



SASSIE NEWS

Volume VI Edition III

February 2010

USOE

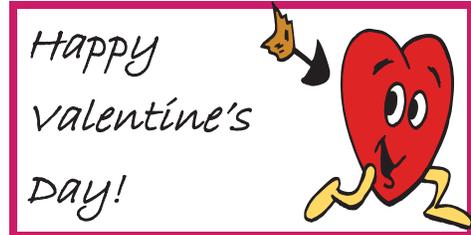
Wendy Carver Speaks Out on Assessment

Accommodations for the DWA (Direct Writing Assessment)

I have been hearing from many special educators about the accommodations for the DWA. Many teachers are realizing their students with disabilities may not do as well as they hope on the DWA and are planning to use accommodations that are not used routinely for the student. Students should take the DWA with no other accommodations than what are used all the time with the student. Students should not have teachers typing in their responses or scribing unless that happens routinely. Teachers should give the DWA with routine accommodations and think about what the student needs to improve over the next year. It may be helpful to provide more access to keyboarding opportunities and computer use in the future. Some students may need to be working on a computer on a daily or near daily basis. The question should be are we providing the student with what he or she needs to be a successful adult in a computer world not how can we improve the student's score on this DWA.

Accommodations for the CRTs (Criterion-Referenced Tests)

- Use the accommodation "read aloud" on any assessment if student is using:
 - ◊ Assistive technology purchased by the LEA such as TextHelp or Kurzweil
 - ◊ Human reader (on screen or over the shoulder)
- Use the accommodation "screen reader" on the two computer-based only tests to access the embedded toolbar:
 - ◊ 6th grade language arts
 - ◊ Biology



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

Susan's Transition Tidbits



Graduation & Things to Keep in Mind

As the end of the school year approaches, secondary school special educators need to keep in mind what graduation may mean for students who are nearing the end of their high school experience.

- Graduation with a regular high school diploma ends the LEA's obligation to make a FAPE available for students with disabilities. This means that when a student has met all graduation requirements, including those students for whom course substitutions are documented in the IEP, the student is no longer eligible for a FAPE.
- Graduation with a regular high school diploma is a change of placement, requiring written prior notice to the parents and to the student who is 18 years old or older.
- The LEA must provide a Summary of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance, including recommendations designed to assist the student in reaching the postsecondary goals, to the student who graduates with a regular high school diploma.
- A student whose eligibility for a FAPE terminates due to reaching maximum age for eligibility must receive a Summary of Performance; exiting at maximum age does not constitute a change of placement and does not trigger written prior notice.
- The new Utah High School Completion Diploma based on the GED is not a regular high school diploma aligned with state standards and does not end the student's eligibility for a FAPE.
- Whether or not a student is allowed to "walk" in a graduation ceremony is an LEA decision and does not constitute graduating from high school.
- IEP teams must refer to the *USOE Special Education Graduation Guidelines* for additional information.



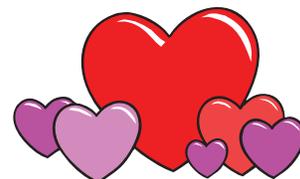
Janet Gibbs' Rtl Corner

Understanding the World of Finance

Wonder how to help SWD disabilities understand the finance world? Need a transition idea for SWD when it comes to personal finance? There is a great website: www.financeintheclassroom.org that may help your teachers. The resources on the website are outstanding. The site provides assistance on how to integrate finance objectives into all grade and content levels. Additionally, the site provides information on books about finance from p-12 grades, financial literacy lesson plans, professional development opportunities in financial literacy and much more.

Help for Struggling Writers

An excellent site for SWD who are struggling with their writing skills is Utahwrite.com. It is free to 5th and 8th grades. The site helps students with the skill of composing at the computer. It is not a tutorial. This is an opportunity for students to become familiar with computer writing as the state moves to computer adaptive testing.





Proportionate Share

Reminder #2

Remember, when calculating proportionate share this year, each school district must include IDEA regular and IDEA ARRA funds in the calculation.

Educating Youth in State Care Manual

The manual is designed to provide useful information regarding services to youth in state care, assist school administrators, child protection officials, juvenile justice officials, court officials, caregivers, and other community partners to work together on behalf of the youth, explain the process when agency services intersect, and provide resources and contact information for the key players in each agency. Hard copies of the manual were disseminated to LEAs in September. Additional copies of this manual are available for download at <http://www.hs.utah.gov/education/purpose.html>. In addition, you can sign up to receive automatic electronic updates to the manual at http://www.hs.utah.gov/education/contact_info.html.

TIPS Training

We have been able to send two interpreters to the Arizona TIPS Training (Training Interpreters Performance System). This will be an opportunity for them to receive 2 days face-to-face training, and online training until June, on issues pertaining to educational interpreters. The training has been designed in cooperation with Boys Town and the Arizona Department of Education. The interpreters had to have a score of 3.0-3.4 on the EIPA from former testing. After this five month training they will be given the EIPA and their scores should be appreciatively improved. We are excited about this opportunity for Tamara Adair, and interpreter with the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, and Tracy McDonald, and interpreter with the Davis District. Congratulations and Good Luck!



Utah School Nurse Practices Act

Please remember to read the email previously sent to all special education director regarding proposed changes to the Utah Nurse Practices Act. Specifically, these changes pertain to delegation of administration of medication by school nurses and will narrow the nurses ability to delegate.

Wasatch Mountain Institute 2010

June 23 – 25, 2010

Midway, Utah

Keynote Speakers: Anita Archer, Ph.D., and Stevan J. Kukic, Ph.D. Registration Fee: \$419-\$539. Utah preregistration discount available.

Rtl ? AYP ? Tiered Interventions ? Literacy ? and much more!

At the 2010 Institute, you will **receive expert instruction** from today's education leaders. You will walk away with **cutting-edge strategies** including tiered interventions that will prepare you for the challenges you face on a daily basis.

New in 2010: bring your classroom and/or schoolwide data and leave with a fully developed implementation plan!

EIPA Testing

The Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment is coming right up. We have two more test dates available to us. They are **February 26-27, and May 21-22**. Registration is at: www.usu.edu/taese/task12/EIPRegistration.cfm



FYI Continued on page 4

F Y I

Special Education Symposium on Personnel Preparation

WHEN: February 12, 2010,

WHO: IHE, LEA, USOE, and Consortium Members

WHY: To plan for the Recruitment, Preparation, Induction, and Retention of Special Education Teachers & Related Servers.

WHERE: Larry Miller Center, 9751 S 300 W, Sandy, UT

WHAT: A collaborative effort among the Utah State Office of Education (USOE), Local Education Agencies/Charters, and Utah Institutions of Higher Education. The Utah Special Education Consortium is sponsoring this meeting as a follow-up to the December 5, 2008 Symposium.

Meeting Goals:

1. To gather key Utah special education leaders to review possible changes in Policy, Procedures, and Practices.
2. To enhance recruitment, preparation, and retention efforts by leveraging existing resources, legislative actions and other statewide initiatives.

Contact Bruce Schroeder, bruce.schroeder@schools.utah.gov

U-CASE/Utah Special Education Consortium

March 17th (8:30 - 4PM) & March 18, 2010 (8:30AM - 11:30AM)

Radisson Downtown, Salt Lake City, Utah

?Under-Resourced Learners?

Featured Presenter: Ruby Payne, Ph. D.

Welcome Session: Dr. Larry Shumway, USOE Superintendent

Workshop Focus: This workshop identifies resources all students need and delivers proven practical strategies for building up these resources for every student in your school. Teachers and administrators will find a plethora of best practices and interventions to help embed those success strategies in their curricula, and in the minds and lives of their students.

Registration Cost: \$20 for CASE members; \$30 for non-CASE members

U-CASE Dinner March 17th 5:30PM (optional): \$30 per person

Registration open Feb 3, 2010 or contact Cheryl Smith cheryls@updc.org at the UPDC, 800-662-6624

Utah Recruiting Fair

Utah Council for Exceptional Children will be arranging the annual Utah recruiting fair on Friday, **March 26, 2010** at a location in the Salt Lake Area from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm. For additional information contact Steve Hirase: shirase@murrayschools.org

Upcoming Events



March 1, 2010

Autism roundtable Discussion

Contact : Becky Lewis at 801-538-7974

April 9, 2010

Significant Disabilities Conference

Claire Greer, feature presenter.

Register online at: <http://www.updc.org>

Contact: Becky Lewis at 801-538-7974

April 19, 20, & May 12, 2010

PECS Coach (Train-the-Trainer)

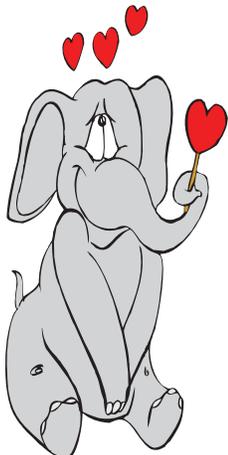
Contact: Becky Lewis at 801-538-7974

June 21—23, 2010

Effective & Explicit Instruction for Students with Learning Difficulties

Dr. Anita Archer & Dr Charles Hughes , feature presenters.

More information coming March 2010.



Orientation & Mobility Workshop

May 20 & 21, 2010

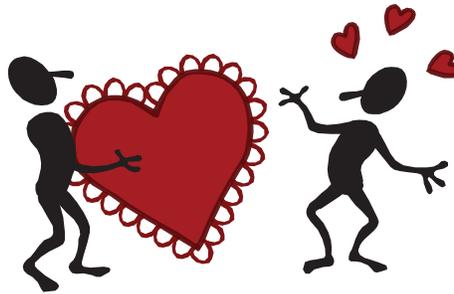
All Orientation and Mobility Specialist, teachers of Multiple Disabled, O.T.s, P.T.s, and other stakeholders in vision instruction may register for the Orientation and Mobility Workshop. Location:

Division of Services for the Blind & Visually Impaired

250 N 1950 W, Suite B

Salt Lake City, UT 84116

The featured speaker is Mary Tellson from Wisconsin School for the Blind. She is highly thought of by the Blind and Visually Impaired community, and we are excited that she is going to come and teach an extension of the skills professionals have in O&M. Such topics as Body Mapping and Spatial Awareness plus many others will be taught. If you are interested, please email Becky at: rebecca.lewis@schools.utah.gov to register.



Let's Talk with the USOE

Accommodations	March 4, 2010
Hot Topics—What's Happening in Utah:	
Monitoring Data Trends	March 25, 2010
TEDI	April 14, 2010
ELLWD	April 22, 2010
UPIPS Reports	May 12, 2010

Attend via Wimba or access the Archive at:

<http://my.uen.org/myuen/222958>

Charter School Roundtables

February 23, 2010 Literacy

March 16, 2010 Collaboration & Providing Specialized Instruction

April 13, 2010 Data Collection

May 11, 2010 UPIPS & Federal Reports

All meetings are from 9:00 - Noon At the Larry Miller Center