



AREA COOPERATIVE FOR EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

December 2022/January 2023

ACES Mission

ACES is committed to providing a full continuum of special education and at-risk services for students in member districts from pre-school through 12th grade, as well as, to build the capacity of the educators and school systems in addressing the issues that interfere with educational outcomes.

ACES Vision

ACES will strive to be a comprehensive program of services for students whose behavioral difficulties and academic issues interfere with their educational performance. The key to this service provision is the active collaboration amongst educators, parents, students and the community.

Important Due Dates

- ◆ **12/01/2022:** December Child Count due in Core Data
- ◆ **01/01/2023** Complete Semi-Annual Certifications for staff paid with Federal funds (IDEA Part B, HNF Federal, and ECSE Federal) for current year, first semester.
- ◆ **01/31/2023:** Cohort 3-Begin prepping for Finance Self-Assessment
- ◆ Proportionate Share Carryover Release Request-if applicable due **April 30**
- ◆ **02/01/2023:** MOSIS Graduate Follow-up file-Districts must submit follow-up data for students with disabilities who dropped out from grades 9-12 as well as graduated from last school year.-if applicable due April 30

Guides for completion of the about referenced special education processes [special-education-finance-resources](#)
DESE Due Dates can be found here:
[Sped Due Date Cal](#)

Upcoming Trainings

- ◆ Special Education Teacher Cohort Training-NW Tech Center 9-3 p.m.- Day 3 02/16/2023; Day 4 04/13/2023
- ◆ New Directors Cohort Training-NWMSU Meeting Room B 8 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Day 3 02/15/2023; Day 4 04/11/2023
- ◆ CPI Full Foundation Course at Tarkio School District, Elementary Library from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. 2-27-2023
- ◆ CPI Recertification Course at Stanberry School District, Elementary Library from 8-11:30 a.m. 3-8-2023
- ◆ Academic Assessment Training, 1-25-2023 NWMSU, Student Union, Meeting Room D 9-3 pm

Monthly To Do List

- ◆ Schedule Initial & Renewal CPI Trainings as needed
- ◆ 100.280 Paraprofessional Training-please ensure this requirement is met and documentation is present
- ◆ Take care of the important due dates including CAP corrections before Christmas break (Cohort 2)
Cohort 2: Clear all CAPs by submitting Evidence of Correction documentation for all areas of non-compliance in IMACS 2.0. Continue this step until each CAP is cleared by assigned DESE Supervisor.4/1/2023

Tiered Monitoring Cohort

2022-2023		
Maintain	CAP	Self-Assessment
Cohort 1	Cohort 2	Cohort 3
West Nodaway	Jefferson	Avenue City
Fairfax	Osborn R-0	Craig
King City	North Nodaway	Mound City
Nodaway Holt	South Holt	North Andrew
Pattonsburg	Tarkio	Northeast Nodaway
Stanberry	Union Star	Rock Port
Stewartsville C-2	Worth County	South Nodaway
Buchanan County R-IV		

Director's Desk- Good Morning! There is a welcome chill in the air, which gets me closer to that spirit of Christmas. First semester has flown by quickly and it is hard to believe that just three short weeks until Christmas break begins! This newsletter will serve for the next two months, since December is such a short month.

This month, I wanted to address some key factors to consider before completing the review of existing data on a student in the area of fine motor skills. Often times, we hear from teachers, "I have some concerns with their fine motor skills, just not sure when to make a referral." In talking to our occupational therapists who are contracted through ACES to provide those related therapy services in the ACES districts, what they are seeing is an increase in the referrals for OT evaluations.

An estimated 40% of students, who are referred for an OT evaluation, do not meet the qualifications for OT related services under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). School-based occupational therapy is designed to enhance the student's ability to fully access and be successful in the learning environment. Related services are those services necessary for the student to make progress toward the identified instructional goals. The legal duty to provide a related service arises only when without the service, the child's educational program would become less than appropriate, i.e., when the child would not benefit from his educational program without these services.

A child must be eligible for special education before being considered for OT services in the schools under IDEA. Eligibility for special education does not mean automatic eligibility for related services, including OT. The final determination is made by the multidisciplinary team in concert with the OT evaluation.

Suggestions: Handwriting concern? Seek guidance from the OT or COTA (assistant) before the Review of Existing Data is finalized by showing student written work samples from varying days. Unable to complete tasks such as zipping/unzipping backpack, can't tie shoes, button buttons, etc.-seek guidance from the OT or COTA before the Review of Existing Data is finalized by asking their opinion before a referral for occupational therapy is made. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

ACES Board Meeting Schedule

ACES Board Meeting Schedule. All meetings take place at 11 a.m.

December 13, 2022

January 20, 2023

March 30, 2023

Location: NWMSU
The Station, room TBD

LASE (Local Administrators of Special Education) Meetings
NW Tech Center (New Commons Room)
February 22, 2023 9-3
March 29, 2023 9-3
Working meeting agenda is on the shared LASE group drive

ACES

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ACES Monthly Data Report

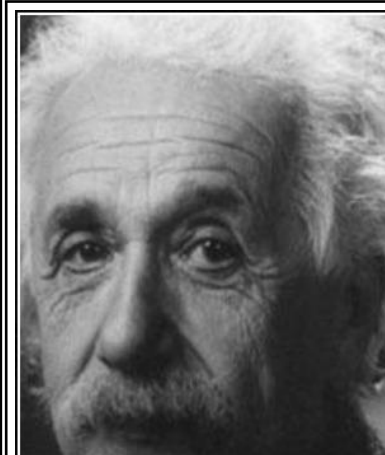
November Statistics

- ◆ Director District Visits: 9
- ◆ ACES Trainings Conducted: 2
- ◆ Diagnostic Assessments: 38
- ◆ Behavior consultations/observations: 22
- ◆ FBA/Adaptive/Behavior/Social/Emotional assessments: 22

Compliance Corner

- ◆ Please don't hesitate to contact the ACES Director or RPDC Julia Schmitz if you have questions or need Compliance advice!
- ◆ When requesting an assessment from the related service providers, please submit the request form. The request forms are found on our website areacooperative.weebly.com
- ◆ Please read my emails and stay up to date with staffing changes
- ◆ Please keep my newsletters to reference and help guide you in sped compliance and important due dates.

Some local education agencies (LEAs) may have students with IEPs who graduate at the end of the first semester. Be sure to provide Prior Written Notice for Graduation ten or more days prior to graduation. There are no exceptions to this requirement, the implementation period may not be waived. Also, be sure to provide the Summary of Performance as required



Teaching should be such that what is offered is perceived as a valuable gift and not as a hard duty.

— Albert Einstein —

Transition FYI

Postsecondary Transition Planning – every child with an IEP is required to have a transition plan in place by the time the child reaches age 16. This means that the transition plan must be developed and included in the IEP when the student is age 15. An IEP team may decide, based on a child's needs, that transition planning should begin earlier than age 15. Once transition planning begins, the IEP and accompanying documentation must demonstrate that all the compliance requirements for transition planning have been met, regardless of the child's age. One of the most helpful items to have in your transition toolkit is the Indicator 13 Checklist. It is a checklist that will help you determine whether or not a student's IEP includes postsecondary goals and a clear plan for the student's transition to postsecondary education, employment, and independent living. The National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center (NSTTAC), a national technical assistance and dissemination center funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs, has toolkits that can be used by LEAs such as the Evaluation Toolkit, which provides specific examples for teams who are developing goals and activities to improve transition education and services for students with disabilities, and the Age Appropriate Transition Assessment Toolkit.

Access the NSTTAC website here: <http://www.nsttac.org/>