

UPDATES

Office of Special Education – IDEA Grant Funded Initiatives Michigan Department of Education June 2015

WHAT'S NEW?

Center for Educational Networking (CEN)

- CEN supports the OSE's and IDEA Grant Funded Initiatives' communication efforts. Visit cenmi.org to find guidance documents, an overview of special education in Michigan, and links to various websites, including the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) and IDEA Grant Funded Initiative sites. A Forward FOCUS link will take you to archived *FOCUS on Results* articles and the OSE's *IDEA Special Education State Complaints* website.

Michigan Alliance for Families

- Michigan Alliance has hired Harvalee Saunto as its new Policy Coordinator. Harvalee started on April 16 with Michigan Alliance for Families.

Accessible Learning Environments (ALE)

ALE provided the following:

- Two Pragmatic Organization Dynamic Display (PODD) Introductory Trainings for constituent regions, and provided on-site support for implementation fidelity and problem solving for regions trained in early winter 2014.
 - 55 PODD books were produced for constituents who attended an Introductory PODD Training and purchased the PODD software.
- Partnered with Eaton Regional Education Service Agency to host the two-day Michigan Augmentative and Alternative Communication Conference with 24 sessions presented to more than 140 attendees.
- Presented *Maximizing Everyday Technology to Meet the Needs of Students with Disabilities* at the United Cerebral Palsy Detroit Life Without Limits Through Assistive Technology Conference.
- Presented *Content of the IEP – Assistive Technology* in conjunction with Michigan Alliance for Families.
- Presented *Designing Accessible Educational Environments: Thoughtful Consideration of Student Needs* at The ARC's Leaders in Policy Event in Marquette.
- Provided a program update for Michigan's Mathematics Coordinators and Consultants (m²c²).
- Formed a more formal partnership with the Michigan Mathematics and Science Center Network (MMSCN).

- Hosted Days 3, 4, and 5 of the state-level *Foundations of Math* trainings in Lansing and Marquette for 120 participants.

Statewide Autism Resources and Training (START)

- At the beginning of 2015, START introduced a bi-monthly newsletter that features updates, an event calendar, a feature article, START information, and resources. The goal of the newsletter is to enhance communication between START and its audience. The current month's newsletter and the newsletter archives are available on START's website at <http://goo.gl/AAXCK2>.
- At the 2015 Spring Regional Collaborative Networks Leadership Day, START introduced a new tool called the Passport. The Passport is a guide that assists families and school personnel in ensuring that students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) receive typical grade-appropriate opportunities and experiences. To find out more information about the Passport, visit START's website at <http://goo.gl/vrpEjo>.
- During the 2014–2015 academic year, more than 560 teachers, parents, social workers, and administrators attended the START Early Childhood, K-12, and Building Your Future (BYF) Intensive Trainings.

UPCOMING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Michigan Alliance for Families

- Michigan Alliance for Families has several upcoming learning opportunities around the state. Visit www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/upcoming-events/ for more details.

Michigan's Integrated Behavior and Learning Support Initiative (MiBLSi)

Visit www.miblsi.cenmi.org for more information on the upcoming events listed below.

- Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) training institute, Lansing, August 3–7.
- School Wide Information Systems (SWIS) facilitator training session, Portage, September 22–24.
- MiBLSi State Conference, Lansing, November 10–11.

Accessible Learning Environments (ALE) - Visit www.mits.cenmi.org for more information on the upcoming events listed below.

- MAASE Lunchtime Presentation, Lansing, June 10.
- Learning Environments for ALL Summer Institute, Hagerty Conference Center, Traverse City, June 15–18.

- *Teaching Mathematics to Students with Special Needs in the General Education Classroom (Grades 6-12)* Presentation, Michigan Council of Teachers of Mathematics Annual Conference, Traverse City, July 28.
- *Addressing Learner Variability in the Mathematics Classroom: A Statewide Initiative* Presentation, Michigan Council of Teachers of Mathematics Annual Conference, Traverse City, July 29.
- *Foundations of Math*, Traverse City and Novi, August–October.
- 21st Century Learning Symposium breakout sessions, Port Huron, September 1.
 - Strengthening Mathematics Instruction and Understanding for Students with Disabilities
 - Effectively Considering the Needs of ALL Students in Your Class
 - Maximizing Everyday Technology to Meet the Needs of Students with Disabilities
- Making Mathematics Meaningful through Collaboration Conference, a joint offering from Michigan Council of Exceptional Children (MCEC), Michigan Council of Teachers of Mathematics (MCTM) and Michigan’s Integrated Mathematics Initiative (Mi)², Macomb ISD, September 28.