

## SPECIAL EDUCATION/STUDENT SERVICES/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION NEWSLETTER: OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2010

### **Happy Autumn —**

*I hope things have begun to settle down a bit. We had a rough start to the school year with the school closures, realignments, class moves, and transportation challenges. All the while, we continue to experience significant budget and lay off impacts in our district.*

*Division staff have been interviewing and working to rebuild our clerical support teams. Paraeducators are also being hired to fill the significant needs all of you have felt in the schools.*

*We have many tasks ahead of us including Special Education Self Review, Head Start review, and facilities and realignment work.*

*I appreciate your input and will continue to address the issues. Thanks for the great work you do in support of our students and families.*

*Fondly,  
Janet*

### **Interesting Programs and Projects**

**Student Services** — Jane Claar and Tracey Wiltshire are working with social work interns from CSUS to support their efforts in child welfare and attendance

**Early Childhood Education/Child Development** — The team is moving forward with the implementation of the work laid out through the Capacity Building project funded by First 5.

**Special Education** — Selected psychologists are working with the Diagnostic Center, North on a pilot project which addresses the assessment practices of African American children.

**Congratulations to Jane Claar and Tracey Wiltshire, Child Welfare and Attendance Coordinators, Student Services, for successfully obtaining the Early Mental Health Initiative (EMHI) grant written last spring. The focus of the EMHI grant is the enhancement of the social-emotional development of children to increase their chances of school success the grant was approved for three years -- Way to go!**

**\* We are awaiting an announcement on the funding due to the State budget delays.**

### **ECE/CD Fall Parenting Classes**

Fall parenting classes are going strong at Kohler School. The "Dare To Be You" parenting curriculum is facilitated by the North Highlands Family Resource Center/Birth and Beyond staff. Child Action provides the Play Care for the children while moms, dads, and even grandparents participate with other parents in our community. Twin Rivers' Nutrition Services provides a delicious, nutritious dinner for adults and children. This ten-week event is made possible through collaboration between Twin Rivers Unified School District Early Childhood Education department, Child Action, and the Family Resource Center. In addition, First 5 Sacramento provides funds for printing the materials and the dinner. This is the third year of this collaboration effort. Our community thrives when we all work together as a team. Watch for the spring event at Oakdale School

### **Important Dates**

#### **Professional Development**

October 6:

- "The IEP from Start to Finish" (Please sign up on My Learning Plan), 4:00-6:00, Willow Room, Bay A

Nov 12<sup>th</sup> District Professional Development Day:

- CPR/First Aid for SDC-Moderate/Severe Teachers, 8:00-4:30, Oak Room, Bay A
- Language! Training for Secondary SDC/RSP teachers currently using the program, 8:00-4:00, Walnut Room, Bay A
- Psychologists, 8:00-4:00, Psych Room, MPR
- Speech Language Pathologists, 8:00-3:30, Sycamore Room, Bay A
- Nurses, 8:00-4:00, Pine Room, Bay A
- Early Childhood Education, 8:30-3:30, Oakdale Parent Resource Center

## Understanding State and Federal Accountability Systems

### AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress): Federal Accountability System

Can make District/School AYP by:

*School AND **Significant Subgroups both** must be at proficiency or make safe harbor  
Feds look only at students Proficient and Advanced*

- ❖ Making the % targets for E/LA & Math
  - 2009-10 Targets
    - E/LA=56% of students at Proficient or Advanced
    - Math=56.4% of students at Proficient or Advanced
  - 2010-11 Targets
    - E/LA=67%
    - Math=67.3%

OR

- ❖ Making Safe Harbor:
  - If move 10% of the students below proficient (FBB, BB, B) up to proficiency, then make Safe Harbor in that specific subject area: E/LA or Math

Both calculations also include the Additional API Indicator:

- ❖ Increase API by 1 point OR a minimum API Target
  - 2009-2010 District API Target = 680
  - 2010-2011 District Target = 710

District/School must also make participation rate on STAR and graduation rate

### API (Academic Performance Index): State Accountability System

Growth Model: Points are given for moving students from one category to the next. A greater API gain can occur through the improvement of the lowest performing students in the school.

Progressive Weighting		
CS, CMA, or CAPA Performance Level	Performance Level Weighting Factor Assigned	Point Gain for Movement
Advanced	1000	1000-875=125
Proficient	875	875-700=175
Basic	700	700-500=200
Below Basic	500	500-200=300
Far Below Basic	200	N/A

**Significant Subgroup:**

- ❖ **At district or school site:**
  - 100 students OR
  - 50-99 students **AND** 15% of the **tested** population

### 2010-2011 Family Resource Guide

The Special Education, Student Services, and Early Childhood Education Division continues to update the Family Resource Guide in an effort to help families connect with needed community and county resources. To address the increased demand for this information, the [Family Resource Guide](#) is posted on the Division department web pages under *Resources and Forms*.

### ECE Professional Development News

Twenty-five Preschool and Children Center staff participated in CPR training in the conference room in Bay C on Saturday, September 25th. CPR certification is required of all preschool and children center teachers to maintain their teaching permits through California Teacher Credentialing.

## Division Meetings

### PSYCHOLOGISTS

October 6  
November 5

### SP/LANG THERAPISTS

October 13 (Bay A: Board Rm)  
November 5

### ELEM RSP TEACHERS

October 22 (Oak Rm)  
December 8 (Sycamore Rm)

### ELEM SDC TEACHERS

November 5 (Drop In)

### Pre K SDC TEACHERS

October 15

### SP ED COORDINATORS

October 5 & 19  
November 2, 16 & 30

### SP ED PROG SPECIALISTS

October 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29  
November 5 & 19

### DIVISION

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 21  
November 18

### MEDI-CAL

October 14  
December 9

### STU SVCS COORDINATORS

October 1, 8 & 29  
November 5 & 19

### NURSES

October 20  
November 17

### HEALTH ASSISTANTS

October 27  
December 1

### DCOST

October 7 & 21  
November 4 & 18

### SARB REGION 1

October 19  
November 2, 16 & 30

### SARB REGION 2

October 11 & 25  
November 1 & 15

### ECE On FACEBOOK

To Promote our preschools and family services and heighten awareness of the importance of early childhood education, The Early Childhood Education Department is now on FACEBOOK.

You can find us under "TRUSD Preschool Child-Development". Please visit us and become our friend.