



Michigan Department of Education Office of Special Education (OSE)

## OSE Update

**October 2018**

### **What's New?**

#### **Alt+Shift**

- Briana Bancroft joined the team on September 4 as our new Math Accessibility Specialist. She was an elementary school teacher for Ishpeming Public Schools. Briana will head up our efforts related to math including Foundations of Math and Enhancing Mathematics Instruction for Students with Learning Difficulties.
- Carolyn O'Hearn started on October 1 as our new Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)/Assistive Technology (AT) Specialist. She was a speech-language pathologist (SLP) for Lapeer Intermediate School District (ISD). Carolyn will head up our efforts related to Pragmatic Organization Dynamic Display (PODD) and the Assistive Technology Journey Symposium, as well as provide general assistance and guidance related to AAC and AT.
- Two trainers recently completed their certification to teach Emergent Literacy for Students with Significant Disabilities and Complex Communication Needs. Site applications were reviewed last spring and implementation is under way this school year.
- Three trainers began their trainer certification process for Conventional Literacy for Students with Significant Disabilities and Complex Communication Needs in September. This process is ongoing throughout the school year.
- We now offer facilitated strategic implementation planning as an additional implementation support when partnering with intermediate school districts (ISDs) and districts.

#### **Early Childhood**

#### **Preschool Special Education Part B IDEA, Section 619 Preschool Special Education**

#### **Opportunities**

Last call for those interested in training in the Inclusive Classroom Profile (ICP).



We are confirming our list of individuals who would like to receive training in the ICP. The ICP training consists of a 3 hour overview of the assessment tool and two days focused on interrater reliability following the format of 3 hour classroom observation (in teams of no more than 3) and debriefing and scoring of the assessment tool for reliability for two consecutive days.

Please contact Lisa Wasacz at [wasaczl@michigan.gov](mailto:wasaczl@michigan.gov) or Mark Kuipers [mkuipers@ccresa.org](mailto:mkuipers@ccresa.org) to sign up or to learn more about this opportunity.

Additionally, if you have general education classrooms where at least one child is enrolled with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) where we can observe and complete the ICP classroom portion of the interrater reliability component, please let Mark or Lisa know.

Training on ICP will take place around the state November 12 – December 16, 2018. A Survey Monkey will be sent to interested individuals to determine dates and locations within this date range.

## **Training & Technical Assistance**

### **Preschool Educational Environments**

The ongoing data surrounding Preschool Educational Environments (SPP/APR Indicator B-6) highlights the steady, but slow progress on this indicator. The FFY2017-2018-year data is out. If you are interested in reviewing Michigan data or having your staff members involved a conversation about the regulations, guidance, research and practice around inclusion, please contact Lisa Wasacz at [wasaczl@michigan.gov](mailto:wasaczl@michigan.gov) or Mark Kuipers at [mkuipers@ccresa.org](mailto:mkuipers@ccresa.org).

### **Resources**

The Early Childhood Technical Assistance enhanced their website. The URL remains the same at [www.ectacenter.org](http://www.ectacenter.org). However, the content is easier to navigate. This Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) funded resource is intended to be a one-stop shop for all things IDEA as it relates to Part C and Section 619 for preschool special education. Keep in mind this a national resource, not a Michigan specific resource

### **Finance**

Please note the reports below and their corresponding due dates.

- State Aid SE-4824 Section 24 Final Cost Report due October 26, 2018
- FY2017 Flowthrough Grant Final Expenditure Report (FER) due November 29, 2018



- FY2017 Preschool Grant FER due November 29, 2018

### **Low Incidence Outreach (LIO)**

Due to survey responses indicating a high demand for online courses in Braille and in American Sign Language, Michigan Department of Education – Low Incidence Outreach (MDE-LIO) is pleased to offer classes listed in the learning opportunities section of the MAASE updates. While current classes are filled, we look forward to offering the online classes again in the spring.

MDE-LIO is planning a Parent Forum to take place in Lansing on December 1, 2018. More information will soon be available on LIO's website (<https://mdelio-org>).

MDE-LIO is looking forward to showcasing American Printing House for the Blind (APH) equipment at the December MAASE meeting.

### **Medicaid School Based Services (SBS) Program**

- Please let **Dana Billings** know of Medicaid staff/personnel changes in your district. You can contact her at [billingsd1@michigan.gov](mailto:billingsd1@michigan.gov) or 517-335-2250 with information about who has left, who has arrived, their title/role and contact information.
- To discuss **Medicaid SBS Policy**, contact Kevin Bauer at the Medicaid agency: [BauerK2@michigan.gov](mailto:BauerK2@michigan.gov) or 517-284-1197
- To discuss **Medicaid reimbursement for your district**, contact Amy Kanter at the Medicaid agency: [KanterA@michigan.gov](mailto:KanterA@michigan.gov) or 517-241-4240

### **Michigan Department of Education (MDE)**

#### **[Read by Grade 3 Law](#)**

- MDE is in the process of building a Read by Grade Three Guide in collaboration with a Read by Grade Three committee. The guide will build on the current [MDE's Read by Grade Three Law FAQ](#) and will be available at the beginning of November.

### **Michigan Alliance for Families (MAF)**

- MAF is pleased to welcome Stephanie Nicholls, a new regional parent mentor. Stephanie will serve Western Oakland County and Livingston County.
- Lisa Casper, the regional parent mentor for the western Upper Peninsula for more than nine years, left in August to take a full-time teaching position at a local college. Her dedication, wisdom, and experience will be missed. We wish her much joy and success in her new job.



- In recent months, with the help of GUD Marketing, we have expanded our marketing efforts to additional areas of the state. Regional parent mentors report that calls and inquiries from parents in those areas have increased. We attribute some of the increase to the work that GUD is doing on behalf of MAF.

### **Michigan’s Integrated Behavior and Learning Support Initiative (MIBLSI)**

- MIBLSI is partnering with the Center on Teaching and Learning (University of Oregon) in an Institute of Education Sciences research design to evaluate the impact of an integrated reading and behavior intervention for first and second grade.

### **Monitoring**

- The OSE has trained 4 ISDs in completing ISD led monitoring activities for the Fall monitoring cycle. There will be 3 additional training opportunities this fall for an introduction to ISD led monitoring. ISDs only need to attend one session. Anyone who might participate in the monitoring activities are welcome to attend. ISDs are encouraged to send a team of 2 or more people. There will also be indicator specific training in the spring before the monitoring cycles for those ISDs which will be completing ISD led monitoring.

### **Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) Resources**

- July 27, 2018: [Letter to Mason](#) addresses which factors school staff should consider in determining whether shortened school days are factored into a change of placement decision.
- Aug. 2, 2018: [Letter to Siegel](#) addresses whether a local educational agency (LEA) has a duty to notify parents of their rights under *IDEA* prior to their child being referred for an evaluation and identified as a child with a disability.
- Aug. 2, 2018: [Letter to McDowell](#) addresses whether IEP Teams may consider interveners an appropriate related service for children who are deaf-blind, even though interveners are not specifically identified in the list of examples of related services in *IDEA*.
- Aug. 2, 2018: [Letter to Anonymous](#) addresses children with disabilities who transfer to different states within the same school year, and whether the new LEA must evaluate them if they already meet the state’s new eligibility criteria. It also addresses whether a formal review of the child’s existing

evaluation data (by a school psychologist) is required or if an IEP Team discussion and decision would be sufficient.

- Aug. 23, 2018: [Letter to Anonymous](#) addresses whether a public agency may limit the amount of time an independent evaluator is allotted to observe a child in the child's educational setting when the evaluator is paid by the parent and not by the public agency.
- Aug. 23, 2018: [Letter to Fletcher](#) addresses how expedited due process hearings should be scheduled when there are fewer than 20 school days left in the school year (SY), and whether holding such a hearing within the last 20 days of the SY would be consistent with *IDEA*.

### **Special Education Mediation Services (SEMS)**

- The Michigan Special Education Mediation Program (MSEMP) has a new name; Special Education Mediation Services (SEMS).



- In the coming weeks, watch for new brochures and a website with updated information about the program.
- In 2017, SEMS centralized its intake process for mediation and facilitated meeting requests. Recently, Andrea Magyar joined our staff. She will support the intake process and work with our intake coordinator. Andrea will also help Cheryl Levine with SEMS data management.
- A record number of students and districts made use of our mediation and facilitated meetings services during the 2017-2018 school year. The mediation agreement rate was 81.15 percent. The most recent national agreement rate tallied by The Center for Appropriate Dispute Resolution in Special Education (CADRE) is 69 percent.
- SEMS is upgrading its training for mediators and facilitators to increase their special education knowledge and ability to handle complex issues. Training will involve face-to-face and online modules with pre- and post-tests to help measure learning.

### **Statewide Autism and Resources Training (START)**

- START's 2018-2019 Early Childhood, K-12, and Building Your Future (BYF) intensive training series have begun. The host sites for these trainings are: Shiawassee RESD/Baker College of Owosso (Early Childhood), Jackson ISD



(BYF), Oakland Schools (K12), and Jackson ISD (BYF). Additionally, following up on last year's K12 Intensive Training series, K12 IT Year 2 modules will be hosted by Van Buren ISD and Macomb ISD.

- Sign-up for [START Connecting](https://www.gvsu.edu/autismcenter/start-connecting-email-updates-213.htm) (<https://www.gvsu.edu/autismcenter/start-connecting-email-updates-213.htm>) to receive bi-monthly email updates with articles, events, and tools.
- The 18th Annual START Conference: Breaking the Social Code, featuring Jed Baker and Michelle Garcia Winner, is set for April 29, 2019 at the [Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center](https://kelloggcenter.com/) (<https://kelloggcenter.com/>) in East Lansing. More information and registration will be available on the [START website](https://www.gvsu.edu/autismcenter/start-conference-167.htm) (<https://www.gvsu.edu/autismcenter/start-conference-167.htm>) in winter 2018.

## **Upcoming Learning Opportunities**

### **Alt+Shift**

- [Mathematics: Reaching All Learners Together](http://mi2.cenmi.org/professional-learning-opportunities/reaching-all-learners)  
(<http://mi2.cenmi.org/professional-learning-opportunities/reaching-all-learners>)
  - **October 22, 2018** – Lansing, MI
- [Enhancing Mathematics Instruction for Students with Learning Difficulties](http://mi2.cenmi.org/professional-learning-opportunities/enhancing-mathematics-instruction/attend-a-scheduled-training)  
(<http://mi2.cenmi.org/professional-learning-opportunities/enhancing-mathematics-instruction/attend-a-scheduled-training>)  
Three-day training (a fourth day is required for teams attending for facilitator certification)
  - **January 29-30, 2019 and March 5, 2019** (March 6, 2019 for facilitators-in-training) – St. Johns, MI
- [Conventional Literacy for Students with Significant Disabilities and Complex Communication Needs](https://www.altshift.education/event/conventional-literacy-instruction-students-significant-disabilities-and-complex-communication)  
(<https://www.altshift.education/event/conventional-literacy-instruction-students-significant-disabilities-and-complex-communication>)
  - **February 25-27, 2019** - Romulus, MI

### **Low Incidence Outreach (LIO)**

Due to survey responses indicating a high demand for online courses in Braille and in American Sign Language, Michigan Department of Education – Low Incidence Outreach (MDE-LIO) is pleased to be presently offering these classes.



### **Beginner Duxbury Braille Translator Workshop - Kent**

- October 12, 2018  
Grand Rapids, MI

### **Creating Braille in the Classroom With the Mountbatten - Morning**

- October 15, 2018  
Lansing, MI

### **Teaching Word 2010 Using JAWS - Hillsdale**

- November 8, 2018 to November 9, 2018  
Hillsdale, MI

### **Teaching Internet Explorer 10 Using JAWS - Lansing**

- November 13, 2018 to November 14, 2018  
Lansing, MI

### **Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) Video Conference: Developing Effective Interpreting Skills for Using Fingerspelling and Numbers**

- December 1, 2018  
Online (at six different host sites)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ANY OF THE ABOVE EVENTS, PLEASE VISIT <https://MDELIO.org>.

### **Medicaid School Based Services (SBS) Program**

- **Quarterly Meeting Dates: December 11 and March 12 from 1- 3 p.m.**

*Implementer meetings for the 2018-2019 year are presented by coordinators for coordinators who support Medicaid School Based Services. They are offered at Ingham ISD in Mason. For those unable to attend there is web access.*

Contact Dana Billings for more information at [billingsd1@michigan.gov](mailto:billingsd1@michigan.gov)

- **Name Conference:**

National Alliance for Medicaid in Education Annual Conference will be held October 14-17, 2018 in Baltimore, Maryland. For more details go to: [www.MedicaidForEducation.org](http://www.MedicaidForEducation.org)



- **Technical Assistance Workgroups:**

Technical assistance workgroups have been formed and will meet to create documents to support those implementing SBS Medicaid. **Dates include:** Wayne ISD on October 4, Wayne ISD on October 25, Ingham ISD on November 1, Wayne ISD on November 26, Oakland Schools on December 6.

- **Regional Meetings:**

*Currently there are four SBS Medicaid regional meetings scheduled to review SWOT data and create action plans for 2018-2019: October 2 at MARESA, October 11 at Saginaw ISD, October 22 at Wayne RESA and November 8 at Van Buren ISD.*

## **Michigan Alliance for Families (MAF)**

More learning opportunities and events are being developed, so visit the [MAF event calendar](http://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/upcoming-events/) (<http://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/upcoming-events/>). Be sure to view our selection of free [on-demand webinars](http://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/webinar/) (<http://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/webinar/>).

- Let's Talk Transition with Sandee Koski and Lisa Cook Gorden
  - **October 16, 2018** (9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.) – Van Buren ISD, Lawrence, MI
- Behavior is Communication with Sally Burton Hoyle
  - **October 19, 2018** (1:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.) – Macomb ISD, Clinton Township, MI
- Community Stakeholder Gathering
  - **October 23, 2018** (1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. or 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.) – Tuscola Technology Center, Caro, MI
- Rethinking Guardianship: Facilitating Lifelong Communication
  - **October 23, 2018** (5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.) – Kent ISD, Grand Rapids, MI
- Positive Behavior Supports with Sandee Koski
  - **October 24, 2018** (5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.) – Cheboygan Public Library, Cheboygan, MI
- Learn About: Individualized Education Program (IEP) 101
  - **October 25, 2018** (5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.) – The Right Door for Hope, Recovery & Wellness, Ionia, MI
- Understanding the IEP



- **October 29, 2018** (11:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.) – Disability Network Southwest Michigan, Kalamazoo, MI
- Learn About: Present Level of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance (PLAAFP) Statement
  - **October 30, 2018** (5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.) – The Right Door for Hope, Recovery & Wellness, Ionia, MI
- Family School Partnerships
  - **November 3, 2018** (9:00-11:30 a.m. or 12:30-3:00 p.m.) – Part of the Oakland Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Partnership in Action Day, Waterford, MI
- Learn About: Goals and Objectives
  - **November 8, 2018** (5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.) – The Right Door for Hope, Recovery & Wellness, Ionia, MI
- Section 504 Basics with Kenya Harper Black
  - **November 14, 2018** (5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.) – Romulus Public Library, Romulus, MI
- Learn About: Support Services, Accommodations and Modifications
  - **November 15, 2018** (5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.) – The Right Door for Hope, Recovery & Wellness, Ionia, MI
- Transition Planning for High School and Beyond with Sandee Koski
  - **November 15, 2018** (10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.) – Kennedy Learning Center, Southfield, MI
- Learn About: Skills for Effective Parent Advocacy
  - **December 6, 2018** (7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.) – The Arc of Kent County, Grand Rapids, MI

## **Michigan’s Integrated Behavior and Learning Support Initiative (MIBLSI)**

Please visit the [MIBLSI events page](https://miblsi.org/events) (https://miblsi.org/events) for more information on upcoming professional development events.

- [Focus Day: Behavior Interventions for Classrooms](https://miblsi.org/events/focus-day%3A-behavior-interventions-for-classrooms) (https://miblsi.org/events/focus-day%3A-behavior-interventions-for-classrooms)
  - **October 18, 2018** – Magnuson Franklin Square Inn, Houghton, MI



- **October 24, 2018** – Clinton County Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA), St. Johns, MI
- [Check In Check Out \(CICO\) School-Wide Information Systems \(SWIS\) Facilitator Certification Webinar](#)  
(<https://miblsi.org/events/cico-swis-facilitator-certification-webinar>)
  - **November 8, 2018** – Online  
Connection information will be sent to registrants prior to the training.
- MIBLSI 15<sup>th</sup> Annual State Conference
  - **April 25-26, 2019** – Crowne Plaza, Lansing, MI

### **Statewide Autism and Resources Training (START)**

- [Peer-to-Peer Statewide Training](#) (<https://www.gvsu.edu/autismcenter/start-events-49.htm>)
  - **October 16-17, 2018** – Crowne Plaza Lansing West, 925 Creyts Road, Lansing, MI
- [Regional Collaborative Networks \(RCN\) Trainings](#)  
(<https://www.gvsu.edu/autismcenter/fall-rcn-events-301.htm>)
  - RCN will host local trainings throughout the year using START content delivered by trainers from local districts. These trainings are open to attendees from outside the host district. Additional trainings will be announced as details are finalized.