**Roberta Douglas from the Career & Academic Connections Team accepts position at OSU**

Career Development Specialist, Roberta Douglas, has resigned from Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education to take a position with Oklahoma State University. Roberta was instrumental in launching and training for OK Career Guide. The Career and Academic Connections Team, as well as the ODCTE staff, will miss Roberta and wish her the best in her new position.

**ODCTE announces Carl D. Perkins Grant award winners!**

Career and Academic Connections would like to congratulate the Carl D. Perkins Reserve Fund Disability Services Grant award winners! Four applicants were awarded a total of $79,100 in funding for projects under the grant application. The award winners included Lawton Public Schools, Eastern Oklahoma County Technology Center, OSU-OKC and Choctaw Public Schools. Lawton Public Schools’ funding will include a new computer applications class for special needs students. A mobile wheelchair lift will provide disabled students access to the Iguana Bus at Eastern Oklahoma County Technology Center. OSU-OKC and Choctaw High School plan to hire additional staff to enhance transition services for special needs students.

**IDEA-B State Advisory Panel holds first meeting of 2016 – 2017 school year**

“The purpose for the Panel is providing policy guidance with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities in the State”. (CFR 300-167) During their first meeting, the panel developed a list of priorities. The broad subjects that the Panel’s priorities included were:

1. Youth - Self Advocacy Skills & Knowledge
2. Teacher Preparation or Knowledge/Practice (PD)
3. Lack of Special Education Personnel
4. Parent Engagement & Training
5. Suspensions and Behavior
6. State Department Education Management

If you would like more information about the Panel, its purpose and how the Panel is selected click on this link. [http://sde.ok.gov/sde/idea-b-advisory-panel](http://sde.ok.gov/sde/idea-b-advisory-panel)

**Does your technology center ensure website accessibility for people with disabilities?**

**Are technology center staff required to complete an IEP for a public school district?**
Technology center staff members are not required to write the Individualized Education Plan for students with disabilities. However, they should provide input and be involved in the writing of the IEP. The IEP team will need information about the impact of the student’s disability on the student’s participation in the technology center program. Members of the IEP team, including technology center staff, should work together to develop an IEP that is appropriate for the student. According to the State Accreditation Standards:

(a) If a career technology education program at the Technology Center is considered to be an appropriate part of the student’s IEP, a representative of the Technology Center shall be on the IEP team. The instructor of the career technology program shall have access to a copy of the IEP before the student with a disability enters the career technology program.

(b) The sending school shall work with the Technology Center to assure that an annual assessment is conducted to determine occupational needs, interests, and abilities of potential Technology Center students.

(c) The sending school guidance program shall complement and coordinate with those services available in the Technology Center for counseling, assessment, staff consulting, educational and occupational planning, and follow-up activities. State accreditation standards: Part I, Standard VI, Student Services, 210:35-11-51

**Does your technology center have procedures to ensure students receive accommodations?**
Would you be willing to share your procedures? If so, please email them to Sharon.Baker@careertech.ok.gov. The information that is gathered will be compiled and shared at a later date. References to any particular technology center will be removed.

**Events You Won’t Want to Miss:**
**Invest Ed One Day Workshops** – Invest Ed provides free one day workshops. In the workshop, students learn how to manage and protect their money and how their money can work for them. InvestEd is sponsored by the Oklahoma Securities Commission in collaboration with the University of Oklahoma Outreach. [www.investedok.org](http://www.investedok.org)
October 18th - High Plains Technology Center
October 27th - Southern Oklahoma Technology Center
November 1st - Pioneer Technology Center

October 25th - OKCRC Conference - The OKCRC Annual Conference will have sessions for everyone. This is a free opportunity to learn about the National Career Readiness Certificate. [Link](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/join-us-2016-okcrc-annual-conference-registration-27356052690)

October 27th - 28th - Oklahoma Directors of Special Services Conference
An annual two-day event which includes the following activities:

- General and breakout sessions on current topics of interest to special and general education administrators, related service providers and special education teachers
- Legal/Legislative updates
- Current information from the Oklahoma State Department of Education (SDE), Special Education Services section. [Link](http://www.ccosa.org/index.php?events&a=view&event_id=160)

November 19, 2016 - Oklahoma’s Eighth Annual Conference on Autism Spectrum Disorder
For Families, Health Professionals, Educators, and Advocates the conference will be held at the Embassy Suites Oklahoma City - Downtown/Medical Center [Link](http://www.okautism.org/)

Resources –
Do you need updates on trends, plans, policies and happenings in the Oklahoma education system? Check out the ESSP website for all of the latest news! [Link](http://okacte-essp.org/)

Do you need resources for students with disabilities? Disability.gov is the U.S. federal government website for information on disability programs and services nationwide. [Link](https://www.disability.gov/)

Quote - “If you don’t go after what you want, you’ll never have it. If you don’t ask, the answer is always no. If you don’t step forward you’re always in the same place”. Nora Roberts

Questions or Comments
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Legal information provided by this newsletter is not intended to replace the advice of a technology center’s legal counsel.