



# SASSIE NEWS

## Susan's Transition Tidbits

### Graduation

School has just started; it's time to think about graduation. Good practice would suggest discussing graduation options annually beginning when the student is in 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Questions for the whole IEP team to consider during this discussion could be:

- When does the team anticipate that the student will exit the school system? With at 18 with same aged peers or at age 22?
- What would the exit document be? A regular high school diploma? A Certificate of Completion?
- If the student plans to earn a high school diploma, does he/she understand course and assessment (i.e. UBSCT or UAA) requirements? Is he/she on track to earn that diploma?
- Do the parents and student understand that graduation with a regular high school diploma will end the LEA's obligation to provide a FAPE? Does the team understand that, once earned, a high school diploma cannot be withheld or returned/negated?

Parents and students, as part of the IEP team, need to be involved in these discussions. Regular discussions about graduation options

and timelines will help them prepare for the day when services through the schools are no longer an option.

### Utah High School Completion Diploma

Effective July 1, 2009, individuals who pass all subtests of the GED will be awarded a Utah High School Completion Diploma. State Board Rule R277-733 Adult Education Programs (<http://www.schools.utah.gov/LAW/Administrative%20Rules%20Files/R277-733.pdf>) outlines the changed requirements for participation in the GED testing and the impact that earning this type of diploma will have on the individual's access to K-12 services. Please note that students served under an IEP who earn a Utah High School Completion Diploma will still be eligible for a FAPE until they earn a regular high school diploma or reach maximum age for eligibility.



### New Web Resource

Work Ability Utah, a Medicaid Infrastructure Grant project through the Utah Department of Health, has recently activated a new section of their web page; [www.workabilityutah.org](http://www.workabilityutah.org). The "Youth in Transition" section contains information for students, families and educators that is designed to facilitate the youth's transition from school to work.



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**Excellence: High performing students taught by highly skilled and highly prepared teachers within a high performing system.**

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## Janet's Rtl Corner

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### Refresh Yourself Without Leaving the Classroom

Want a quick way to "refresh" your staff on Rtl without leaving the classroom?

Here are a couple of websites that provide online training in many of the components of Rtl.

<http://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu>

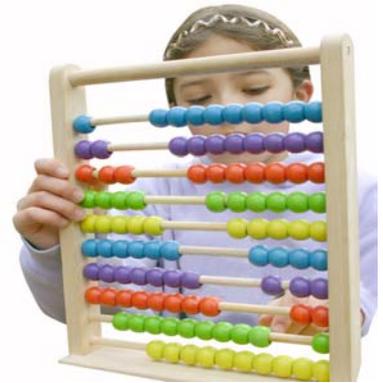
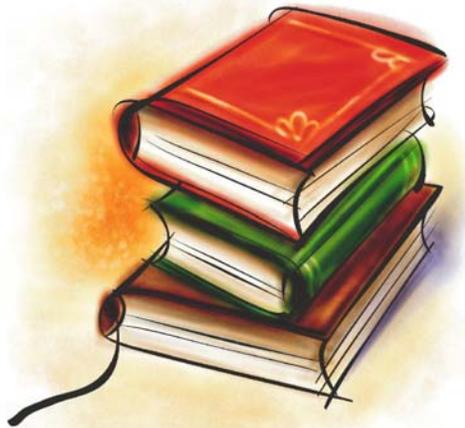
- This site has 5 parts on RTI and 2 parts on Classroom Assessment.

Florida has a training website that provides a "completion certificate" at the end of the 4 modules. Some of the information is specific to Florida, but still provides all the basic information regarding Rtl.

Free registration is required to participate in the training modules. The website is <http://www.florida-rti.org>

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### What about Math and Rtl?

What Works Clearinghouse practice guide has a few suggestions in relationship to Math and Rtl.

- Remediation in grades k-5 should focus on properties of whole numbers
- Older students up to 8<sup>th</sup> grade should learn rational numbers, including meanings of ratios, decimals and percentages
- All students who need extra math assistance should work on fluent retrieval of basic arithmetic facts

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## Special Education Records

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### Special Education Records Transfer

Section 53A-11-504 requires the transfer of student records with 30 school days. Though the statute does not define "records," other cases and commentaries about FERPA are clear that a student record = all information maintained at a school (about a student) that guides employee actions in serving the student. Unless a school regularly purges student records (and unnecessary or unwanted information is destroyed or returned to sender), ALL information that is maintained should be provided upon request by another school or school district.

## Wendy Carver Speaks Out on Assessment

For the 2010 CRT administration there will be three choices for students to have information read aloud.

1. The teacher reads aloud the paper-based test or the computer-based test as in the past.
2. We will be piloting the **embedded toolbar** on the screen of the computer-based test. The student can click on the toolbar and it will read the passage, item and answer options.
3. The LEA can purchase assistive technology such as Text Help's Read and Write Gold, Kurzweil 3000 or products from other companies that will read aloud instruction and assessment.



### Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities Focus Group

The SSCD Focus Group has been a happening group. They have learned about curriculum, assessments, programs, software, current theories of instruction and much, much more. This year is going to be all about "Ramping Up Your Curriculum" to meet the new expectations of aligning with the Extended Core Curriculum. Our first meeting date is September 30, 2009. Thanks so much for your continued sup-

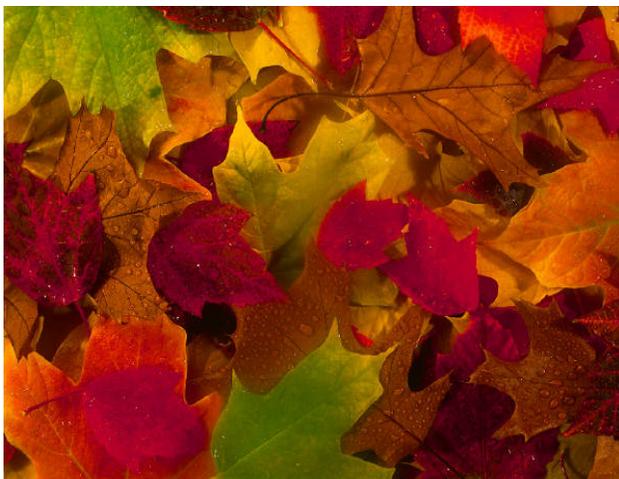
### State Deafblind Assessment and Coaching Team

The State Deafblind Assessment and Coaching Team will have their three days of training November 6, 12 and 13 at the Red Lion in Salt Lake City. Training is being conducted by Leslie Buchanan from the Deafblind Project at USDB. Members of the team will also contribute in the training.

After the training is complete the team will be available to help districts and charter schools with assessments, eligibility issues, programming, assistive technology, appropriate intervener placement issues, and follow-up coaching to teachers and parents. This team is not to take the place of the district or charter school evaluations and IEP teams, but rather be a resource for clarification and additional information when needed. We are excited about the possibilities this team will provide this very small population of students in our state.

### Paraeducators' Week

Governor Herbert has declared the week of November 9th to 13th as the state's Paraeducators in Education Week.



# Data and Finance

## Data Report for 2009-2010:

There will be no major changes in the data reporting for the 2009-2010 school year. There will still be the same 7 report required: 1. December 1 Child Count Report. 2. Environment Report. 3. Personnel Report. 4. Exit Report. 5. Discipline Report. 6. Dispute Resolutions report. 7. Assessment Report.

**A heads up to all:** In the year 2010-2011 all students will be reported using 7 ethnicity categories instead of the current 5 Ethnicity categories.

This is not just a Special Education reporting change, but involves ALL students being reclassified into :

1. Hispanic Latino.
2. American Indian or Alaska Native.
3. Asian
4. Black or African American.
5. Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander.
6. White.
7. Two or more races.

Check with the IT person in your LEA for more information.



## Finance

Did you miss the Special Education Finance pre-session during the Law Conference? It is available for download (either audio or video) until September 28, 2009, at:

- Segment 1: 59:32
- Video (697MB): <http://www.updc.org/law/law1.m4v>
- Audio (28MB): <http://www.updc.org/law/law1.mp3>
  
- Segment 2: 51:10
- Video (599MB): <http://www.updc.org/law/law2.m4v>
- Audio (24MB): <http://www.updc.org/law/law2.mp3>
  
- Segment 3: 1:25:24
- Video (999MB): <http://www.updc.org/law/law3.m4v>
- Audio (40MB): <http://www.updc.org/law/law3.mp3>
  
- Segment 4: 1:18:24
- Video (917MB): <http://www.updc.org/law/law4.m4v>
- Audio (36MB): <http://www.updc.org/law/law4.mp3>

- Segment 5: 1:06:18
- Video (776MB): <http://www.updc.org/law/law5.m4v>
- Audio (31MB): <http://www.updc.org/law/law5.mp3>

Please contact Jared Branch at [jared.branch@schools.utah.gov](mailto:jared.branch@schools.utah.gov) for a copy of the PowerPoint that accompanies the presentation.





**September 18, 2009**

*Introduction to Dibels*

Presenter: Dr. Leanne Hawken, U of U

Register on-line at: [updc.org](http://updc.org) (upcoming Conferences & Events)

**September 22–24, 2009**

*Scott Marfilius Assistive Technology Training* 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Open to UAAACT members and an additional educator.

- 9/22/09—Ogden Eccles Conference Center
- 9/23/09—Cedar City Workforce Services
- 9/24/09—Provo Grandview Elementary School

To register contact Craig Boogaard—  
[cboogarr@utah.gov](mailto:cboogarr@utah.gov) or 801-887-9533

**September 30, 2009**

*Significant Cognitive Disabilities Focus Group*

RSVP to: Becky Lewis

[re-becca.lewis@schools.utah.gov](mailto:re-becca.lewis@schools.utah.gov) or 801-538-7874

**October 8-9, 2009**

*Back To Our Roots CCBD Conference 2009*

See flyer for details.

**October 13, 2009**

*Dibels Data for Decision*

*Making & Intervention Planning*

Presentors: Sara Krebs & Patty Willis, Cache School District

Register on-line at: [updc.org](http://updc.org) (upcoming Conferences & Events)

**October 28-29, 2009**

*Foundations of Autism*

Contact: Becky Lewis -

[re-becca.lewis@schools.utah.gov](mailto:re-becca.lewis@schools.utah.gov) or 801-538-7874

**October 29, 2009**

*Functional Assessments and Report Writing—Roundtable -*

See flyer for details.

Contact: Becky Lewis -

[re-becca.lewis@schools.utah.gov](mailto:re-becca.lewis@schools.utah.gov) or 801-538-7874

**November 6-7, 2009**

*Utah's 15th Annual Paraeducator Conference*  
Don't miss this opportunity to send your paraeducators to this great conference sponsored by the Utah State Office of Education and the Utah Personnel Development Center.

Conference information and registration can be found at

[www.utahparas.org](http://www.utahparas.org) or [www.updc.org](http://www.updc.org)

**November 9-10, 2009**

*Foundations of Autism*

Contact: Becky Lewis -

[re-becca.lewis@schools.utah.gov](mailto:re-becca.lewis@schools.utah.gov) or 801-538-7874

**November 12, 2009**

*P.L.A.Y. Project Autism Training*

More details coming.

Questions: Jocelyn Taylor—801-538-7726

