Jo Kahn from the Career and Academic Connections Team announces her retirement
Jo, Coordinator of Career and Employment Information, has been a part of Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education for more than 15 years. Her last day will be July 7. If you would like to thank Jo for her many years of service she can be reached at Jo.Kahn@careertech.ok.gov.

New IDEA Website
The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services has a new Individuals with Disabilities Education Act website. The website was developed after receiving input from parents, educators, administrators, service providers, and advocates. The new site includes: improved navigation and design, expanded search options, expanded content, enhanced accessibility, audience specific-information, and streamlined resources. It can be accessed at http://tinyurl.com/y7bpvb28. The OSERS is still receiving feedback about their site. If you would like to provide feedback here is a link to their blog http://tinyurl.com/yavgb7lx.

Are you anticipating OSDE’s EdPlan updates for the 2017-2018 school year?
Here is a sneak peek at some of the planned changes to the program.

- The review of existing data form will be required for all new entries of eligibility.
- The accommodation list will be different for each district/state assessment.
- The entry for “course of study” information in secondary transition will be back.
A progress towards goals and frequency section will be added.
An area to answer if the student will participate in adaptive PE will be added.
The least restrictive environment percentage will print on the document.
The special factors section will print all sub-questions.

If you would like more information about these changes, join OSDE at Engage OK. Registration and event information can be found at http://engage.ok.gov/. Engage OK dates and locations are below:

- July 12, 2017 – Enid.
- July 18, 2017 – Durant.
- July 19, 2017 – Ada.
- July 20, 2017 – Cache.

The Department of Rehabilitation Services needs your help
The Department of Rehabilitation Services and the Oklahoma Rehabilitation Council would like your opinions on the service needs of transition aged youth with disabilities in Oklahoma. Please take a moment to complete their survey. It will allow you to provide valuable feedback on education and employment challenges facing transition-aged youth and the training areas you believe are the most important in helping this group succeed. It can be accessed at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TransitionYouth.

The Oklahoma Youth Leadership Forum is looking for promotional items
The Oklahoma Youth Leadership Forum has accepted 25 high school students (each with a disability) and 10 alumni to attend this year’s event. Jen Randle, youth advocacy and training coordinator for the Oklahoma Developmental Disabilities Council, is looking for 35 promotional items from schools to give to the students who are participating. Please mail any items your school would like to donate to Jen Randle, Oklahoma Developmental Disabilities Council, 2401 N.W. 23rd Street, Suite 74, Oklahoma City, OK 73107.

Do you know someone that needs a wheelchair makeover?
Check out this website. Two sisters break down negative stigmas associated with wheelchairs by creating designer wheelchair guards. Proceeds from their creations go to disability charities. https://www.izzywheels.com/

Events You Won’t Want to Miss:
• **2017 CCOSA/USSA Law Day & Summer Conference Mapping Your Future:** The Cooperative Council of School Administrators and United Suburban Schools Association will be joining together to host their summer conference on June 7 and 8 at the Embassy Suites Hotel & Conference Center in Norman, Oklahoma. The breakout sessions on June 7 will include:
  - **Special Education Updates** presented by Andrea Kunkel, CCOSA
  - **Lessons Learned from Recent Oklahoma Special Ed Due Process Cases** presented by Bo Rainey, Rosenstein, Fist, & Ringold & Carolyn Thomas, Ardmore Special Services Director
  - **Student Issues** presented by Laura Holmes, Center for Education Law
  - **Assessment, Accountability & Curriculum** presented by Dr. Jeanene Barnett & Dr. Cindy Koss, SDE

  The breakout sessions on June 8 will include:
  - **Shortened School Days for Students with Disabilities: Revisiting Placement Decisions & Transportation Practices** presented by Andrea Kunkel, CCOSA
  - **Using Data Analytics for Benchmarking & Communicating Your District’s Story** presented by Christopher Ryan & Lisa Morstad, Forecast5 Analytics
  - **The Road to Comprehensive Literacy: A Leader’s Plan for Action** presented by Michael Haggen, SVP Professional Learning

  To view the full listing of session, their descriptions and to register go to www.ccosa.org.

• **DRS STEM Camp:** The Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services has announced its second annual STEM camp for students with disabilities ages 14-18. Students will participate in technology transition activities throughout the day. Dates and locations are below:
  - **DRS STEM Camp 2017 Tulsa (June 12-14),**
    - [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/STEMTulsa17](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/STEMTulsa17)
  - **DRS STEM Camp 2017 Lawton (June 19-21),**
    - [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/STEMLawton17](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/STEMLawton17)
  - **DRS STEM Camp 2017 Shattuck (July 12-14),**
    - [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/STEMShattuck17](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/STEMShattuck17)
  - **DRS STEM Camp 2017 Southeast (July 17-19),**
    - location to be determined.

• **June 13th – 16th Crisis Prevention Institute New Trainer or Recertification Training:** Hosted by Putnam City, at Francis Tuttle Technology Center, 7301 West Reno Ave, OKC 73127. [http://tinyurl.com/gt2kr2f](http://tinyurl.com/gt2kr2f)

• **Come and Get It! A Legal Update on Discipline and Mental Health Issues for Special Ed Leaders:** Hosted by PresenceLearning. This webinar will be available on July 11. Interested parties can go to this link to register:
https://www.presencelearning.com/resources/sped-ahead-special-education-resources-webinars/

- **Strategies for Children with Cortical Visual Impairment: June 23**, Tulsa Technology Center, Owasso Campus. This free workshop presented by Ellen Mazel will provide attendees with useful strategies to implement in the classroom. Each person attending will receive materials appropriate for children with CVI. [http://bit.ly/2rmusdx](http://bit.ly/2rmusdx)

**Resources**

- **The Iris Center** offers a wide variety of resources on evidence-based practices and programs, including accommodations, assistive technology and behavior management. [https://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/](https://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/)

- **2-1-1 Oklahoma** provides callers with information about and referrals to human services for every day needs and in times of crisis. For those in the Oklahoma City area call 877-362-1606. If you are in the Tulsa area call 877-836-2111. Information can also be found at this link [http://www.211oklahoma.org](http://www.211oklahoma.org).

**Quote**

“Kindness is a language that the deaf can hear and the blind can see.” Mark Twain

**Questions or Comments**

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