

NASDSE 2011-2012 Professional Development Series Fall Schedule

We're Better Working Together: Recommendations for Improved Coordination Between Title I and the IDEA

Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) largest U.S. Department of Education investments that support K-12 education in our country. The U.S. Department of Education has promulgated numerous regulations and written many guidance documents that help guide implementation of these laws. In addition, states have their own rules. All these laws, regulations and guidance documents are intended to ensure appropriate services for students who are eligible for Title I and/or special education services. It is conservatively estimated that, of the more than 14 million students served by Title I and the 7 million served by the IDEA, approximately 2.5-3 million are served by both programs. Often there is confusion at the district and school levels because of inconsistent definitions for the same terms, data collections are done at different times, and there is a general lack of understanding about how these programs should work together. In this conference, leaders from the Kansas State Department of Education and two national organizations will discuss some of the issues that impede better coordination between the two laws and recommend actions that could occur at the national, state and local levels to help the programs work better together.

Presenters:

Colleen Riley, Director, Kansas Special Education Service Team, Kansas State Department of Education

Judi Miller, Assistant Director, Title Programs and Services, Kansas Department of Education

Richard Long, Executive Director, National Title I Association

Bill East, Executive Director, National Association of State Directors of Special Education

*Fall Release date: **October 26, 2011***

Section 504 Issues for Students with Disabilities: Case Law and Implications for Practice

Special education students are general education students first. Educators are often reminded of this truth when discussions are about standards, curriculum, assessment and accountability issues. But when the conversations turn to law and dispute resolution matters, people quickly focus on the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) statutory requirements and regulations, especially those issued by the U.S. Department of Education. However, another important law, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act applies to all students, not just students receiving services under IDEA. In this conference Dr. Zirkel will address current Section 504 case law where special education students were involved and talk about the implications for practice. In addition to staff and local school personnel, states should consider making this conference available to their legal counsel, hearing officers and attorneys who represent schools/districts.

Presenter: Perry Zirkel, Professor of Education and Law, Lehigh University

*Fall Release Date: **October 26, 2011***

NASDSE 2011-2012 Professional Development Series **Spring Schedule**

Providing Education Assessments Appropriate for Every Student: Is It Possible?

During a conference in NASDSE's professional development series last year, representatives from the Council of Chief State School Officers and the National Governors' Association discussed the Common Core State Standards initiative. They indicated that assessments aligned with these standards were being developed for both general and special student populations. Actually, there are four assessment consortiums – two focusing on general education and two addressing students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. The general education consortia are the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers and the Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium. The two consortia addressing special needs are the Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment System and the National Center and State Collaborative. During this conference, representatives from these consortia will talk about the development of the assessments, progress to date and what to expect in the future.

Presenters:

Neal Kingston, Project Director, Dynamic Learning Maps, Center for Educational Testing and Evaluation, University of Kansas

Rachael Quenemoen, Project Director, National Center and State Collaborative, University of Minnesota

Martha Thurlow, Director, National Center on Education Outcomes, University of Minnesota

*Spring Release Date: **March 30, 2012***

It's 2012: Do You Know Where Your RTI Is?

NASDSE has been promoting Response to Intervention (RTI) since 2003. Since then, other labels came to be used for this initiative, such as Response to Instruction (RTI), Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) and Multi-Tiered System of Student Supports (MTSSS) among others. NASDSE's work has included other professional development conferences and publications. Our most notable publication is a book first published in 2006, "Response to Intervention: Policy Considerations and Implementation," with more than 86,000 copies in print. The past was good, but what is happening now? The implementation of RTI, as originally considered, has changed in response to the analysis of implementation data, the changing landscape of public education, its implementation at the pre-K and secondary levels and the integration of both academic and behavior applications (e.g., positive behavior instructional supports (PBIS) and RTI) into single delivery systems. In this conference, two well-known leaders in the RTI movement will talk about the current status of RTI in states and schools, lessons learned from years of implementation, exemplary programs and practices, what the data are telling us and what to expect from this initiative in the future.

Presenters:

George Batsche, Professor and Director, Institute for School Reform Project Director, Florida Statewide Problem-Solving/RTI Project, University of South Florida

W. David Tilly, Director, Innovation and Accountability, Heartland Area 11 (Iowa)

*Spring Release Date: **March 30, 2012***

The NASDSE Professional Development Series will provide subscribing states with a fully accessible, state-of-the-art web delivery system that includes a searchable knowledge base of information, conference chapters for easy navigation and accurate transcription of all conference content. To facilitate dissemination of conference-related login information, a contact person from each subscribing state will receive login information to the site. This login will provide viewers with access to the online conference presentation page where all related PowerPoint presentations and other resources will now be available for download. After each release date, the conferences will be available online 24/7 for the convenience of the viewers.

If you are interested in participating in this year's Professional Development Series and would like additional information please email Sandy Peth at the following address:
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