

UPDATES

Office of Special Education Michigan Department of Education December 2015

WHAT'S NEW?

Finance

- Working with CEPI to develop an electronic version of the SE-4096 Special Education Actual Cost Report. When the development is completed the data will be collected through the CEPI data collection system.

Monitoring

- Monitoring for Significant Disproportionality-Identification and B-9 and 10 is underway. We are utilizing the CIMS workbook for this activity. Findings will be issued in Catamaran in March 2016.

Michigan Special Education Reference (MI-SER)

- United States Office of Special Education Programs >SEA & LEA>Letter to Heather S. Deaton>State Identification and Correction of Noncompliance-May 19, 2015
- United States Office of Special Education Programs>Other>Dear Colleague Letter>Autism Spectrum Disorder and Speech and Language Services-July 6, 2015
- United States Office of Special Education Programs>Education Placements>Letter to Edward Sarzynski>Parentally Placed Private School Children with Disabilities- July 6, 2015
- United States Office of Special Education Programs>Maintenance of Effort>Letter to Chief State School Officers>Issuance of Guidance on the Final Local Education Agency Maintenance of Effort Regulations-July 27, 2015
- Michigan Special Education Reference>Programs and Services>Homebound and Hospitalized Services for Public School Students-August 2015
- United States Office of Special Education Programs>Other>Dear Colleague Letter>Use of the terms Dyslexia, Dyscalculia, and Dysgraphia in IDEA Evaluation, Eligibility Determinations or IEP Documents-October 23, 2015
- United States Office of Special Education Programs>OSEP Policy Letters>FAPE>Dear Colleague Letter>IEP, FAPE, and State Academic Content–November 16, 2015

Early Childhood

- Catamaran was released for Part C in November. Districts must acknowledge reports by December 15. Only one service area received a Corrective Action at this time. The next release for Catamaran will be December 15. Training for the new Catamaran is available at <https://catamaran.partners>.
- The *Early On* Conference was a success! A total of 627 attendees participated in the conference. The inaugural presentation of The 2015 Celena L. Barnes Family Leadership Inspiration Award was presented to Crista Burns, from Wayne County. The award was developed by the Parent Involvement Committee of the Michigan Interagency Coordinating Council (MICC) to honor their colleague, Celena Barnes who passed away last year. Celena was an extraordinary leader as well as a mentor to Crista. Next year the conference is slated to take place in Kalamazoo on November 14-16, 2016.
- Through a coordinated effort of stakeholders the following *Early On* Mission and Vision have been adopted by the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Great Start with support of the MICC.
- *Early On* Mission:
 - *Early On* builds upon and provides supports and resources to assist family members and caregivers to enhance eligible children's learning and development through every day learning opportunities.
- *Early On* Vision
 - Infants and toddlers who are enrolled in *Early On* reach their fullest potential, successfully transitioning to the next phase of life, with empowered and supportive families.

UPCOMING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

- **12/11/2015** Independent Living Skills (ILS) On The Go - Michigan Department of Education – Low Incidence Outreach (MDE-LIO) is partnering with Macomb Intermediate School District to offer an "ILS on the Go" workshop on December 11, 2015 at Macomb Intermediate School District. This workshop is designed to provide ideas on how to incorporate independent living skills into student lessons. These quick and easy tips will not take a lot of time, but will make a big difference in helping your students develop skills in the Expanded Core Curriculum. More information is available at: <https://mdelio.org>
- **12/14-15/2015** Microsoft Word 2010 Using JAWS – MDE-LIO is pleased to announce that we are now taking registrations for an upcoming "Microsoft Word 2010 Using JAWS" workshop for school personnel and family members of students who are blind or visually impaired. This class will cover a variety of topics including Office 2010 layout and structure, the file tab and backstage view, the Ribbon, the Access Keys, the Quick Access Toolbar, editing, formatting, and more! The workshop will take place at the Library of

Michigan in Lansing. Information and online registration are available at <https://mdelio.org>.

- **2/6/2016** EIPA Video Conference: Storytelling: Learn Techniques from a Master Storyteller and Make Stories Come Alive – Frustrated with trying to make a story come alive in sign language? This workshop will offer tips on how to become an effective storyteller. Differences between American Sign Language and English discourse strategies will be examined, and the difference between story reading and storytelling will be compared. Research-based techniques in making stories more visually appealing and accessible will be shared. More information is available at <https://mdelio.org>.
- **2/27/2016** Braille Challenge – The Braille Challenge® is an academic competition unlike any other. This two-stage contest is designed to motivate students who are blind to emphasize their study of braille, while rewarding their success with fun-filled, but challenging, local and national events. Any student with a visual impairment who reads braille is eligible to participate in the preliminary Challenge contest event. Contact Johanna Anand anandj@michigan.gov for a Challenge Registration form.