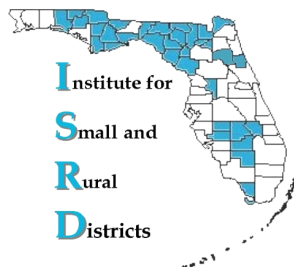


# ISRD ESE Specialist Newsletter

Volume 1

Spring/Summer2010



## 2010-2011 ISRD Initiative

In an effort to expand the communication with the ESE Specialists throughout the school year, ISRD will be piloting a work group for ESE Specialists. The purpose of this initiative is to provide a forum to identify and discuss current issues that ESE Specialists are facing in their districts ~ similar to the ISRD Small District Coalition Work Group for ESE Administrators. Representation from each region (North East, Panhandle, and Heartland) was sought, along with ESE Director support. The following individuals will be participating in this activity:

### Contact ISRD:

**352-333-2831**  
**352-333-2832 FAX**

Renee Speisman  
Project Director  
speismrf@gm.sbac.edu

Kim Dotts-Hoehnle  
Program Specialist  
kimdh@gm.sbac.edu

A positive attitude may not solve all your problems, but it will annoy enough people to make it worth the effort.

Herm Albright

### NEFEC Region

- \* Lynn Jamison, Columbia County
- \* Christy McElroy, Gilchrist County
- \* Karen Hallinan, Levy County
- \* Carolyn Adams, Nassau County
- \* Leah Harrell, Suwannee County

### PAEC Region

- \* Susan Bentley, Gadsden County
- \* Teresa Mitchell, Holmes County
- \* Ramona Patrick, Taylor County
- \* Julie Jeffries, Washington County

### HEC Region

- \* Cathy Miller, DeSoto County
- \* Roberta "Cookie" Sanders, Hardee County
- \* Susan Brusso, Hendry County
- \* Maria Fappiano, Monroe County

An initial conference call will be scheduled with this group in August. Stay tuned for more details.

## Professional Learning Community Book Club for ESE Specialists

The first book for the Professional Learning Community/Book Club for ISRD ESE Specialists has been selected:

- ◆ *Disciplining Students with Disabilities: A Balanced Approach to Meeting Legal Requirements and Implementing Positive Education Practice*, by Eric P. Hartwig and Gary M. Ruesch.

SPP Indicator 4, Rates of Suspension and Expulsion, continues to be a concern in some schools and districts. This text is organized in three sections: Discipline and The Law; Practical Strategies for Putting the Law Into Practice; and Due Process. The authors offer many alternatives to traditional discipline practices and discuss the importance of developing a schoolwide discipline policy.

Eric P. Hartwig, Ph.D., is a regular presenter at LRP's *National Institute on Legal Issues of Educating Individuals with Disabilities*. He has also been a presenter at regional ISRD trainings.

## State Performance Plan Indicators

- 1 - Graduation Rate\*
- 2 - Dropout Rate\*
- 3 - Participation/  
Performance on Statewide  
Assessments\*
- 4 - Suspensions/Expulsions\*
- 5 - FAPE in LRE, ages 6-21\*
- 6 - FAPE in LRE, ages 3-5
- 7 - PreK Performance
- 8 - Parent Involvement
- 9 - Disproportionality in  
Special Education
- 10 - Disproportionality in  
Specific Disability Categories
- 11 - Evaluation within 60 days
- 12 - Transition from Part C to  
Part B, IEPs Developed and  
Implemented by 3rd  
Birthday
- 13 - Transition IEP Components
- 14 - Postschool Outcomes\*
- 15 - Identifies and Corrects  
Noncompliance Within One  
Year
- 16 - Complaints Resolved within  
60-days
- 17 - Due Process Hearing Re  
quests Adjudicated Within  
45-days
- 18 - Hearing Requests Resolved  
Through Settlement Agree  
ments
- 19 - Mediations Resulting in  
Mediation Agreements
- 20 - Timely and Accurately Re  
ported Data

\* indicates an SPP Indicator supported by ISRD

## Common State Complaint Issues

July 1, 2009 - March 31, 2010

As reported by Bambi Lockman, CASE June 14, 2010

- ◆ **IEP Development**
  - Concerns of the parent not considered/reflected in the IEP
  - Required IEP team members not present or not the staff requested by the parent
- ◆ **IEP Implementation**
  - Accommodations not provided or not evident
  - Missed Speech or Language Therapy
- ◆ **Teacher Qualifications**
- ◆ **Behavior and Discipline**
  - FBA not considered, not conducted, not updated
  - BIP not developed, not implemented, not appropriate
  - Change in placement/Interim Alternative Education Setting
- ◆ **Evaluation/Reevaluation**
  - Not timely; district "should have initiated sooner"
  - Eligibility decision; student not found eligible
  - Request for Independent Educational Evaluation; procedures not clear or not implemented

### Resources to Explore—National Technical Assistance Centers

- **National Technical Assistance Center on Response to Intervention (SPP Indicator 1, 2, 3) -**  
<http://www.rti4success.org>
- **National Dropout Prevention Center for Students with Disabilities (SPP Indicator 2) -**  
<http://www.ndpc-sd.org>
- **Center for Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (SPP Indicator 4) -**  
<http://www.pbis.org>
- **National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center (SPP Indicator 13) -**  
<http://www.nsttac.org>
- **National Post-School Outcome Center (SPP Indicator 14) -** <http://www.psocenter.org>
- **National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorders -**  
<http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~autismpdc/>

### \*\*\*MARK YOUR CALENDAR\*\*\*

**August 11-12: Facilitative IEP Training for ESE Specialists in the Heartland Region (Lake Placid).** Registration is closed. If you are interested in attending but have not registered, please check with your ESE Director and then contact the ISRD office (352-333-2831) to be added to a waiting list.

### Useful Links:

- **ISRD's RtI Information Exchange** (<http://www.nefec.org/isrd/rti.asp>)
- Recently over 150 documents/forms, from ISRD districts, have been uploaded to this site. If you are involved in your district's RTI implementation process, you will want to visit this site.
- **Due Process Hearing Requests** (<http://www.fldoe.org/ese/pdf/requestforesedueprocess.pdf>) Parents are encouraged to use the model form available on the BEESS website.