



Friday News Blast



October 9, 2020

Please see our SPED website at www.education.ne.gov/sped as well for all the updated guidance and information related to special education and early intervention during the COVID-19 pandemic. We will continuously be updating our page with the most recent guidance and adding resources.

Targeted Improvement Plan (TIP) – Submission Due Date

The Due Date for The Targeted Improvement Plan for District submission remains unchanged (November 1, 2020). That being said, the Office of Special Education understands and feels the extreme sense of overwhelm that districts have experienced in light of the current pandemic. Therefore, should a district be experiencing extenuating circumstances, The OSE will grant a two week extension to the deadline (November 16, 2020) for submission of the targeted improvement plans. We strongly encourage districts to watch the developed screencasts located here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OEK03-NLiWY> for additional support in UPDATING your Targeted Improvement Plan for 2020 as well as encourage you to reach out to Kelly.Wojcik@nebraska.gov should you have questions.

2021 Virtual Transition Conference – Dream It!, Plan It!, Do It!

The Nebraska Department of Education is seeking proposals for sessions for the virtual 2021 conference. Please submit your offer to present by 5:00 pm on November 16, 2020. Lead presenters will be notified regarding the status of their submission by December 1, 2020.

Priority will be given to those proposals that disseminate evidence-based practices, actively engage participants, and present topics likely to improve Post-Secondary Outcomes for students with disabilities.

The virtual sessions will be presented on the days of the conference and recorded to be available for later viewing.

Please submit through the following link: <https://forms.gle/kEWZtGiB1XnXtojT6>

High Ability Learning (HAL) and SEL Webinar Series

NDE high Ability Learning (HAL) has been working with the University of Nebraska Kearney on something very exciting for you, and we are thrilled to finally be able to share!

Jude Matyo-Cepero and Emma Sinnett from UNK and Sheyanne Meadows from NDE are hosting a webinar series all about the social-emotional aspects of high ability learners. We have 7 excellent sessions lined up—one a week for one hour each. The keynote sessional will feature prolific researcher, author, and gifted advocate, Dr. Susannah Wood. She specializes in research surrounding the implications for counselors and gifted students. This is an AMAZING addition to our series.

Sessions include:

- HAL, SEL and MTSS
- Twice-Exceptional
- Supporting High Ability Students Through Counseling (Dr. Wood)
- Gifted Students and Mental Health: The Role of Boredom, Belonging, Friendship, Service Delivery, and Academic Challenge (Tim Stambaugh, PhD, Clinical Counselor)
- Future Implications for School Psychology
- Strategic Instructional Model and Possible Selves

➤ Voices From the Schools Student Panel

We are not only targeting HAL staff, but counselors and school psychologists. Please share this information and encourage them to attend!

For session descriptions, dates, and registration, visit: <https://www.education.ne.gov/hal/hal-sel-webinar-series/>

[HAL & SEL Webinar Series – Nebraska Department of Education](#)

It is the policy of the Nebraska Department of Education not to discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, age, national origin, or genetic information in its educational programs, admission policies, employment, or other agency programs.

www.education.ne.gov

Everything is completely FREE! Attend as many sessions as you would like. We are ecstatic for you to come learn with us!

Assistive Technology Partnership's (ATP) Education Program – Upcoming Events

1. AT for Administrators Webinar Series

WEBINAR - What Do Quality AT Services Look Like? with Brian W. Wojcik, Ed.D., ATP - Part I of the AT for Administrators Webinar Series

10/22, 3:45-4:30 PM CST / 2:45-3:30 PM MST

[Register for AT for Administrators Series - What Do Quality AT Services Look Like? with Brian W. Wojcik, Ed.D., ATP](#)

5 Things For You to Know and Share with Your Staff:

1. New ATP Education Statewide Loan Pool Website - EDUCATION.AT4ALL.COM

September launched a redesigned and streamlined version of the ATP Education Statewide Loan Pool Website otherwise known as EDUCATION.AT4ALL.COM. Users will need to create a new account and agree to updated terms to use the site. The site lists thousands of AT Tools and Systems that may be borrowed to try with children/students receiving special education services. There is no charge for this service.

2. ATP Regional Advisory Groups and ATP Education Statewide Loan Pool Advisory Group - Apply Today

Want to have input on ATP Education programs and services within your region? Volunteer to serve or encourage your staff to serve on a Regional Advisory Group! Commitment is 2 virtual meetings a year. [Learn more about the ATP Regional Advisory Groups.](#) In addition, there is an opportunity to help determine what items should be in the Statewide Education Loan Pool for schools to borrow. Come volunteer or encourage your staff to volunteer! Commitment is 2 virtual meetings a year. [Learn more about the ATP Statewide Education Loan Pool Advisory Group.](#)

3. Upcoming Trainings

WEBINAR - AAC Competencies with Jessica Broderick

10/7/2020, 4:45-5:30 PM CST / 3:45-4:30 PM MST

[Register for AAC Competencies with Jessica Broderick](#)

WEBINAR - Book Creator with Karen Janowski

10/14, 3:45-4:30 PM CST / 2:45-3:30 PM MST

[Register for Book Creator with Karen Janowski](#)

WEBINAR - Using What You Have: Microsoft Learning Tools Webinar with Mike Marotta

10/21, 4:45-5:30 PM CST / 3:45-4:30 PM MST

[Register for Using What You Have: Microsoft Learning Tools Webinar with Mike Marotta](#)

WEBINAR - Feature Match Closer Look: Features of AT Writing Tools with Kelly Fonner

10/28, 3:45-4:30 PM CST / 2:45-3:30 PM MST

[Register for Feature Match Closer Look: Features of AT Writing Tools with Kelly Fonner](#)

WEBINAR - Switch Assessment - How Do I Determine an Optimal Switch Placement? with Michelle Lange

11/4, 3:45-4:30 PM CST / 2:45-3:30 PM MST

[Register for Switch Assessment - How Do I Determine an Optimal Switch Placement? with Michelle Lange](#)

WEBINAR - What the Research Says and How to Use This to Choose Apps for Early Learning with Beth Poss

11/18, 3:45-4:30 PM CST / 2:45-3:30 PM MST

[Register for What the Research Says and How to Use This to Choose Apps for Early Learning with Beth Poss](#)

4. Signing Up for the 'Assistive Technology Advance' - The ATP Education Program's Primary Newsletter

If you or your staff are not receiving the 'Assistive Technology Advance' which is the primary newsletter of the ATP Education Program, please have them sign up. [Sign up to receive the ATP Advance Newsletter.](#)

5. Requesting Support from the ATP Education Program

Please email the ATP Education Program at atp.education@nebraska.gov or [fill out the ATP Education Request Form.](#)

Upcoming Virtual GOLD Trainings & Misc. GOLD Information

November 5-6th GOLD: Using your Observations to Individualize Instruction ([Register Here](#))

November 10-11th GOLD: A Key to Responsive Planning (Home Visitor Breakout Session on day 2) ([Register Here](#))

November 12-13th GOLD: Administrative

Please notify GOLD administrators to ensure that children receiving early intervention services are exited on their 3rd birthday. The [Part C GOLD Exit Checklist](#) is attached to assist in that process.

As a reminder, all children birth through kindergarten eligible age, served by a public school district or ESU are required to have an NDE Student ID/ADVISER ID. This identification number must be reported on the child's Teaching Strategies GOLD profile. The GOLD administrators are responsible for ensuring that these

identification numbers are within each child's profile. Please refer to the [Results Matter TA document](#) for further clarification on ADVISER ID's

Fall GOLD Checkpoints are due October 31st

2020 Virtual Para-educator Conference Registration is NOW OPEN!

November 10, 2020



We look forward to your participation at the virtual 2020 Para-educator Conference. This year's theme of "Para-educator's, The Link to Meaningful Connections" is more relevant than ever! The focus of the conference is how to create and maintain social-emotional connections with students. Registration for this year's conference is FREE! Do not miss out on this wonderful opportunity to learn and grow. Register at: <https://events.education.ne.gov/events/paraeducator-conference/>



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