



News Re-L.E.A.S.E.



Visit Our Website for New Resources

New Website

If you haven't visited our website for a while, you will find that we have a new look. Thanks to our technology coordinator, Marie McLaughlin, for re-designing our site to make it easier to navigate. Visit <http://www.lease-spced.org> to view the changes.



Special Education Eligibility Criteria

Visit our website to find UPDATED [L.E.A.S.E. Eligibility Criteria](#) for the fourteen categories of disabilities recognized by federal law as approved for use throughout L.E.A.S.E. by the L.E.A.S.E. Executive Committee on October 9, 2008. This information replaces the previous L.E.A.S.E. Eligibility Criteria distributed in 2001 and reflects recent changes made in both State and federal law.

Changes to IDEA

On December 1, 2008, the U.S. Department of Education issued the *final* final regulations for Part B, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 34 CFR Part 300. Visit our website for a [letter from ISBE](#) highlighting the changes along with a [form letter](#) to utilize in response to a parental request to revoke all special education and related services.

Guidelines for Developing Standards-based IEPs

The standards-based IEP approach is a recent strategy in the IEP development process. Visit our website for [guidelines](#), gathered from a literature review on this topic.

Three Common Mistakes to Avoid When Writing Goals and Objectives

As you develop IEP's for students, make sure goals and objectives align with each other and can be measured. This way you'll know whether your goals are working and whether the student is making progress. Visit our website for timely guidance in [writing goals and objectives](#).

RECOGNITION & RESPONSE: RTI for Preschool

Because more and more school districts are implementing the Rtl process, growing support for providing Rtl procedures in the area of Early Childhood is emerging. Response to Intervention (Rtl) in the area of Early Childhood is referred to as **Recognition & Response (R&R)**. Although they are related, the two systems have differences. Visit our website for information regarding [Recognition & Response](#).

Upcoming IVTPC Resource Fair



The Illinois Valley Transition Planning Committee has scheduled the annual Resource Fair for Thursday, March 19th, 2009. The Fair will be hosted at L-P High School from 5:00 – 7:30 p.m. Agencies serving individuals with disabilities will be present to discuss services they can provide for students ages 14-21.

Breakout sessions will begin at 5:15 p.m. and focus on the following topics:

1. Transition Programs and Self-directed IEP's
2. Accessing Adult Services/Guardianship
3. Others to be Determined

Please stay tuned to the LEASE web-site for additional upcoming information. If you have questions, contact Dawn Roalson, IVTPC Chair, (815)433-6433.

Wraparound Plans

Currently we have 6 districts, the Safe School and Martha Small, truancy officer from the Regional Office of Education utilizing LAN funds for group and individual wrap plans. Funds have been used for mentors, tutors, and a variety of incentives for attendance. The data has shown this to be extremely successful. Catholic Services are providing mentoring services for families who have adopted kids through DCFS. Questions and referrals can be made to Sara Olson at (815) 223-4007.

PBIS Updates

LaSalle County's PBIS schools are going strong! LaSalle and Leland Elementary had quarterly celebrations for students on Friday January 9th. Events included cooking and origami classes, 3-on-3 basketball tournaments, and school dances. Marseilles elementary students participated in individual grade-level celebrations of their choosing. Data is being compiled from all three of these districts to compare their Office Discipline Referrals to those of last year before implementing PBIS. This data will be shared in an upcoming News ReLEASE. We have two new PBIS schools just beginning the training process. Deer Park and Grand Ridge have both participated in a two-day beginning training held at the L.E.A.S.E. office. Stay tuned and contact your LEASE Coordinator if you are interested in PBIS for your district!

