

**KEEPING  
YOU IN THE  
DISABILITY  
LOOP**



**WITH A  
DIP OF LEGISLATION,  
A DRIZZLE OF  
BEST PRACTICE,  
A SPRINKLE OF  
UP-COMING EVENTS  
AND  
RESOURCES ON TOP**

Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education

May 2019



## **Career & Academic Connections welcomes Shawna Nord**

Shawna Nord has joined Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education as the new academic coordinator in Career and Academic Connections. She has a background in school counseling and is ready to help with your counseling and AP questions. Shawna can be reached by email at [Shawna.Nord@careertech.ok.gov](mailto:Shawna.Nord@careertech.ok.gov).

## **Are you looking for heartwarming stories involving students with disabilities?**

Check out these stories.

- Chandler Oklahoma, rallies around door greeter. <https://tinyurl.com/y2ecjmsg>
- Girl with no hands wins national handwriting competition. <https://tinyurl.com/y2uhaht8>
- Nine-year-old with special needs opens a coffee shop that has created jobs for others with autism. <https://tinyurl.com/yy9yxqk>

## **Guidance from the U.S. Department of Education OSEP**

Here are some links to recent guidance letters from the Office of Special Education Programs:

- Providing special education services to nondisabled students at Rtl tiers 2 & 3 - <https://sites.ed.gov/idea/idea-files/osep-letter-jan-29-2019-to-zirkel/>
- Responsibility to offer IEP annually to parentally placed private school students - <https://tinyurl.com/y57e4jo8>
- Students with disabilities moving into a new district over the summer - <https://tinyurl.com/y4m9amew>
- Manifestation determination meetings when further evaluation is needed - <https://tinyurl.com/yy2usmq4>

## **Subcommittee finds disproportionality in the use of seclusion and restraint**

The U.S. Government Accountability Office found that the use of restraint and seclusion in public schools was very rare, but for students with disabilities and boys, it was disproportionate. For more information about their findings, go to <https://tinyurl.com/y4ex3kkk>.

## **American Dental Association changes policy to be more inclusive**

<https://www.disabilityscoop.com/2019/02/28/dentists-turn-away-disabilities/26093/>

## New Civil Rights and Human Services Subcommittee created in U.S. House

The Education and Labor Committee announced the creation of a Civil Rights and Human Services Subcommittee. The subcommittee will focus on civil rights, equal employment opportunities, human services, nutrition, and the Older Americans Act. For more information about the subcommittee, go to <https://tinyurl.com/y2vedhqa>.

## Federal class action lawsuit against Oregon involves shortened school days

Parents of four Oregon children with disabilities are claiming Oregon schools have denied the children the right to go to school for some or all of the day. For more information about the case, go to <https://tinyurl.com/yyuplf5g>.

## Resources & Events

- Are you looking for professional development that is quick and to the point? Here are some videos that are from two to seven minutes long. <https://tinyurl.com/y4j66jrw>
- June 11-15, the Developmental Disabilities Council will hold the *Oklahoma Youth Leadership Forum* in Chickasha, Oklahoma. The YLF is a unique leadership program for high school students with and without disabilities. YLF teaches students how to take charge of their lives and gives opportunities for students to lead. Selected students will develop important life skills to assist them in reaching their life and career goals. Up to 25 students statewide will be selected to represent their communities as delegates at YLF. To be eligible to attend the YLF, students must meet the following criteria:
  - Be in the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, or 12<sup>th</sup> grade as of Dec. 19, 2018.
  - For students with a disability: have a documented disability.
  - For students without a disability: have an interest in working with others who have a disability or be a sibling of a person with a disability.
  - Have demonstrated leadership **potential** in their school and community.
  - Reside in Oklahoma.

For more information, go to <http://okddc.ok.gov/youth-leadership-forum>

## Quote

“What would happen if the autism gene was eliminated from the gene pool? You would have a bunch of people standing around in a cave, chatting and socializing and not getting anything done,” Dr. Temple Grandin.

## Questions or Comments

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