

UPDATES

Office of Special Education Michigan Department of Education April 2015

WHAT'S NEW?

Accountability

- Personnel Updates: We have a new State Complaints Consultant starting with the Program Accountability Unit in mid-April – Janis Weckstein. Harvalee Saunto retired and her last day was March 31st. Harvalee will be joining the Michigan Alliance for Families as a Policy Coordinator.
- Program Accountability took a team of presenters to the Michigan CEC Conference in March. We had a well-attended strand covering a variety of issues including discipline, eligibility, and working with general education from a compliance perspective.
- We are continuing to work on improving and streamlining the processes for ISD Plans, Waivers, and Deviations. The ultimate goal is to convert all of these approval processes to an electronic version and include them with the new OSE system.
- We are reviewing our proposed rule set 2013-116 ED to determine which changes, if any, may be addressed through guidance or technical assistance. For now, nothing has changed in our Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education.

Finance

- Local School District Maintenance of Effort (LEA MOE) Testing – The Office of Special Education (OSE) is in the process of completing the 2013-14 fiscal year LEA Maintenance of Effort (MOE) testing. This year, the OSE will be working with 5 ISDs to resolve MOE shortfalls. In comparison, last year the OSE worked with ten (10) ISDs to resolve shortfalls.
- IDEA Part B Flowthrough 2015-16 Application – The OSE anticipates that the Flowthrough MEGS+ applications will be available as of May 1, 2015.
- IDEA Part B 2015-16 Allocations for Flowthrough, Enhancing Opportunities for Students with Disabilities (EOSD) and Transition Coordination Grants - the OSE is in the process of acquiring the data utilized in the calculation of the allocations for each of the listed grants. Once that data is acquired, we will be running the allocations and getting that information communicated as soon as possible.

Monitoring

- The April Workbook will be issued on April 15 to 890 locals. There will be reports of findings or no findings from the winter cycle and notification letters for those locals who will be participating in the spring cycle. The monitoring priorities for the spring cycle will be B-5: Educational Environments and General Supervision Monitoring. Also included in

the April workbook is the B-13: Secondary Transition Data Collection Activity. All locals with students ages 16 to 26 will participate.

Low Incidence Outreach (LIO)

- Check our new WEBSITE <https://mdelio.org> and share it with staff and families who have children who are Blind/Visually Impaired (BVI) or Deaf/Hard of Hearing.
- LIO continues to provide Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) testing as well as student and staff American Sign Language (ASL) testing. For more information go to: <https://mdelio.org>

Early Childhood

- **Office of Great Start - *Early On***[®]
 - Contact: Vanessa Winborne winbornev@michigan.gov
- **Office of Great Start - Early Childhood Special Education**
 - Contact: Lisa Wasacz wasaczl@michigan.gov
- **Indicator B-6 Educational Environments**
 - Indicator B-6 Preschool Educational Environments data will be available in the April 15th CIMS workbook.
 - January 14, 2015 a webinar on Inclusive practices in early childhood and early childhood special education was recorded. This webinar and the accompanying PowerPoint may be accessed at <http://eotta.ccesa.org/News.php?ID=242>
- **Indicator B-7 Preschool Child Outcomes**
 - Indicator B-7 Preschool Child Outcomes data will be available in the April 15th CIMS workbook.
 - Information on dates and locations for available trainings for Preschool Child Outcomes may be found at <http://www.eotta.ccesa.org/Training.php>
- **Indicator B-12 Transition**
 - We are accepting ideas for data quality alerts that would be helpful to the field as we are trying to understand how to improve data collection through MSDS. If you have an idea please email Lisa Wasacz at wasaczL@michigan.gov

Michigan Special Education Reference (MI-SER)

- Letters that have been placed on the MI-SER this quarter.
 - United States Office of Special Education Programs>OSEP Policy Letters>Evaluations and Re-evaluations>Letter to Tracy Blodgett, November 12, 2014
 - United States Office of Special Education Programs>OSEP Policy Letters>Evaluation and Re-evaluation>Letter to Debbie Baus, February 23, 2015
 - United States Office of Special Education Programs>OSEP Policy Letters>Due Process>Letter to Margaret O'Sullivan Kane, January 7, 2015
 - United States Office of Special Education Programs>OSEP Policy Letters>Eligibility>Letter to Michelle Kotler, November 12, 2014

- United State Office of Special Education Programs>OSEP Policy Letters>Other> Letter to Atlee Reilly, November 3, 2014

HOT TOPICS

- The OSE submitted the FFY 2013 State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report, including the new results indicator 17: State Systemic Improvement Plan.
- The FFY 2013 State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report will be posted to the OSE website after we receive feedback from the Office of Special Education Programs.
- Public Reporting on the performance of each local education agency on the targets established in the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report will be posted by June 1, 2015 at the MI School Data Portal. There will be a two week preview period for locals beginning approximately May 13, 2015.
- Districts identified with Significant Disproportionality will receive official notification from the OSE by May 1, 2015.

UPCOMING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

- **OSE Program Finance staff will be presenting following sessions at the Michigan School Business Officials (MSBO) Annual Conference April 28-30th. Please inform your Business Officials that may be attending. For additional information related to the topics, please see the attached.**

- **Thursday • April 30, 2015**

9:45 - 10:45 am/ Session F

F15 - IDEA - Excess Cost

Presenter(s): John Andrejack, MDE and Paul Bodiya, Macomb ISD

1:15 - 1:45 pm/ Session H

H12 - IDEA - Maintenance of Effort Update

Presenter(s): John Andrejack and Rene Richardson, MDE

2:00 - 2:30 pm/ Session i

i14 - IDEA - Program Fiscal Review (PFR) Update

Presenter(s): Nancy Jo Serna and Mike Wynn, MDE

- Program Accountability will be presenting about Corrective Actions and Notice at the Monitors Conference May 7-8.

Low Incidence Outreach

- May 7, 2015 Effects of Etiology & Co-morbid Diagnoses on CI Mapping & Performance, the last Sound Support Workshop, is May 7th, 4:00-5:00 p.m., providing support to educational teams who have students who are Deaf or hard of hearing. More information at: <https://mdelio.org>

- May 13, 2015 UEB and You: A Hands-On workshop for Unified English Braille, presented by Frances Mary D'Andrea, Ph.D., will give participants valuable training in the differences between the current Braille code and the Unified English Braille code to be fully implemented in the U.S. by January 2016. The May 13th workshop will be held at Clinton County RESA. More information and registration are available at <https://mdelio.org/blind-visually-impaired/events>.
- May 14, 2015 UEB and You: A Hands-On Workshop for Unified English Braille, presented by Frances Mary D'Andrea, Ph.D., will give participants valuable training in the differences between the current Braille code and the Unified English Braille code to be fully implemented in the U.S. by January 2016. The May 14th workshop will be held at Oakland Schools. More information and registration are available at <https://mdelio.org/blind-visually-impaired/events>.
- June 4-5, 2015 Teaching Word 2010 Using JAWS workshop in Kalamazoo. For more information and to register visit MDE-LIO's BVI Events page at <https://mdelio.org/blind-visually-impaired/events>.
- June 17, 2015 EIPA Written Test will be provided **in Michigan** on June 17, 2015, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Bloomfield Hills High School (formerly Lahser High School), 3456 Lahser Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302. Interpreters can register at <http://www.classroominterpreting.org>
- June 26-28, 2015 Family Weekend at Camp T, sponsored by MDE-LIO and Michigan Parents of Children with Visual Impairments, will take place in Greenville for families with a child who is blind/visually impaired. For more information visit MDE-LIO's BVI Events page at <https://mdelio.org/blind-visually-impaired/events>.
- August 10-14, 2015 Explore Our World Camp for students who are blind/visually impaired will take place at Camp Tuhsmehta in Greenville. For more information and to register visit MDE-LIO's BVI Events page at <https://mdelio.org/blind-visually-impaired/events>.

MSBO Training (OSE Presenters)

Thursday • April 30, 2015

9:45 - 10:45 am/ Session F

F15 - IDEA - Excess Cost

Get an understanding of IDEA - Excess Cost fiscal requirements, its purpose, as well as an in-depth discussion of how the Excess Cost is to be calculated, the challenges, and the latest update on testing development and implementation plans.

Presenter(s): John Andrejack, MDE and Paul Bodiya, Macomb ISD (p.26)

1:15 - 1:45 pm/ Session H

H12 - IDEA - Maintenance of Effort Update

Get an understanding of the Part B LEA Maintenance of Effort requirements that have been in place since the last IDEA reauthorization. Address frequently asked questions and identify anticipated changes to the IDEA Regulations resulting from the recent Federal Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to clarify existing requirements such as the eligibility and compliance criteria and their impact on LEAs.

Presenter(s): John Andrejack and Rene Richardson, MDE (p.28)

2:00 - 2:30 pm/ Session i

i14 - IDEA - Program Fiscal Review (PFR) Update

Get PFR updates, a discussion of common findings, and learn how PFRs now include state aid reviews that are performed at LEAs including those that do not receive IDEA Part B funds and have never had a PFR conducted.

Presenter(s): Nancy Jo Serna and Mike Wynn, MDE (p.30)