCESS team?

Project SUCCESS team members are preparing their schedules for the 2018-2019 school year. Please take a moment to complete [this survey](#) if you'd like to arrange professional development with Project SUCCESS.

If you are a teacher, please share this survey with your administrator or director for completion.

FROM THE DIRECTOR**ASSESSMENT UPDATE****ISTEP+ ECA****Spring Electronic Report Release Information**

The chart below contains score release information for the Spring Administration.

Spring Score Release Information	Online Testing		Paper/Pencil Testing	
	Testing Completed	Electronic Reports Available	Materials Received by <u>Questar</u>	Electronic Reports Available
	By May 4	May 11	By May 11	May 18
Dates	After May 4	**2 days	After May 11	*7 days

* Seven business days after Questar receives materials.

** Two business days after May 11 and/or indication of "Testing Complete" by STCs.

Summer Registration Window The Summer Registration window will be open until May 11, 2018. This assessment is for any remaining students in the 2018 cohort. [Contact Questar](#) for assistance.

IREAD-3**IDOE Pretest Workshop – IREAD-3 Summer Retest**

Corporations and schools with one or more students who did not pass the IREAD-3 this spring should view [this recorded WebEx](#) ahead of administering the IREAD-3 summer retest. Schools may use this [PDF](#) of the PowerPoint slides for local training.

ISTAR**ISTAR Part 2 Testing Window Continues (Grades 3-8 & 10)**

The ISTAR Part 2 window (Grades 3-8 and 10) continues through Friday, May 18.

WIDA ACCESS**ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Score Interpretation Resources**

Reminder: 2017-2018 score report resources are posted on the [WIDA website](#).

Interpreting Score Reports Webinar on May 16

Wednesday, May 16 from 2 p.m. - 3 p.m. (ET) - share this [link](#) with your EL staff.

Formative Assessment Grants**Exciting Opportunity! Register for Summer Professional Development**

The Office of Assessment invites you to attend a **free** Assessment Literacy Professional Development day offered June 5 and then repeated June 22! Sessions include strategies to create a balanced system of assessments, share-outs from Indiana school corporations, and updates from the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE). Please use this [flyer](#) to learn more about the offered sessions and to register.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

UPCOMING DATES & DEADLINES

ISTAR Part 2 Testing Window continues through	May 18
2018-2019 Formative Assessment Grant application due	May 21
IIEP Special Education Student Cleanup.....	June 16

Assessment Update (Continued from page 6)

2018-2019 Formative Assessment Grant Application Window is Open!

Applications to participate in the 2018-2019 Formative Assessment Grant may be submitted until **May 21**. Click [here](#) to access the Formative Grant Online Portal.

The [Formative Assessment Grant Overview](#) and [Application Instructions](#) serve as references describing the grant purpose and application process. Please contact [Mary Williams](#) with any questions that you have with this process.

Onsite Monitoring:

The Office of Student Assessment will be conducting unannounced onsite monitoring visits during the ISTEP+ Part 2, ISTEP+ ECA and ISTAR windows. Please ensure that school administrators and staff are aware that these onsite visits will be conducted.

Disproportionality Notices

Notices of **Significant Disproportionality** were emailed to seven Special Education Directors and Superintendents on Wednesday May 2nd. One district received a notice of Reasonable Progress. If your LEA did not receive a notice, then you are not out of compliance for Significant Disproportionality and do not have to use 15% of your Part B 611 & 619 funds for Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CEIS). The notice included a summary of the data used to make the decision, an explanation of the calculations used, and instructions for next steps.

Information on **Indicator 4a/b, 9 and 10** file reviews will be sent to directors and superintendents next week. The notice includes a summary of the data used to make the decision, an explanation of the calculations used, and instructions for next steps. Further review of your policies and procedures, as well as a review of a sample of student files will determine whether any finding of noncompliance is warranted (File Review). Please note that this notice of disproportionality is not the same as the notice of significant disproportionality that carries a consequence of reserving 15% of your Part B funds for Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CEIS). Please email Kristan Sievers-Coffer at ksievers@doe.in.gov if you have further questions or concerns.



The last issue of *From the Director* for the 2017-2018 school year will go out May 31, 2018. If you have ideas for future articles or features you would like to see included, please contact Traci Tetrick, ttetrick@doe.in.gov.

For Assistance at any time please contact:
 Special Education General Call Line: 317-232-0570
 email: specialeducation@doe.in.gov