Happy Valentine’s Day!

**ODCTE welcomes Dr. Quentin Sanders!** Dr. Sanders joined ODCTE on October 26, 2016 as the new equity/diversity Specialist. If your technology center has equity/diversity questions or would like to schedule training, Dr. Sanders is eager to help. He can be reached at Quentin.Sanders@careertech.ok.gov or 405-743-5450.

Did you know the use of restraint and seclusion may result in discrimination against students with disabilities? Take a look at this Dear Colleague Letter: *Restraint and Seclusion of Students with Disabilities* issued by the Office for Civil Rights. [http://tinyurl.com/jcf75hc](http://tinyurl.com/jcf75hc)

For additional information, view the *Fact Sheet: Restraint and Seclusion of Students with Disabilities* which was also produced by OCR. [http://tinyurl.com/hlwq5zx](http://tinyurl.com/hlwq5zx)

The U.S. Department of Education has published the final regulations targeting widespread disparities in the treatment of students of color with disabilities. According to the U.S. Department of Education, the regulations address issues related to significant disproportionality in the identification, placement and discipline of students with disabilities based on race or ethnicity. Links to several documents that address this topic include the following:

U.S. Department of Education’s Final Regulations: [http://tinyurl.com/jxo783q](http://tinyurl.com/jxo783q)
Fact Sheet: *Equity in IDEA*: [http://tinyurl.com/z3g6clb](http://tinyurl.com/z3g6clb)

Dear Colleague Letter: *Preventing Racial Discrimination in Special Education*: [http://tinyurl.com/zekf8qz](http://tinyurl.com/zekf8qz)

Fact Sheet: *Preventing Racial Discrimination in Special Education*: [http://tinyurl.com/h9q6wch](http://tinyurl.com/h9q6wch)

**Do you have an up-to-date Section 504 resource guide?** The Office for Civil Rights has released *Parent and Educator Resource Guide to Section 504 in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools*. According to OCR, the guide summarizes key requirements of Section 504 and has been established to increase understanding of these requirements for parents and educational institutions. Here is a link to the guide: [https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/504-resource-guide-201612.pdf](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/504-resource-guide-201612.pdf).

**Do you need a guide for working with students who have diabetes?** The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases has produced *Helping the Student with Diabetes Succeed: A Guide for School Personnel*. This resource includes guidance to ensure a safe learning environment for students with diabetes. Check out the link for a copy of the guide: [https://www.niddk.nih.gov/health-information/health-communication-programs/ndep/health-care-professionals/school-guide/Pages/publicationdetail.aspx](https://www.niddk.nih.gov/health-information/health-communication-programs/ndep/health-care-professionals/school-guide/Pages/publicationdetail.aspx).

**Do you have a transition guide for students with disabilities who are preparing for postsecondary education or employment?** The U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services has released *A Transition Guide to Postsecondary Education and Employment for Students and Youth with Disabilities*. The guide can be viewed at [http://tinyurl.com/jkz8lp8](http://tinyurl.com/jkz8lp8).

**Are you looking for the latest certification policy for special education teachers?** Click on this link to view OSDE-SES’s Memorandum. [http://tinyurl.com/h7yox6x](http://tinyurl.com/h7yox6x).

**Events You Won’t Want to Miss:**
Oklahoma Association of Minorities in Career and Technology Education Essay Contest - OAMCTE is sponsoring an essay contest for juniors and seniors enrolled and
attending a technology center that are a member of a minority race. For more information and guidelines click on this link: http://www.oamcte.com/Essay.html.

Oklahoma Nontraditional Student Institute - The Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education and the National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity will be providing a regional workshop along with follow-up conference calls, webinars and a two-day summit. Four regional workshops are planned in February:

- Feb. 16 - Canadian Valley Technology Center, Chickasha Campus.
- Feb. 17 - Northwest Technology Center, Fairview Campus.
- Feb. 23 - Moore Norman Technology Center, South Penn Campus.
- Feb. 24 - Francis Tuttle Technology Center, Cross Timbers Campus.

The two-day summit will be March 28-29. For more information, please visit https://form.jotform.com/70036133648957.

Resources

Oklahoma Association on Higher Education and Disability Scholarship Program - OK-AHEAD awards up to three scholarships of $500 each to students with disabilities who are or will be attending an Oklahoma technology center, two-year institution, or four-year institution. The application must be postmarked by March 1, 2017. http://www.ok-ahead.org/scholar.html

Technical Assistance for Excellence in Special Education - TAESE provides professional development and resources to improve results for youth with disabilities. http://www.taese.org/cms/

Quote

“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is: What are you doing for others?”
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Questions or Comments

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