



Friday News Blast



8-10-2018

Read the attached News Release on ATP 2018!

2017-2018 IDEA Consolidated Application in GMS Amendments Needed

A handful of school districts still need to add staff information into their 2017-2018 IDEA Consolidation Applications (GMS).

At the beginning of the 2017-2018 IDEA Consolidation Applications process, we asked districts planning to budget IDEA funds for salaries and benefits, to enter a total amount for salaries and the corresponding benefits in the budget and not complete the individual staff information on the staff pages at that time. The 2017-2018 NDE Staff Reporting Record System (NSSRS) has been finalized, districts with staffing need to amend their 2017-2018 IDEA Consolidation Applications by completing the staffing pages with the individual staff information and modifying budget amounts if need. The system will verify staff with the appropriate NSSRS Staffing information.

Any 2017-2018 IDEA reimbursement claims containing salary and benefit expenditures will be delayed until the amendment has been submitted and approved.

Questions contact, Suzie Pierce 402-471-4333, suzie.pierce@nebraska.gov ; John Marcucci 402-595-1639, john.marcucci@nebraska.gov ; or Greg Prochazka 402-471-4314, greg.prochazka@nebraska.gov

Paraeducator Conference

The Nebraska statewide Paraeducator Conference is to be held October 10, 2018 in Kearney and we are inviting all paraeducators in Nebraska to share in this opportunity to advance their skills and share their thoughts and ideas with others. The conference cost is \$60 prior to October 1st (\$70 after). Online registration can be found by visiting <http://para.unl.edu/conference/registration.html>.

The keynote address will be delivered by Dr. Matt McNiff and is titled, "Saving the World: Why Your Work is So Important". There will be 4 sessions with 28 topics related to the following categories: Growing with Early Childhood, Supporting Students with Disabilities, Increasing Positive Behavior, Collaborating in the Elementary Classroom, Assisting Secondary Students, Enhancing Para Performance and Recognizing Students with Diverse Needs.

Attendees will be served lunch and receive a conference T-shirt. At the lunch, Dr. Matt Blomstedt, Commissioner of Education and Steve Milliken, Director of Special Education for the Nebraska Department of Education will present the Paraeducator of the Year Recognition Award. For more information about the conference including session titles and speakers, see <http://para.unl.edu/conference>.

Service Agency Clarification

Please watch for a memo coming from our Office in regard to clarification of the service provider/rate approvals in the areas of nursing and paraeducators for 2018/19. The memo will be sent to all directors, so please make sure this information gets out to all service providers and individuals your district will want to contract with in 2018/19.

Building Bridges Online Conference - NE Extension

Here's information about the Building Bridges for The Learning Child online conference on October 13, 2018:

Join us for our 2nd annual online conference, Building Bridges for TLC. This year's theme is Promoting Teacher and Family Well-Being. We are excited to have nationally recognized speakers and extension faculty present on topics such as using mindfulness to support children with challenging behaviors, mindful eating for better health and wellness and strategies for incorporating yoga and music into the early childhood classroom. Here's the link to register:

<https://child.unl.edu/building-bridges-conference>

We hope that all of you have a fantastic start to your new school year. Thanks for all that you do to make a difference and thanks for your leadership. Have a great year and see you soon.

"Leaders are by definition, change makers. When you are called to lead, you are called to advance, move forward, and improve the situation."

Steve and Amy