



Upcoming Events

Tourette's Syndrome Conference

The Tourette Syndrome Conference is being held June 13 from 8:30—4:00 at the Larry Miller Center. Register by May 18 for the conference. To register go to

<http://www.schools.utah.gov/sars/inforesource/conferences.htm>

Contact Nancy Adams at 801.538.7906 if you have any questions.

UPIPS Steering Committee

The UPIPS Steering Committee will have a teleconference on March 26, 2008 from 9:00 am – 9:30 am to discuss revisions to the USOE Framework for Recognition, Assistance, and Intervention. Details were emailed to UPIPS Steering Committee members in February. If you are on the committee and did not receive an email with the call information, please contact Glenna Gallo.

Charter School Roundtable

The next Charter School Roundtable will be April 4. The Roundtable will be a part of the Transition Conference that is being held at the Provo Marriott. Lisa Arbogast will be presenting on the rules from 9:00—11:45 and Craig Boogaard from UAACT will be presenting on AT equipment from 1:30—2:45. If you have any questions contact Amy Peay at 538.7721
New and Nearly New Director's Institute
The next meeting will be held on April 11 from 9:00—12:00. Location TBD. Send RSVP and requested topics to Peggy Milligan by April 1.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 26—

UPIPS Steering Committee
Glenna Gallo

April 3-4—

Utah Transition Conference
Susan Loving

April 4—

Charter School Roundtable
Glenna Gallo

April 10-11

Positive Peer Power Conference
Chris Timothy

April 11—

New and Nearly New Director's Institute
Peggy Milligan

April 15—

Deaf and Hard of Hearing State Roundtable
Chris Timothy

April 16—

Visually Impaired State Roundtable
Chris Timothy

April 23—

Special Education Symposium
Bruce Schroeder

May 16—

Students with Significant Disabilities Focus Group
Chris Timothy

June 13—

Tourette's Syndrome Conference
Janet Gibbs

Janet Gibb's RTI Corner



A good website to help with talking points in starting the conversation about instructional strategies with general education teachers is www.ccsso.org/projects/secondary_school_redesign/adolescent_literacy_toolkit/resources_for_teachers/10613.cfm



Great questions and some good lesson plans in English language, science, math and social studies. (flyer in folder)

The Response to Intervention website (www.rte4success.org) has developed the website and there are many good articles located there. One article about the commonalities of RTI and Universal Design is interesting and explores the possible intersecting of these two in the classroom. A copy of the article is in your folder.

The Vanderbilt website (<http://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu>) has some information regarding Tier III. It is under their STAR Legacy Modules. The information helps flesh out what Tier III might look like.



2008-09 Literacy Grant Application

Application information for 2008-09 literacy grant is on the USOE/SPED website under updates.

USIMAC

The Legislature has given the one-time monies for the opening and setting up of the Utah State Instructional Materials Center!

We are so excited to have this opportunity to make alternate instructional materials available to students. Thanks to all of you who supported us through this process!



Walkabouts

- Walkabout scheduled March 25 & 26 in East Central Region – Carbon, Emery, Grand Moab Community and Pinnacle Canyon. Grand School District, please organize details and let Peggy know.
- Wasatch School District please contact Peggy to organize the April walkabout.
- Walkabout for Wasatch Central needs to be made up on May 27-28. Granite please contact Peggy to organize details LEAs involved are Murray, Granite, Park City, Salt Lake, Tooele, AMES, BSTA, Canyon Rim, East Hollywood, Entheos, Monticello, Success Academy, Dual Immersion, Guadalupe, Open Classroom, SL Arts, SL Performing Arts, City Academy, SL center of Science and Education and Monticello

Data Q&A

At a recent meeting, some directors raised questions about data collection and reporting.
Q: Is there a consistent way to calculate graduation and dropout rates?

A: This is an issue nationally. For SPP/APR purposes, USOE-Special Education uses the following methods:
 Graduation rate: Number of graduates divided by (graduates + reached maximum age + dropped out) X 100 = graduation rate

Dropout rate: Number of dropouts (DO) divided by the number of potential dropouts (total of all students, grades 9-12) X 100 = dropout rate

Q: How do we ensure that data are correct?

A: Since USOE records data submitted by LEAs, the best way to verify that the data are correct is to develop a method within the LEA for reviewing data prior to submission. For example, if the initial SCRAM data indicate that most of the students are being served in a self-contained setting and the LEA doubts the validity of the data, the LEA could double-check how data were collected, entered, and reported prior to submitting the data to USOE.

Q: Can USOE-Special Education request a list by LEA?

A: Yes, although a more efficient way would be for the LEA data manager to request any data directly from USOE. Please contact Bruce Hudgens at bruce.hudgens@schools.utah.gov for information on the availability of data reports.

Q: When can LEAs get a list of students by name and code so that they can verify data and correct it if necessary?

A: USOE-Special Education requests updates for the October 1 and December 1 child count reports and for exit reports: final exit data are not available until after the October 1 data collection the next school year. LEA data managers may contact Bruce Hudgens to request a copy of the raw data submitted by LEAs.

Q: Can LEAs generate their own report monthly?

A: Yes. LEAs may use their own internal systems to develop reports. This would best be accomplished in collaboration with the LEA data manager.

For further information about data reporting, please contact Cal Newbold at 538-7724.

Interpreter Initiatives

USDB will have a series of interpreter trainings. Those who will attend have been selected by application and their skill level in educational interpreting. After this training, they will be called "Mentor Interpreters".

They will be available across the state to mentor lesser skilled interpreters and improve programs across the state. Congratulations to those who were chosen for this training!



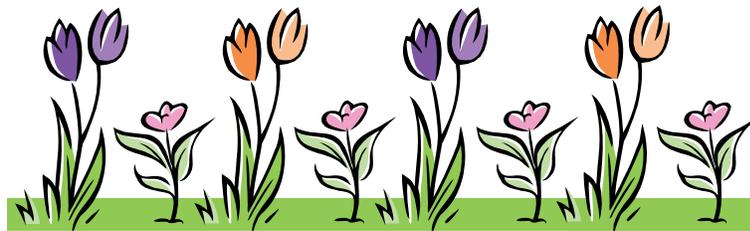
Transition Reading

In an effort to facilitate the provision of age-appropriate transition assessments, as required under IDEA and State Rules, USOE is providing a book of reproducible assessments; Informal Assessments for Transition: Independent Living and Community Participation.

One copy per LEA is available on a back table in the meeting room: each book is labeled with the name of the district or of the charter school that might serve transition-aged students. Please sign on the sheet provided if you do not see your LEA listed.

USOE Special Education Forms

Draft versions of the new USOE special education forms are available on <http://www.schools.utah.gov/sars/lawsregs/ie/forms-draft.htm> for the next 30 days. If you have questions or concerns about form content, please email Glenna.gallo@schools.utah.gov.



Wendy Carver Speaks out on Assessment

A student either takes the UAA in all subject areas or the CRT in all subject areas. If a student is tested on a CRT in one subject and a UAA in another subject, the student will be **non-proficient on the UAA no matter what the proficiency score.**

For example, if a student takes the CRT in math & science and the UAA in Language Arts, that student will be non-proficient on UAA. The presumption is if a student is cognitively able to take the CRT in one subject, that student is cognitively able to take the CRT in all subjects

UPIPS Deadlines

- Progress reports on Program Improvement Plans (PIPs) for LEAs in UPIPS Years 2-5 are due by June 30, 2008. Please include a copy of the evaluation method described in your PIP to show completion of activities. If you would like to revise your PIP, please submit an updated copy.
- For those LEAs in UPIPS Year 1, the Self-Assessment Report is also due by June 30, 2008.
- Please remember that evidence of CAP corrections is due within 10 months of notification.