



# SASSIE NEWS



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## Upcoming Events

### 16<sup>th</sup> Winter Deaflympics

The 16<sup>th</sup> Winter Deaflympics are being held in Salt Lake City. This is the first time the Deaflympics has been in the United States. It will be a thrilling Olympic experience. Please plan on attending some part of the designated events held February 1– February 10, 2007. Opening Ceremony tickets are being provided FREE by Sorenson Communications on a first-come, first-served basis to: teachers of the deaf, interpreters, students and their parents. Tickets to all the events are also available on this website. This is a great opportunity for the deaf children to be a part of an Olympic experience. Contact Mindy Bergeson at [expo@2007deaflympics.com](mailto:expo@2007deaflympics.com) or on the web at [www.sorenson.com/deaflympics/events.php](http://www.sorenson.com/deaflympics/events.php) for tickets.

### Autism Training

The SECRETS Model will be presented at the Ogden Eccles Center February 20-21, 2007. Emily Rubin will teach about Social Communication, Emotional Regulation, and Transactional Support. Take the time to come and learn how to effectively work with autistic children.

### Grade Level Content Standards

Save the date: Wednesday, April 25, 2007. This will be an all day workshop on new ideas in instruction for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities on **grade level content standards**.

## 60-Day Initial Evaluation Timeline

IDEA 2004 requires that initial evaluations be completed within 60 days of receipt of parental consent, regardless of whether the student is determined eligible or not eligible for special education services. As a state, we must report data for this State Performance Plan (SPP) indicator, which has a target of 100% compliance. As part of the state Annual Performance Report (APR), if that timeline is exceeded, we must also report reasons why the initial evaluation process exceeded 60 days. Please ensure that documentation of reasons for exceeding 60-day timeline, when applicable, are included with the evaluation results.

## Accommodation Training

Accommodation trainings on the new accommodation policy are still available. Contact Wendy Carver at [wendy.carver@schools.utah.gov](mailto:wendy.carver@schools.utah.gov).



## **Dec. 1 Child Count**

Tomorrow, Dec. 15, at 5:00 p.m. is the deadline for your December 1 Special Education child count to be submitted to the clearinghouse. Most of you have already submitted your data. Thanks so much.

## **LEA Applications**

LEA applications were due on October 20, 2006. There are still a few who have not yet applied for the 2006-2007 IDEA funds through this application process. I have reviewed all CUSAPS for those of you who submitted with your consolidated plan, and was able to pull your application from the larger plan. If there are any questions call Sandy Cox at 538-7569.

## **Estimator Disk**

The estimator disc is now on line at <http://sites.cpd.usu.edu/outreach/estimator/>. The site is also listed on USOE website at the Special Education link under Estimator Disc. Beyond the forms, the manual has a listing of all the approved standardized assessments teachers may use.

This is a good resource for teachers who are looking for assessments in specific areas to inform instruction.

## **NIMAC Update**

This is a reminder about the National Instructional Materials Center for Accessible Textbooks. The Center opened on schedule on Dec. 4, 2006. Utah opted to coordinate with NIMAC and a process is now being developed for the State and local districts. More details will be presented at the February meeting, or you can receive information at the NIMAC website at <http://www.nimac.us>.