**NDE Conference Call:**

**October 31, 2013:**

**SPED Fiscal Updates** --  Gary Sherman

OSEP had been contacted by an administrator in Nebraska about state not meeting state MOE. Nebraska will be put on a list of states to be scrubbed. Dept was informed that someone from US dept of ed fiscal office. Government went on shut down. No further contact from USDE. It might trickle down to other areas…like districts. We could be impacted. Gary is very comfortable defending state MOE. If it is not found so, we would get less IDEA. If it went to local MOE…then that impacts districts.

**State Updates** --   Beth Wierda, Carol McClain and Joan Luebbers

* NDE Rule Hearings – Beth
  + Hearings in December on 51 and 52. December 9th and 10th…video conference out of Lincoln with Scottsbluff. 9:00 our time on the 10th. Comments that we submit in writing will be heard during that time. Go to legal council portion of NDE website. Under proposed hearing draft. Vast majority of language in rules is federal language. Want to deal with questions or comments before going to hearing so they don’t get sent back.
* Rule 52 -- Carol
* November Part C training -- Joan
  + Nov. 13th in N platte, 14th in Lincoln, 18th in Omaha…254 people registered. DRAFT Rule 52 will be available as well as DRAFT Services coordination manual. They will be posted ahead of time. Please run off copies of the rules.

**RDA Updates**

* Facilitator grants…starting 2 year cycle. Don’t know if it will continue after this 2 years or need to look at different way of using funds. They will look for us as stakeholders to assist them. Will form partnership with ESU’s.
* It will not be business as usual…will be looking at student performance. 2013-14 transition years. 2 million annually for unit improvement. Some progress, but performance outcomes need to be addressed as they are not where they need to be.
* **Program Improvement Team** –   Lindy Foley
  + Overview of ILCD Facilitators Oct 17 meeting
    - Need to build upon processes
    - Need to look at data annually
    - Will allocate resources appropriately
    - Will gather stakeholders and get input …
* **Monitoring Team** – Jeanne Heaston
  + Using 13-14 school year to put together
  + Pilots to do look at processes/model
  + More differentiated process
  + 3 ways
    - IDEA – Part B (traditionally file reviews)
    - EDN – Part C – step back look at this
    - Service agency reviews
  + Developing framework for Part B
    - Looking at accountability under RDA
    - Looking at framework
    - Support what is happening with improvement processes for districts
    - New monitoring activities will be in place for the 14-15 school year
    - Will keep a 5 year cycle
    - Will approach monitoring differently
  + With Part C
    - Looking at framework
    - Looking at DHHS manual
    - Taking a long new look at this process
    - Roll out in the 14-15 school year
    - Pilots this next year
    - Will be getting feedback from stakeholders
  + The way we collect and store data will be continued to be developed
  + Service Agencies
    - Developing framework
    - Probably the fewest changes here
* **Data Team** – Adria Bace
* August 29th Monitoring Meeting Question – certification of audiologist – contact Adria
* Introducing Data Team
  + Undergoing changes
  + Sara Sanani and family are moving to Kansas City, so ….
  + Pam Kasl will be taking over the data
  + John Marcucci & Adria will also be there
* Update re October snapshot
  + Started off with 94 districts with errors
  + Now have only 20
  + Will be available this afternoon to resolve
  + If there is an error that we cannot finish by end of day, submit a helpdesk ticket

**Accessible Instructional Materials and 2014 ASD Conf** – Teresa Coonts

* OSEP Braille Letter re NIMAS- NIMAC  (attachment)
  + National instruction materials accessibility center (NIMAC)
  + National instructional materials accessibility standard (NIMAS)
  + Lager publishers are aware of these standards
  + Rule 51 Section - 004.15-004.15b
    - Choose to enter into contract with publisher, but must require the publisher deliver to the materials to NIMAC, or
    - Buy directly from the publisher, but the publisher must have it in the NIMAS standard
    - If not purchase through NIMAC, then need to assure get the same day as typical peers.
  + Bookshare www.bookshare.org
  + Work through NCECBVI – instructional resource library. Can pull down from the NIMAC center. It may say braille ready, but you do need someone on the other side working through to make sure it is okay – format-wise.
  + LearningAlly – [www.learningally.org](http://www.learningally.org) – print disability and audio
    - Can be used with ipads and iphones
    - Not funded by OSEP, so it is a membership
* ASD Conference April 2014 (attachment)
  + December 10th is early bird registration
  + Call for proposals is in November

**Bobbing for Answers**

* Q:  At the time a child turns 3 years old, do the parents have the unilateral right to have the child placed into a preschool program or is it an IFSP team decision?  (attachment)
  + All decisions regarding an IFSP are team decisions
  + It is a process with the transition that needs planned
  + Team talks about whether or not the family wants the child to transition to Part B or remain in Part C until August 31st (this is a parent decision)
  + If remain in Part C – then need to look at natural environments
    - Program needs to be inclusive
    - Preschool is a natural environment
  + You do not have to transition to Part B to be in the early childhood preschool program
  + If stay in Part C – IFSP does not have to meet the requirements of Part B if stay until August 31st of the year in which they turn 3.
* To review Bobbing for Answers Index, please visit <http://www.education.ne.gov/sped/Bobbing.html>

**GOLD Inter-rater Reliability (IRR)**

* Teacher IRR certification by December 31 --  Jan Thelen (attachment)
  + Deadline is December 31st?
  + Online administrators – look at page 17 – in administration tab – and page 31
    - Can see who has been assigned and where they are in the process
  + Certification is good for 3 years

**Heads Up and Announcements**

* 24th Annual NDE Paraeducator Conf. – Carol (attachments)
  + February 17, 2014 in Kearney – presidents day – hoping that with many schools not having school that day, it is a good time to do the training
    - <http://para.unl.edu/conference/paraconference.html>
    - <http://para.unl.edu/conference/nominate.html> (nominate someone)
* DHHS – System of Care – Youth Families & Providers ($500,000 grant)
  + Wrap around systemic system
  + Survey on-line – open yesterday until Nov 22nd
    - Go.unl.edu/nesoc
    - Families/caregivers can also take the survey
    - Takes about 30 minutes
    - Need to participate from our point of view
    - Will be the basis of the plan for the whole new approach

**Questions**

1. IFSP/IEP
   1. If child stays on IFSP through age 5 do they require continuous services through the summer?
      1. No. if the child has transitioned to Part B, the IFSP would have to meet Part B requirements, so it would be team decision. Address as ESY not continuous services
   2. Is the district preschool considered a natural environment if the majority of the children who are 4 and ready to go into kindergarten the following year
      1. Natural environment – what is appropriate for the child
      2. If the team, looking at transition, needs to be in a group with others
      3. Where are the supports needed for the child to be in a group setting
      4. Not due to age, just needs of students.

**Calendar Ahead**

Click on the NDE SPED link for SPED conference/training registration:

<http://www.education.ne.gov/sped/index.html>

               Nov-April             GOLD Trainings statewide.  See attached or click on NDE SPED link above for details!

Nov 7-8                Tri-State SPED Law Conference, Old Market Embassy Suites, Omaha

            Nov 13                 Part C Regulations, Holiday Inn Express, North Platte

               Nov 14                 Part C Regulations, Marriott Cornhusker, Lincoln

               Nov 15Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council, Lincoln

               Nov 18                 Part C Regulations, UNO Thompson Alumni Center, Omaha

               Nov 21                 State Special Ed Advisory Council,  Lincoln

               Jan 31                   NDE at NASES, Cornhusker, Lincoln

               Feb 17                  24th Annual NDE Paraeducator Conference, Kearney (attachment)

               Apr 3-4, 2014      ASD Network State Conference, Embassy Suites LaVista (attachment)

**NEXT CALL!   WED. DEC 4**

**Same time**

**No January Call**

**Because we will be at NASES**