**October 31 Agenda**

* **SPED Funding Update**  –  Alfred Hitchcock (Gary Sherman) and  Rod Taylor (Pete Biaggio)
* IDEA ARRA funds
  1. Funds need to be obligated by September 30th. Critical to submit for reimbursement. Don’t wait until the end of the period. This is for both Part B and Part C. IDEA does not have a waiver provision like Title I.
* IDEA Maintenance of Effort worksheet due!
  1. Due date for MOE worksheet is today
* New resource:  Funding Matrix TA document (attachment)
  1. This provides a quick overview of funding for the AFR.
* Intro training on GMS IDEA Consolidated App
  1. Training on Thursday. A couple of hours.
  2. Statement of assurances for Special Education has been incorporated into the GMS consolidated application. Tentative opening date will be November 15th with a closing date of January 15th. Anticipate lots of questions.
* Reduction in 2011-12 IDEA funding
  1. Have received a reduction for 11/12 – 1.5% reduction which was for all states.
  2. This was unexpected.
  3. When you see your allocations, you will see they are reduced.
* **OSEP visit to NDE  and other Federal News**  --  Sigourney Weaver (Beth Wierda) and Janet Leigh (Carol McClain)
  + Highlights and results of Sept visit at NDE/ NASDSE meeting update
    - Due process (No findings just recommendations)
    - Sample form for filing a due process is missing one item. This will be revised to complete that.
    - Resolution session – must be conducted within 15 days. Then from 30 days is a resolution period in which parent and districts can work on resolution. OSEP is asking that the state make it all clearer.
    - IDEA Maintenance of Effort
    - This will result in a finding.
    - There are 4 methods to review this. NDE chose one. NDE can look at the other three methods if they do not.
  + Part C
    - No findings expected.
    - CAPTA referrals – want to make sure screened adequately. Want to make sure there is not a delay in providing services.
  + New Part C regulations and side-by-side resource
* [Side-by-Side Comparison of the 2011 Final Part C Regulations to the 1999 Regulations](http://www.nectac.org/shortURL.asp?sURL=PartC_side-by-side)
* New version now available. There was a summary sent last week in an e-mail. Also working on Rule 51. Not all changes will have to be added to Rule 51.
* Regulations took effect last Friday (October 28th).
* Review this document.
* Make sure you see if there are changes you need to make.
* Now required to have parental permission for screening.
  + Proposed changes to Part B regulations
  + Discussed re-enrolling students that left (dropped out) prior to aging out.
  + Consent provisions for Medicaid billing is changing…
  + Not a lot of changes for Part B.
  + Will be looking at regulations to see if there were any requirements missed.
* **Status of Proposed SPED, School Psych and EC/ECSE Endorsements**   -- Janet Leigh (Carol McClain)
  + School psychologist endorsement has moved the farthest. This will be a teaching endorsement, not a special services endorsement.
  + Special education generalist – will replace majority of the endorsements. Changes were proposed and then higher ed people gave an alternate proposal. Will be on the agenda in February.
  + Early childhood special education – currently have 5 available. November 7th, will have another meeting on this one.
* Providing training for special purpose and alternative schools – Rule 18 schools (out of home placement). Providing training in the area of reading. No cost. Will continue throughout the school year. First training December 1st & 2nd – call Carol if you know of someone who might need the training.
* **Special Education State Complaints 2010-11** --  Jodie Foster (Denise Wright)
  + The year in review (attachment)
  + See handout…
  + If in doubt, send it out – prior written notice.
* **NDE Monitoring and ILCD Updates** -- Cruella de Vil  (Jeanne Heaston)
  + Outcomes of Aug 31- Sept 1 monitoring meeting
  + Had some pretty good reviews
  + Had some areas to improve
  + Lots of information to share. Gave lots of information that day.
  + Probably will be one day next year.
  + Will review further and give more information as the time approaches for next training.
  + Monitoring for 2011-12
  + Few issues in getting training documents. What is on the website is what needs to be there for now.
  + Part C regs will make some adjustments.
  + Needed to make some improvements on noncompliance within one year.
  + 45 days after identified noncompliance district must submit CAP to state
  + 9 months to complete everything – because sometimes may find other issues, and need to make sure 100% are all corrected (gives 3 months to follow up and meet 1 year timeline)
  + New NDE SPED monitoring  document and NDE sample forms (link)
  + Made some changes to website to accommodate all information on monitoring.
  + Go to <http://www.education.ne.gov/sped/monitoring.html> - will have part B and C tool monitoring forms. Will have policies, procedures, and practices. Will include data booklets on public reporting. Will have forms review checklist, etc….
  + District submission due for Part B, Indicator 11  (those monitored in 2010-11)
    - Required 45-day school days for initial evaluation
      1. This needs to be completed. Only from those who had file review last year. Went out about 3 weeks ago. – update on ILCD website.
  + ILCD updates
  + Need to remove any reference to monitoring off of the ILCD website.
  + Small group has started it internally.
  + Looking at first draft – share with ILCD NDE group – then ILCD facilitators – will be coming up in the next few months. ILCD should just be the improvement
  + Tri- State Law Conference Nov 3-4
  + Later this week. Over 500 people have registered
* **Bobbing for Answers** – Sigourney Weaver (Beth Wierda)
  + Question:  “I’ve heard that the disability category “mental handicap” will be renamed.  Is that true?  If so, what is the new name?”
  + In 2010 President signed into law Rosa’s Law. This removed the term mental retardation from law. Will replace with intellectual disability.
* **SOSR for Students with Disabilities** --  Ellen Burstyn (Carla Osberg)
  + Summary/general comments about just-released data
  + All students went up 3.2%, students with disabilities went up 4.6%.
  + 2001/2002 42-45%. Up to 80-85% in 08/09. First reading test 36% (NeSA).
  + New test, new standards. Teachers will work to increase scores.
  + Participation rate on reading and math is 99.76%.
  + Achievement gap – secured data – that is where we have concerns. Please review this data when it comes out in November. It is very alarming.
  + NeSA testing for Nebr students receiving services out of state
  + Go to NSSRS system – [www.education.ne.gov/nssrs](http://www.education.ne.gov/nssrs) in section on who reports what, you will find on pages 7, 13, & 14 – are no longer required to participate in state assessment using NeSA. This would be an excused student.
  + Look at the website for more information
* **2011-12 State ASD Training Calendar**  --  Linda Blair (Teresa Coonts)
  + Highlights and reminders (attachment)
  + April 12th & 13th at Lincoln Cornhusker… focus on early childhood
  + See list of trainings.
* Questions
  + (IDEA Application on GMS) Will any of the training sessions be recorded or accessed in another way?
    - Please share information with business managers, finance people, etc
    - Additional training will be provided
      * Maybe through technology or webinars
    - The training on Thursday will not be recorded. Handouts will be given. Probably a powerpoint. If you know of someone who will be attending, you might ask someone to pick up a copy for you.
  + Changes in amount of money that is available for such things as proportionate share, early intervening services, etc.
    - These will be part of the GMS application process
    - This GMS application starts with MOE amounts, which is due today.
  + State wards
    - Federal information
    - Attending conference this week on this and then will regroup.

**Heads Up and Announcements**

* New SPED Directors orientation at NDE – Alfred Hitchcock (Gary Sherman)
  + Seemed to go well
* October 31 SPED Data Reminders – Katie Featherston (Sara Sinani)
* SPED Snapshot (NSSRS)
* Indicator 12 on ILCD
* “Schools for All Learners” SPED Regional Workshops follow-up  **–** Heather Donahue (Jan Thelen)
* 2011-12 Directors Call Calendar (attachment) – Heather Donahue (Jan Thelen)

**Calendar Ahead**

* Nov 3-4, 2011             Tri-State Law Conference, Omaha downtown Embassy Suites
* Nov 16, 2011              Jodi Pfarr “Strategies for Bridges out of Poverty”  Grand Island Midtown Holiday Inn
* Nov 17, 2011              Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)  Lincoln Cornhusker
* Nov 17-18, 2011        GOLD admin training (Nov 17) and GOLD teacher training (Nov 18)  ESU 10, Kearney
* Dec 2, 2011                 Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council (ECICC)  Lincoln Cornhusker
* Jan 19, 2012                SEAC meeting, Lincoln Cornhusker Marriott
* Jan 19-20, 2012          GOLD admin training (Jan 19) and GOLD teacher training (Jan 20)  ESU 9, Hastings
* Feb 16-17, 2012         NDE mtg at NASES,  Lincoln Cornhusker
* Feb 17, 2012               ECICC, Lincoln Cornhusker
* Feb 22-23, 2012         Results Matter Institute, Kearney Younes Conf Center
* Mar 22-23, 2012        GOLD teacher training both days  ESU 5, Beatrice
* Mar 29-30, 2012        GOLD admin training (Mar 29) and GOLD teacher training (Mar 30) ESU 16, Ogallala
* Apr 2-3, 2012              NDE State Data Conference, Kearney Younes Conf Center
* Apr 12-13, 2012         State ASD Conference,  Lincoln Cornhusker
* Apr 18, 2012               SEAC meeting, Lincoln Cornhusker
* Apr 19-20, 2012         GOLD admin training (Apr 19) and GOLD teacher training (Apr 20)  ESU 10, Kearney
* May 11, 2012              ECICC,  Location TBA

**NEXT CALL – Wednesday, November 30**

cc         ILCD Facilitators, SPED Contractors, NDE SPED Team