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A Newsletter for Parents and Service Providers

TOUCH

EPING

Colorado Children Who Are Blind/Visually Impaire

2013

March—April

Be the Change You want to See in the World

By Tanni L. Anthony

We have come so far on our journey that every student has a high quality education. There was a time, not so long ago, when children with disabilities were not allowed a free appropriate public education. Many courageous people helped pave the way, first with legislation, and later with solid educational practices that assured access to the general education curriculum. In today's world, access alone is not enough— it is important, but we need to ensure that our students also have high quality instruction that moves them forward with their peers to grade-level (and above!) standards.

Colorado TVIs are masters at ensuring that our students who are blind/visually impaired have access to the general education curriculum. The Learning Media Assessment is used to determine learning / literacy needs and the corresponding materials for this access. Our next goal then is to ensure that access is embedded into the firstbest instruction of the student. This is where our teamwork begins in earnest with our general education colleagues. This is also where we need to model the change we want to see in the world. We want our students included, plugged into the curriculum, and performing to their highest capacity with needed supports.

Mahatma Gandhi did not know about the multi-tiered system of supports (MTTS and formerly called the RtI for Response to Intervention) movement when he noted that "we must become the change we want to see," but this wisdom applies to our everyday teaching of and advocacy for students. As TVIs advocate for access implementation, we must also advocate that our students receive optimal instruction first at the universal level. We must advocate to be an active part of the problem-solving (or solution-finding) team when there are concern areas involving core subject performance. MTTS does include our students. Not for eligibility, but for everyday instruction, progress monitoring, and, as needed, additional general-education supports. If you have a student who is struggling in literacy, math, or any other content area, it is critical that you are involved in problem-solving meeting with the core content specialists. The TVI supports access / preteaching needs and the content specialist provides first-best instruction designed to differentiate the student's learning abilities and needs. Every students' education requires a well-trained and responsive team. A proactive team for a student who is blind/visually impaired will benefit from the TVI's advocacy for how best to address the student's general education learning needs.

Be watching for info posted on the BVI webpage on MTTS and how it impacts students with visual impairments. Know your role within the MTTS and **be the change!**

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March—April 2013



Bits From Bonnie

By Bonnie Snyder

BonnieLS21@gmail.com http://TVIVIP.org

This month's column will focus on some tech hints and helps. Let's begin with Google Docs. Many businesses, institutions and school districts have chosen to go with Google Drive, which is an online office suite and more. It is also free. There may be accessibility challenges with Google Docs. The information I will share with you about making Google Drive accessible works currently. I have been using my iPad with VoiceOver to access Google Drive. Both the word processor and spreadsheet are accessible this way. It would be a good idea to label some of the graphic buttons in the spreadsheet or just remember where they are as there are just a few that aren't voiced. I would also recommend that, in the spreadsheet, you go to desktop display since it will display a workbook like a regular Excel one. There is a bit of a learning curve, but that's to be expected in anything techy.

In regard to the iPad and other iDevices, here is a helpful hint:

If your student will be using both an external keyboard and a braille display (such as the refreshabraille), I would recommend that you use a USB keyboard (I have a Microsoft Arc that is small and very portable). The reason for this is, that although you can connect multiple Bluetooth devices to these devices, you will find that some of them don't play well together. That is definitely the case with a keyboard and braille display. I would recommend purchasing the "camera attachment" accessory (cost is about \$29). You get two attachments, one of which looks very much like a USB port. Use that one. It connects to the charging port of the iDevice. You will need a smaller keyboard that does not require much power from the device to which it is attached. You will get an error message on the screen to the effect that the device (keyboard) is not supported. Just tap to get by it and ignore it. The keyboard will work just fine.

I hope you will find these hints useful.



TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

The Updated Victor Reader Stream



HumanWare introduced a new version of the Victor Reader Stream, the popular media player for people who are blind or visually impaired. It is now smaller, smarter and wireless!

The new Stream's slim, sleek, compact design makes it 28% smaller than its predecessor and it features rounded corners to make it more comfortable to hold. Yet it retains the tactile keypad access and simple bookshelf navigation.

The new Stream features an improved, louder speaker, improved text-to-speech from Acapela, improved recording capabilities, faster USB transfers, and supports 32-gigabyte capacity SD cards, plus it easily connects to flash drives. And it offers the Softpak features of full stereo recordings, EPUB2 unprotected books, DOCX support, MP4 and iTunes M4A files, plus a built-in clock. And the new Stream has wireless internet connectivity. For more information go to:

http://www.nanopac.com/Victor%20Reader%20Stream.htm

To learn about other products from NanoPac go to: <u>www.nanopac.com</u> or call NanoPac at 800-580-6086 and ask for Vince or Maria.





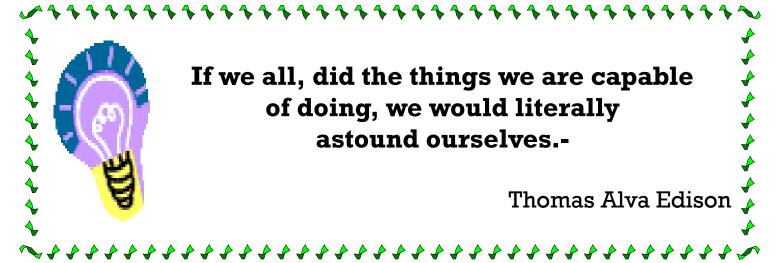
LOW VISION EVALUATION CLINIC NEWS



2012 / 2013 CDE LOW VISION EVALUATION CLINIC DATES								
REGION	DATES	PAPERWORK DEADLINE	SITE COORDINATOR					
Southern 3 (CSDB low vision room)	Fri April 12, 2013	Wednesday, March 27, 2013	Donice Fennimore					



A BIG thank you for our low vision clinic team this year! We are so grateful to our LVE Clinic Team: **Dr. Tom Theune, Jim Olson, Wendy Stoltman,** and **Debbie Haberkorn**. This is an amazing team of dedicated and highly skilled professionals. Also a very big thank you to our Low Vision Evaluation Site Coordinators: **Donice Fennimore, Sarah Sonnier, Vicki Pearson,** and **Nancy Knight**. Their dedication to setting up the clinic site, facilitating the paperwork, finalizing the clinic schedule, and hosting the clinics is so appreciated. Thank you also to all of the TVIs, parents, and students for their attendance and participation in another year of very successful regional low vision clinics.





Wolf-Hirschhorn Syndrome

Information retrieved from: http://fdna.com/resource-center/conditions-and- diseases/wolfhirschhorn-syndrome; http://ghr.nlm.nih.gov/condition/wolf-hirschhorn-syndrome; and http://ghr.nlm.nih.gov/condition/wolf-hirschhorn-syndrome; and http://ghr.nlm.nih.gov/condition/wolf-hirschhorn-syndrome; and

What is Wolf-Hirschhorn syndrome? Wolf–Hirschhorn syndrome (WHS) is a condition that causes malformations in many parts of the body due to a genetic chromosome deletion. The syndrome was first defined in 1961 by Herbert L. Cooper and Kurt Hirschhorn who described a child with a distinct facial appearance. Subsequent genetic studies revealed the chromosomal deletion. In 1965, the syndrome was published in reports by Wolf and Hirschhorn. The prevalence of Wolf-Hirschhorn syndrome is estimated to be 1 in 50,000 births, and it occurs in individuals of all ethnic backgrounds. However, this number may be an underestimate because of the diversity of symptoms, misdiagnosis or rarity of diagnosis, and WHS not being an inherited condition. For unknown reasons, Wolf-Hirschhorn syndrome occurs in about twice as many females as males.

What is the cause of Wolf-Hirschhorn syndrome? WHS is caused by a deletion of genetic material near the end of the short (p) arm of chromosome 4. This chromosomal change is sometimes referred to and written as 4p-. The size of the deletion varies among affected individuals, and studies suggest that larger deletions tend to result in more severe intellectual disability and physical abnormalities than smaller deletions. *WHSC1*, *LETM1*, and *MSX1* are the deleted genes in people with the disorder's typical signs and symptoms. Absence of these genes plays a significant role early on beginning with slow fetal growth and development. After birth, infants may have problems feeding and gaining weight. Because of underdeveloped and low muscle tone, the child's motor skills such as sitting, standing, and walking may be significantly delayed.

What makes Wolf-Hirschhorn syndrome not an inherited condition? About 87% of cases are not inherited versus 13% which are inherited. In the inherited cases, there is a 2-to-1 instance of maternal transmission versus paternal. The vast majority of WHS cases result from a chromosomal deletion that occurs as a random (de novo) event during the formation of reproductive cells (eggs or sperm) or in early embryonic development. A small percentage of people affected with Wolf-Hirschhorn syndrome have it as a result of an unusual chromosomal abnormality such as a ring chromosome 4. Ring chromosomes occur when a chromosome breaks in two places, and the ends of the chromosome arms fuse together to form a circular structure. The genes located near the ends of the chromosomes are lost in this process.

In the remaining cases of WHS, an affected individual inherits a copy of chromosome 4 with a deleted segment. In these cases, one of the individual's parents carries a chromosomal rearrangement between chromosome 4 and another chromosome. This rearrangement is called a *balanced translocation*. No genetic material is gained or lost in a balanced translocation, so these chromosomal changes usually do not cause any health problems. However, translocations can become *unbalanced* as they are passed to the next generation. Some of the individuals who inherit this unbalanced translocation end up with the syndrome.



What are the general physical characteristics of WHS? A typical pattern of change can be seen at each stage of growth. Prominent characteristics include head size; facial features (see table below); profound intellectual disabilities; seizures (50% of individuals); low muscle tone and poor muscle development; very short stature; malformations of the hands, feet, chest, and spine; heart defects; and urinary and genital malformations or underdevelopment of the organs. Additional features of Wolf-Hirschhorn syndrome include dry or blotchy skin, vision challenges (such as coloboma, which involves missing or partially formed eye tissue) that may cause visual impairment/blindness, dental problems such as missing teeth, cleft palate and/or cleft lip, low set malformed ears, and hearing loss. Care should be taken to determine the educational needs of the child and whether he or she will qualify as a child with deaf-blindness.

Typical Wolf-Hirschhorn syndrome craniofacial features in infants:

- 'Greek warrior helmet' shape of the nose (broad nasal bridge continuing to the forehead)
- microcephaly (abnormally small head circumference)
- high forehead with a smooth, prominent glabella (projection of forehead between the eyebrows)
- highly arched eyebrows
- ocular hypertelorism (an abnormally wide distance between the eyes)
- epicanthus (skin fold of the upper eyelid)
- short philtrum (medial cleft extending from the nose to the upper lip)
- downturned mouth
- micrognathia (undersized jaw)

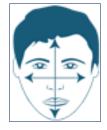
What is the treatment for WHS? The underlying disorder has no known treatment. To manage symptoms, treatment consists of supportive medical care and intervention for feeding difficulty, seizure control, skeletal, ophthalmic, heart, and ear anomalies. Another important treatment is a multidisciplinary team approach which includes sign language and speech and communication therapy. The services of a teacher of the visually impaired, a certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist, and/or a teacher of the deaf will need to be determined by the child's school district. If there is a combined vision and hearing loss, the child should be referred to the state's Deafblind Project for its service support.

Where can people find additional information about Wolf-Hirschhorn syndrome?

http://emedicine.medscape.com/article/950480-overview

http://rarediseases.about.com/cs/chromosome345/a/042404.htm

http://4p-supportgroup.org/



Resources and Malerials

NIH Resource for Persons with Low Vision

A 20-page large-print booklet and a series of videos to help people adapt to life with low vision are available from the National Eye Institute (NEI), a part of the National Institutes of Health. The materials were released during Low Vision Awareness Month, February 2013.

The booklet, *Living with Low Vision: What You Should Know,* urges people with low vision to seek help from a low vision specialist and provides tips to maximize remaining eyesight, enabling them to safely enjoy a productive and rewarding life. The videos feature personal stories about living with low vision. Another video, targeted to health care professionals, emphasizes the importance of informing people with vision loss about vision rehabilitation services. The booklet and the videos were developed by the NEI National Eye Health Education Program (NEHEP).

A 2012 report cosponsored by the National Institutes of Health estimates that 2.9 million Americans are living with low vision. The number is projected to increase 72 percent by 2030 when the last of the baby boomers turn 65. Most people with low vision are 65 years old or older.

A low vision specialist is an ophthalmologist or optometrist who specializes in the care of patients with low vision. A low vision specialist can develop a rehabilitation plan that identifies strategies and assistive devices appropriate for a person's particular needs, which vary depending on the person's age and the source and severity of vision loss. As described in the booklet and videos, vision rehabilitation services include:

- * training to use magnifying and adaptive devices
- * learning new daily living skills to remain safe and live independently
- * developing strategies to navigate inside and outside the home
- * providing resources and support to help patients with vision loss



The new NEI booklet and videos along with other resources for people with low vision can be viewed and downloaded at:

<u>http://www.nei.nih.gov/lowvision</u> <<u>http://lists.icfwebservices.com/t/66874/1198665/4788/4/</u>>. <<u>http://lists.icfwebservices.com/db/66874/1198665/1.gif</u>>

Large Print Textbooks for Your eReader!



The Accessible Textbooks Department of APH now offers hundreds of large print textbooks for digital download! Almost 400 textbooks created using APH's exclusive accessibility process are available for purchase through the File Repository of the Louis Database.

Books are in PDF format and may be read on Kindle[®], iPad[®], laptop, or many other digital readers. These accessible PDF files may also be read using synthetic speech on devices that do not have as screen, such as APH's Book Port Plus[™]. Find out more at the Accessible Textbooks Department website at:

http://www.aph.org/atic/atic-ebook.html

March—April 2013





UDL RESOURCE

The National Center on UDL is pleased to announce a new resource that was developed by the Ohio Center on Autism and Low Incidence (OCALI) in collaboration with the IDEA Partnership. This free slide presentation provides an overview of how students with disabilities (who need intensive supports) can be served in an educational environment that has integrated the principles of UDL. To access it directly, go to <u>http://www.slideshare.net/NCUDL/udl-ocaly</u>

ECEA Rules

The recently updated Exceptional Children's' Education Act (ECEA) Rules became effective March 2, 2013. The rules now include the Developmental Delay disability category, in addition to the updated disability categories, including visual impairment, including blindness and deaf-blindness, and changes from 'eligible facility' to 'approved facility school'.

These Rules and Regulations can be found at:

http://www.cde.state.co.us/spedlaw/Rules.htm

Guidelines for Athletic Opportunities



The APH Physical Education Website provides links to help teachers and parents understand the recent federal guidelines to provide athletic opportunities for students with disabilities, including visual impairment.

Visit the PE Advocacy Page at <u>http://www.aph.org/pe/advocacy.html</u> to learn more.

ORIENTATION & MOBILITY

Leader Dog Summer Experience

Leader Dog still has spaces available for teens age 16 and 17 who are visually impaired to attend our Summer Experience-Live Independently! program this summer. The one-week camp experience will take place June 21-28, 2013 at their Rochester Hills, Michigan campus. Teens get a chance to have fun with other kids their age and challenge themselves physically with rock wall climbing, kayaking, tandem biking and more. They also get the chance to learn about and work with a Leader Dog and to receive a free GPS device with training on how to use it. This program is no cost to participants including air travel, room, board and all activities.



If you know a 16- or 17-year old that would benefit from this experience, please have them go to Leader Dog's website at <u>www.leaderdog.org/programs/youth</u> or call 888-777-5332.

Applications are due by May 1, 2013.









ONH/SOD National Survey Study

The Optic Nerve Hypoplasia/ Septo Optic Dysplasia Disease Distribution study is in its 9th year. This national survey is an on-going study aimed at understanding the geographic distribution of ONH/ SOD and the association with population and environmental factors. Researchers are looking for information from parents about the pregnancy of their child that was diagnosed with ONH/SOD. The survey is available at: <u>www.onhsurvey.org</u>. If you do not wish to complete the survey over the Internet, please mail your completed form to: Pamela Garcia-Filion, PhD, MPH, Children's Hospital Los Angeles, 4650 Sunset Blvd., MS #88, Los Angeles, CA 90027.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Parents: If you are moving out of state or your child has graduated, please be in touch so we can remove your name from our newsletter mailing list. If your child is still enrolled in a Colorado school district and you have a new mailing address, please be in touch with your address changes.

TVIs and COMSs: If you have any changes in program contact information, please help us out and send Tanni these changes.

Thanks to everyone for helping to keep our mailing list up-to-date! Send changes to <u>anthony t@cde.state.co.us</u> or to Tanni Anthony, CDE ESSU, 1560 Broadway, Suite 1175, Denver, CO 80202. Or leave a voice message at (303) 866-6681.

Connecting Families

There are several organizations that can connect families to advocates in Colorado. PEAK Parent Center is Colorado's Parent Training and Information Center. PEAK has parent advisors on staff and can provide families with the names of advocacy organizations. For more information, visit:

- PEAK's website at <u>www.peakparent.org</u>>.
- The Legal Center for People with Disabilities and Older People (<u>www.thelegalcenter.org</u>) and
- The Arc of Colorado (<u>www.thearcofco.org</u>) are other resources for families looking for advocates.

If your family is looking for support groups and/or are trying to connect with other families, Parent to Parent of Colorado is a useful resource - <u>www.p2p-co.org</u>

The Parent Information and Resources page on the CDE Exceptional Student Services Unit's website has information about conferences and training opportunities. Every year CDE offers three Parents Encouraging Parents Conferences for families and educators throughout Colorado.

The last one of the year will be on May 2-4, 2013 in Colorado Springs.

For more information, please visit http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/PEP.asp





CORRECTION

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National Reading Media Assessment

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The web address for this product was listed incorrectly in the January-February 2013 edition of Keeping in Touch. It should be <u>www.nfbnrma.org</u>

Thanks to Deb Andrews for reporting this correction!



GEARING UP FOR SUMMER--HERE'S WHAT'S COMING: BELL: A SUMMER BRAILLE CAMP FOR KIDS

The BELL Program is a day camp for children ages 4-12 with a concentration in Braille. Both beginners and more accomplished Braille readers will gain confidence in reading and writing while engaged in games, crafts and exciting outdoor activities.

There will be two programs offered. One will be held in Colorado Springs on the campus of the School for the Deaf and Blind, from June 17-27. The Denver Metro program will be held at the Rocky Mountain MS Center in Westminster from July 15-26.

For more information contact Diane McGeorge, at 303-321-4268 or e-mail <u>rmcgeorge@comcast.net</u>, or Michelle Chacon at <u>mchacon@adams50.org</u> or phone 303-456-9000. BELL is a project of the National Federation of the Blind.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to assist with the BELL programs. If you could spare one or more days to help with activities or drive on outings, it would be greatly appreciated (and fun for you!) A training session for the Colorado Springs program will be held on Monday, June 3. Volunteers for the Westminster program will meet on Tuesday, June 25th. Background check paperwork will be completed at the training sessions. Contact Michelle Chacon <u>mchacon@adams50.org</u> or phone 303-456-9000 for details on time and location.



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DOTS OF INTEREST



Activities to Introduce Braille to Sighted Children

Try the following activities taken from the Early Intervention BVI listserv in answer to a question posted about how to do a mini presentation on visual impairment to a group of young children:

- Teach the basic alphabet in braille using an egg carton cut down to six slots along with six styrofoam balls to symbolize the dots in braille. Give each student a braille card, and go over each letter using the egg carton.
- ✓ Using two 6—slotted egg cartons, show the students how to make simple two-letter words and the numbers 0 through 9.
- Pair the kids off, and do a "break the code" activity. Give each pair a brailled sentence (a great opportunity use their spelling words) for them to work together on to break the code using their braille card. This is simple uncontracted braille.
- ✓ Set up a center where the kids come up and get to practice scribbling or writing using a braille writer
- ✓ Braille the students' names on transparent sticky paper so they can place it on their name tags.
- Provide access to "vision simulators:" Break the kids off into centers. Each center is a specific vision simulator paired with an activity to complete. Examples of this are a 20/400 simulator paired with a coloring page or peripheral vision loss paired with a connect the dots activity. The kids take turns completing the activity and then share with the class what was a challenge and what they had to do to be success at the task (the focus should be on being successful).

The following suggestions are for 4th graders (a longer time-frame is needed as some of these activities are a bit lengthy). Divide the kids into four groups, and rotate them through the following activity centers (an adult helper in each group is a good idea). The point of these activities is to emphasize that while children with visual impairment do things a bit differently, they CAN do things. Communicate to them a "CAN DO" attitude about vision loss.

<u>Art Activity:</u> Put four to five kids at a table. One child (or this could be an adult) remains sighted. Give the rest of the students each a piece of paper. Then blindfold them. Once the kids are blindfolded, distribute a variety of items, and tell them that they are to create something using the materials provided. Have the sighted participant explain what is available, and let the kids go at it. Examples of items to supply are liquid glue and stick glue, pipe cleaners, scented markers, feathers, popsicle sticks, play dough, etc.

DOTS OF INTEREST

Conduct a follow up discussion; ask for observations from their experience. Examples of observations are: "it's difficult to follow conversation; it's easier to address the person you are talking to by name; scented markers are useless when blindfolded; you don't care what the product looks like...you just care what it feels like; it's is a different type of product; It's yucky to have stuff all over your fingers; and it becomes difficult to proceed as fingers get covered," etc.

✓ <u>Human guide activity</u>: Have the students pair up. Blindfold one partner; the other will be the guide. Have them perform tasks like drink from a drinking fountain, wash their hands, go through a swinging door, experience a change in floor covering, ride in an elevator, eat carrot/celery sticks with dip, etc.

Again conduct a follow-up discussion with a focus on what helped and what did not help make the travel experience positive and successful. This helps with the children's awareness of how to support their friend who is blind/visually impaired.

- ✓ <u>Braille activity</u>: Give kids the "Arthur Braille Name Tag" sheet to do from the following website: <u>http://www.pbs.org/parents/arthur/lesson/communication/</u>
- ✓ <u>Provide various braille books, braille/tactile games, etc</u>. While the group explores these items, have the kids come up one by one to braille some of the letters of their name on an index card that they can take home. They will like this take-away item.
- Brainstorm adaptations activity: Once you've established that one CAN do things...just in a different way, brainstorm on how a typical classroom/home might be adapted for activities such as using the microwave, matching clothes, reading a book, etc. The students are often on target with the way we really do adapt. This provides the opportunity to tell them about various adaptive devices and techniques. It also emphasizes that people who are blind really can do anything!



JOBS IMPORTANT! We have JOB OPENINGS!!

Please be proactive with anticipated vacancies for this school year or the one starting in fall 2013. Please keep in touch with Tanni about your job openings. If you know of an anticipated opening in your part of the state, please begin working to recruit someone into our field by ensuring he or she has an opportunity to learn about being a TVI and/or an Orientation and Mobility Specialist. This may be a paraeducator, a braillist, and/or a colleague already in the teaching profession. Please work with Dr. Paula Conroy to learn more about the UNC distance education / graduate program to prepare TVIs and O&M Specialists in Colorado!

TVI = teacher certified in the area of visual impairment. COMS = certified orientation and mobility specialist

Metro Region Jobs

- ✓ TVI/COMS (2 FTE): Aurora Public Schools. Apply online at <u>www.aps.k12.co.us</u>. For more information contact Jo Cunningham at jmcunningham@aps.k12.co.us> or 720-271-9668.
- ✓ TVI/COMS (1 FTE): Jefferson County Public Schools. For more information, contact Karie Yenter in Human Resources at (303) 982-6515.

Southern Region Jobs

CSDB is actively recruiting and accepting applications for positions for the 2013-14 school year. There are a variety of open positions (TVI, COMS, early childhood, school psychologist). For exact details within the School for the Blind, and/or the Outreach Program should contact Chelle Lutz at <u>clutz@csdb.org</u> or (719) 578-2114.

Statewide

✓ TVI/COMS (hourly contract work): Colorado Virtual Academy position. Flexible to your schedule. Contact Stacy Altman at 720-379-3985 or <u>saltman@covcs.org</u>

TVIs and COMSs—If you are getting ready to retire, please do not let your CDE teaching and support services licenses expire, as you are in a great position to keep contributing in the future with part-time or sub work. Please keep in touch with Tanni, if you are interested in this type of work after your retirement!



Calendar of Events

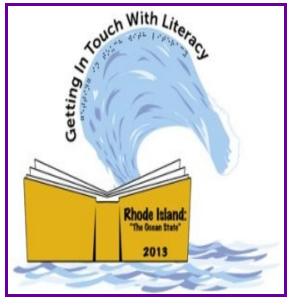
2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013
April 18-	April 18—20 AFB Leadership Conference/Illinois AER Conference— Chicago, IL Visit: www.afb.org/afblc									
April 18-	-20		National I <u>Visit:</u> www				Conferen	ce —Wash	ington DC	\$
April 29			Southern Contact:	-	-	— 1:00 pm Ocsdb.org	n to 3:00 p	m– CSDB		N/
April 30			ACBCO Vi Contact: T		aired Peo	ple's Fair (Denver)			<i>y</i>
May 1			Last Day	to order b	raille book	s with the	CIMC for 2	2013-14 SY	,	
May 2			Vision Coalition – DoubleTree by Hilton Denver Contact: Tanni Anthony - anthony t@cde.state.co.us							
May 2 —4 Denver	4		Low Visio	n Training	/ O &M \	Workshop-	–DoubleT	ree by Hilt	on-	K ~ Q
Denver			Contact:	Tanni Anth	nony— <u>Ant</u>	hony t@c	de.state.co	<u>.us</u>		
May 2—4	4		Parents Encouraging Parents (PEP) Conference - Colorado Springs Visit: http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/PEP.asp							
May 11			-			-	-	ig —Boulde		⊻
June 3—	7	>	SWAAC (A <u>Contact</u> : h	•		ams 12 Fiv	e Star Sch	ools Confe	erence Cen	ter

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2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013
June 7—	August 2			Learn, Hig l Brent Batro		-				
June 7—	August 2			for Success Brent Batro	_					on
June 10-	-14		Summer Institute on Deafblindness and SSN—Denver <u>Contact</u> : Tanni Anthony at anthony_t@cde.state.co.us or (303) 866-6681							681
June 10-	-21			c e Camp fo Brent Batro	-	-	-			-ittleton
June 13				r d of Trust /eronica Ci		-		~	585	2.30
June 14-	-16		-	arning Ret Diane Covi			@csdb.org	I	-	
June 16-	-20		-	C an (Indep Donna Kea		-		School—(CSDB	
June 17-	-27		-	r am Sumn Michelle C	-		dams50.o	rg		
June 19-	-21			Region Ear website wi	=		erence—J	ackson Ho	le, WY	
June 23-	-28			Sports Edu Donna Kea		-				-
July 15—	-26		-	r am Sumn Michelle C	-				Westmin	ster
July 15—	-August 2			to Indeper	-		-		ttleton	
July 25—	-28			Syndrome http://www						
July 29—	-August 9			u ng Adult S Ellie Carlso		-	<u>knc.org</u> or	at 303-934	4-9037	

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More Calendar of Events										
2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013
October	October National Braille Association Fall 2013 Conference—Colorado Springs, CO Visit: www.nationalbraille.org									
Decembe	r 4—7		2013 Getting In Touch With Literacy conference —Providence, Rhode Island <u>Visit:</u> <u>www.gettingintouchwithliteracy.org</u>							
Decembe	ecember 11—14AER International All-Orientation & Mobility ConferenceNew Orleans, LAVisit:www.aerbvi.org							4		
2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014
July 30-Aug 3AER International Conference – San Antonio, TXVisit:www.aerbvi.org										

Catch the Wave at GITWL 2013



The Getting In Touch With Literacy Conference will be celebrating its 20th anniversary at the 2013 Getting In Touch With Literacy conference on December 4—7 in Providence, Rhode Island.

This event, the premier literacy conference for individuals who are blind and visually impaired, will feature presentations, exhibits, poster sessions, pre-conference workshops and more, all designed to promote literacy skills for children and adults.

The conference has a tradition of outstanding presentations by practitioners in the field, and the call for papers for 2013 is now live! It can be found on the Getting In Touch With Literacy website, at <u>www.gettingintouchwithliteracy.org</u>

Deadline for submission is **May 15, 2013**. Check out the online submission form and share your great ideas, good experiences, and awesome innovations with your colleagues.

Catch the wave and come join GITWL in December!



SAVE THE DATE!! Western Regional Early Intervention Conference On Sensory Disabilities in collaboration with Northern Rockies AER Conference

> Jackson Hole, Wyoming June 19 – 21, 2013

"Assessment and Strategies for Infants, Toddlers, Students, And Adults with Sensory Loss"

FULL DAY PRE-CONFERENCE PROGRAMS JUNE 19, 2013 Cost \$35.00

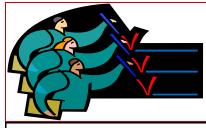
- The Van Dijk Assessment Dr. Jan Van Dijk and Dr. Cathy Nelson will be presenting the new Research on Brain Development and Assessment strategies Utilizing the Van Dijk Approach for Students who are Sensory Impaired. It has been scientifically proven that "The Van Dijk Approach to Assessment" brings out the best in a child. It was initially considered a "Van Dijk thing" that only he could conduct, based on his experience, knowledge and personality. The research of Nelson, Janssen, Oster & Jayaraman (2010) has convincingly shown, however, that after a rather limited period of training, practitioners are able to implement the assessment with fidelity in order to develop appropriate goals for their students.
- Auditory Neuropathy Dr. Charles Berlin Simon and Garfunkel sang of the joys found in the sounds of silence. But children's silence--either due to a hearing problem or an inability to process in their brains what they do hear--leads to difficulties in understanding language that, without intervention, can affect kids their entire lives. Charles Berlin, Ph.D., the Kenneth and Frances Barnes Bullington Professor of Hearing Science and the director of the Kresge Hearing Research Laboratory at Louisiana State University Medical School in New Orleans, is renowned for his skill in diagnosing rare hearing problems in children and for identifying genes that cause deafness.

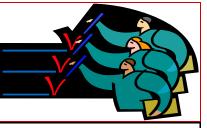
CONFERENCE PROGRAM June 20 – 21, 2013 Cost \$125.00

- Instructional Strategies for the Student with Dual Sensory Loss / Multiple Impairments, Kathee Scoggin & Callie Spotted Elk
- Sanguage & Brain Development, Jill Morford
- 3 Autism in the Visual Impaired Population with Early Literacy, Megan Mogan
- 1 Expanded Core Curriculum Instruction for Students with Multiple Impairments, Robin Keating
- 3 SAM: Symbols and Meaning Kit, a Kit for Students with Visual Impairments / Multiple Disabilities, Millie Smith
- 3 Communication Matrix, Phil Schweigert
- 3 Shaken Baby Syndrome and How It Presents in Children with Multiple Impairments, Phil Schweigert
- Working with Children Who Have Multiple Needs, Paula Pittman
- 3 Co-Hear: Strategies for the Development of Pragmatics, Dianah Beams and Christie Yoshinago Itano
- 3 Ski-Hi & Beyond the Big Books, SKI-HI & Paula Pitman
- Transportation & Independence, Penny Rosenblum
- 3 Visual Conditions that Affect Adults and Appropriate Accommodations, Carol Baron

And MUCH MORE!

Contact Joanne Whitson, joanne.whitson@wyo.gov the website will be up soon!





Perkins Training & Educational Resources Program Perkins Presents Four New Webinars

1. Visual Fields with Luisa Mayer

In this webcast, Luisa Mayer, Ph.D. demonstrates the role of the visual field in daily life and the challenges faced when there is a field loss. Dr. Mayer describes the strategies for assessing field loss in individuals who are visually impaired with additional disabilities and the developmental implications of a visual field loss. She also talks about how to interpret assessment results. Dr. Mayer is an internationally known specialist in visual field/functional vision testing.

The chapters in this webcast are: 1 -Introduction, 2 -Mapping the Visual Field with Perimetry, 3 -Visual Field Testing for Children, 4 -Visual Field Abnormalities and the Visual Pathway, 5 -Interpreting the Goldmann Kinetic Perimetry Results, 6 -Interpreting Automatic Static Perimetry Results, 7 -Developmental Implications of Visual Field Loss.

2. CHARGE Syndrome and Sensory Processing with David Brown

In this webcast, David Brown provides an overview of the impact that sensory processing issues have on individuals with CHARGE Syndrome. David describes the impact of sensory processing on proprioception, the vestibular sense, and behavior. He also talks about the educational implications resulting from sensory processing issues.

We are fortunate to have David present a second webcast on the topic of CHARGE Syndrome. He is an Educational Specialist with California Deaf-Blind Services in San Francisco who has spent many years researching various aspects of CHARGE Syndrome.

The chapters in this webcast are: 1 -Introduction, 2 -CHARGE Syndrome and Proprioception, 3 -CHARGE Syndrome and the Vestibular Sense, 4 -Compensatory Behavior and Sensory Processing, 5 -Sensory Processing and Educational Implications.



(cont'd) Perkins Training & Educational Resources Webinars 3. The Education for All Initiative with Larry Campbell

This month's webcast features Larry Campbell presenting the "*Education for All Initiative*". Education for All Children with Visual Impairment (EFA-VI) is a global campaign and program of the International Council for Education of People with Visual Impairment (ICEVI), acting in partnership with the World Blind Union (WBU) to ensure that all girls and boys with blindness and low vision enjoy the right to education. During his tenure as president of ICEVI, Larry led the development of this campaign which was launched in 2006.

The chapters in this webcast are: 1—Introduction, 2 — Laying the Groundwork, 3 — Raising Awareness and Raising Expectations, 4 — Educating Teachers, 5 — Adapting Resources, 6 — Measuring Success.

4. Communication Technology for Persons Who Are Deafblind with Jerry Berrier

In this webcast, Jerry Berrier provides an overview of a variety of communication technologies for individuals who are deafblind. Jerry presents a historical view of different devices that have been used in the past and compares them with the technology that is available today.

The chapters in this webcast are: 1 & 2 – Introduction and Braille: The Foundation of Deafblind Communication, 3 – The Tele-Touch, 4 – The Tele-Braille, 5 – The Deafblind Communicator, 6 – Accessing the Internet, 7 – Future Advances in Accessibility Technology.

Attention TVIs: Field Testers Needed

Field testers are needed to evaluate the prototype of the Protein Synthesis Kit, an interactive model used in conjunction with the upcoming APH DNA-RNA Kit! The Protein Synthesis Kit consists of jigsaw puzzle-like pieces in bright colors; demonstrates messenger RNA (mRNA) translation; translates a sequence of mRNA nucleotides to a sequence of amino acids, the primary structure of all proteins; and is fully adapted for students with low vision or blindness. Prototypes will be available for field testing in May 2013.

If you are interested in field testing AND you have one or more students with whom you can use this prototype, please email the following information to Denise Snow: <u>dsnow@aph.org</u>

- Time period you can field test: Spring or Summer 2013
- Your name & email
- Your School/Agency address with zip code
- The best phone number(s) to reach you

*If you have questions or need more information, call Rosanne Hoffmann at 502-899-2292, or send an email to rhoffmann@aph.org.







Assistive Technology Partners

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

SAVE THE DATE!

SWAAAC Summer Symposium 2013: Interdisciplinary Augmentative Alternative Communication June 3 & 4, 2013 The Conference Center at Adams 12, Thornton, Colorado

Individuals with complex communication needs (CCN), require the services of a speech language pathologist (SLP) trained to provide AAC services. But truly effective, comprehensive intervention does not begin and end with an SLP. Motor therapists must address access issues, itinerants need to be consulted regarding sensory issues, special and general education teachers must accommodate, differentiate, implement and integrate across environments, and parents are central to the transfer of skills in the home and community. All communication partners need to be educated and trained in the strategies and techniques that support individuals with CCNs. This year's annual SWAAAC Summer Symposium will feature 3 tracks of workshops to promote AAC service provision across disciplines.

Gather you interdisciplinary team and register early for this multifaceted training event. Early Bird registration ends **April 19, 2013**.

Visit the <u>SWAAAC website</u> or <u>Assistive Technology Partners website</u> for more information on this year's workshops and to download the <u>full SWAAAC Summer Symposium brochure</u>. From there you can <u>register online</u> or print out the paper registration form. For more information please contact Christina Perkins at 303.315.1278 or christina.perkins@ucdenver.edu.

**Don't miss the 2nd Annual AT Expo on Sunday, June 2nd, 2013. Visit <u>www.assistivetechnologypartners.org</u> for more information.

CDE's New Facebook Page

Join the conversation! CDE's new Facebook page is an opportunity to engage with others and share information, news, questions, suggestions and conversation around education! The Facebook page will also include pictures from events and opportunities to share stories about educators who are making a difference in their community.

For more information, please go to: <u>https://www.facebook.com/codepted</u>







CCB–Blind Youth Programs Upcoming Events

April 12 - Spring Science Seminar for youth, families and teachers.

Participants will have the opportunity to learn first-hand how to access the sciences. We will have demonstrations in physics, chemistry, earth science and technology. We will also have Amelia Dickerson, a blind chemistry student at CU in Boulder, talking about her experiences as a successful science student. Register by April 8th.

April 26 - College Seminar for students in middle school, high school and college.

We will have presentations, discussions and college students who will share ideas on what has worked and what has not worked for them in college. Learn about resources and self-advocacy, online and distance learning, taking notes, campus life and navigating college campuses. We will have representatives from several colleges here as well. Register by April 23rd.

May 2 - MasterDrive for high school students.

Learn about driving and handling a car in the classroom. Then take the car around the obstacle course in the parking lot. Once you have mastered the skills of driving, you will get to recover from a skid on the specially designed asphalt surface. Register by April 28th.

June 18 - Braille Carnival

Join us and have fun with Braille. We will have lots of different types of games, adventures, and races all using Braille. We will also have Louis Braille himself here for this fun-filled day as we celebrate the man who made literacy possible for the blind.

Space is limited so please RSVP for these events by contacting Brent Batron at:

Phone: 303-778-1130 x 222 or

Email: <u>bbatron@cocenter.org</u>





Colorado Center for the Blind Summer Programs for Kids!

Check out the following summer programs sponsored by the Colorado Center of the Blind. The programs offer an opportunity for our students to get together for social, mobility, literacy, daily living, and recreational skill-building opportunities.

Confidence Camp for Kids, Elementary School Program, June 10- June 21: This is a day program for children age 5-10. The kids will work on building skills in Braille and cane travel. They will prepare lunch each day and practice household chores. There will be fun activities such as swimming, hiking, picnicking, and going to an amusement park. For more details about the Confidence Camps for Kids, please check out the video at: <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6rpzdBduVp4&feature=youtu.be</u>

Initiation to Independence, Middle School Program, July 15 – August 2: Students 12-14 years old will experience apartment living (with a counselor), shopping, cooking, recreational activities as well as building skills in braille, cane travel and more.

Earn and Learn, High School Program, June 7 – August 2: Students will have a half day paid work experience and half day program in building skills to become an employable adult. A trip to the NFB National Convention is included.

Summer for Success College-Prep Program, June 7–August 2: Students will learn how to navigate a college campus and survive in the college classroom. A trip to the NFB National Convention is included.

For more information please contact Brent Batron at <u>bbatron@cocenter.org</u> or (303) 778-1130.

Play Goalball with the Colorado Center for the Blind

The Colorado Center for the Blind offers goalball fun in their gym on Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. This is open to students who are blind/visually impaired from a variety of ages. Goalball is a fun and exhila-rating game that takes toughness and skill. To join them for goalball, call Brent Batron, Youth Services Coordinator, at 303-778-1130 ext. 222 and sign up!







Sports, Sports, and More Sports

The APH Physical Education Website has a new video page So many of you have created great videos and posted them on YouTube. APH was so impressed that we gathered many of the videos and posted them in one quick and easy reference list. Scroll the alphabetical list and click on a link to view skateboarding, waterskiing, golf, cycling, and many more. If you play or practice a sport, click on the provided link at the top of the page and send APH your sport video for possible inclusion in the list. Play on! The web link is

http://www.aph.org/pe/videos.html

Colorado's District Sample Curriculum Project Teacher-created curriculum samples

This fall, over 500 Colorado educators, representing 61 school districts, participated in curriculum design workshops that resulted in the creation of 670 curriculum samples based on the 10 content areas of the Colorado Academic Standards (CAS). Utilizing a Colorado-designed and refined template, the samples provide organizing structures for addressing the grade-level expectations (GLEs), evidence outcomes (EOs) and 21 st Century Skills that build students' mastery of the standards at each grade level. As voluntary resources for districts, the samples:

- Represent the translation of the CAS into unit overviews for all (10) content areas, grades k-12
- Illuminate possibilities for sequencing grade-level and content-specific standards across courses/years
- Offer one possible foundation for exploring standards-based unit and lesson-plan development

The samples, the blank template upon which they are based, and a template with definitions can currently be accessed on this website. Together, these resources were created by and for Colorado educators to support school districts as they intentionally plan for the successful implementation of the CAS in the 2013-14 SY. Indeed, initial feedback indicates that districts can envision utilizing the samples and blank template as starting points for the creation of their own curricula, as examples to build upon and augment, as crosswalk documents for curricular comparisons, and other purposeful and individualized uses.

Check it out at:

http://www.cde.state.co.us/StandardsAndInstruction/SampleCurriculumProject.asp



Reminder to Print Your Educator License Online

As of January 1, 203, CDE's Educator Licensing Office no longer prints and mails paper copies of educator licenses, endorsements, credentials or authorizations. These documents are available online and can be printed by the licensee.

This new process allows licenses to become available much quicker; cutting three weeks of print time. Teachers/educators receive instant verification and licenses will be easier to keep track of for people.

For more information, visit: <u>http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/Printing_faqs.htm</u>

Submit Your Nomination for the 2014 Colorado Teacher of the Year

Each year, the Colorado Teacher of the Year Program honors an exceptionally dedicated, knowledgeable and skilled teacher to represent the entire profession in Colorado. The winner will automatically become Colorado's nominee for the National Teacher of the Year competition.

CDE Education Effectiveness Team E-Newsletter

The CDE Educator Effectiveness team supports districts and BOCES with guidelines, trainings and resources for implementing the educator effectiveness law (Senate Bill 10-191). The team's ultimate goal is to support educators as they continually improve their impact on student learning. Make sure to sign up for the educator effectiveness e-newsletter to receive updates when new resources are released: <u>http://bit.ly/UAzTj0</u>

Applications are **due by 4 p.m. on Friday, May 17**. To access the application and additional program information for the 2014 Colorado Teacher of the Year, please visit the link below. For information on other award nomination opportunities, please view the act sheet at: <u>http://bit.ly/ZcAV4T</u>. The application can be found at: http://w.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/trtoyinf.htm.

Yes, I CAN

Exploring the challenges of being independent

DATE: JUNE 16-20, 2013 Hiking Bowling Swimming



earning

Thriving

Bus Travel Team building Preparing simple meals ... and more!

Daily Living Skills Orientation and Mobility Recreation and Leisure **Social Skills** Technology

Students, currently in 6th-8th grade who are blind or visually impaired, get active with CSDB's Yes. I CAN!

Location: Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind 33 North Institute Street/Colorado Springs, CO www.csdb.org Cost: \$50.00 (Minimum 5 students; Maximum 15 students)

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: JUNE 3, 2013

RSVP to Donna Keale: 719-330-7387; dkeale@csdb.org



Family Learning Retreat 2013

Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind 33 North Institute Street Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903 719-578-2100; www.csdb.org June 14-16, 2013

The Family Learning Retreat (FLR) will be returning to the Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind June 14-16, 2013. The FLR is a three-day retreat focused on families with a child who is deaf/hard of hearing, blind/visually impaired or deafblind. This is an opportunity for families to meet other families while networking, learning and having fun together.

Parents /adults will attend training during the day, while children participate in supervised recreational activities within the youth program. Check-in and dinner begins Friday June 14, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. followed by an opening session. The retreat ends by noon on Sunday, June 16. Lodging will be available Friday and Saturday nights in the CSDB dormitories. Meals provided include Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast and lunch, and Sunday breakfast.

The cost of the Family Learning Retreat is only \$15.00 per adult and \$10.00 per child under the age of 18. Spanish and sign language interpreters will be provided upon request.

Parents will be responsible for providing any assisted feeding or medical procedure their child requires. A nurse will not be available during the Family Learning Retreat.

Come and relax. Make new friends. Experience a valuable learning opportunity.

Questions or to register, contact Diane Covington at the Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind at (719)578-2225. For Spanish speaking participants, contact Gloria Romero (719)578-2288.







COLORADO SCHOOL Family Learning Retreat FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND When: June 14-16, 2013 Established 1874 Where: Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind ... Learning, Thriving, Leading Colorado Department of Education Colorado families with a child who is deaf/hard of hearing. blind/visually impaired or deafblind attend to network, learn **Registration Deadline** and have fun together. Parents/adults will attend training **June 1, 2013** during the day, while children participate in supervised recreational activities within the youth program. Mom's Name_____ First Name Last Name Dad's Name_____ First Name Last Name Mailing Address ______City ____Zip Code___ Email_____ Phone(h) **1st Child's Name** Deaf, Blind, Deafblind, Other, None Age **Colorado School** for the Deaf and 2nd Child's Name Age Deaf, Blind, Deafblind, Other, None the Blind **3rd Child's Name** Age Deaf, Blind, Deafblind, Other, None 33 North Institute Street Colorado Springs, CO 80903 Additional Adult ______ Relationship ______ Additional Adult ______ Relationship ______ Additional Adult ____ Previously Attended? (Circle) Yes No Accommodations: Sign Language Interpreter **Check/purchase** Specify order must Other (such as Braille or Spanish Language) accompany Specify _____ registration FEES _ Adult Registration - \$15.00/Adult Total Adult \$ _____Child Registration - \$10.00/Child Total Child \$ Make checks payable to: CSDB _____ Totals Mail to: For additional information or if you need to cancel PRIOR to the close of business June 1, 2013, Attention: Diane Covington please contact Diane Covington at dcovington@csdb.org No reimbursements for cancella-33 North Institute Street tions made after June 1, 2013. Please request ADA accommodations at time of registration. Colorado Springs, CO 80903 Email: dcovington@csdb.org

March—April 2013



Retiro de Aprendizaje Familiar 2013

Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind 33 North Institute Street Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903 719-578-2100; www.csdb.org 14-16 de junio, 2013

El Retiro de Aprendizaje de Familia regresará a la Escuela de Colorado para los Sordos y los Ciegos el 14-16 de junio de 2013. El retiro es un evento sobre tres días que se centra en familias que tienen hijos con perdida auditiva total/ parcial, discapacidad visual o que es sordociego. Esto es una oportunidad para que familias conozcan a otras familias mientras que establecen amistades, aprenden y diviertan juntos.

Los padres/adultos asistieran entrenamientos durante el día, mientras que los niños participan en actividades divertidas dentro de un programa de la juventud. La registración y la cena es el viernes, 14 de junio a las 5:00 PM -7:00 PM y después habrá una sesión de bienvenida. El retiro se concluye a mediodía en domingo. Habrá habitaciones disponibles en los dormitorios de CSDB para las noches de viernes y sábado. Las comidas incluidas serán la cena de viernes, el desayuno y almuerzo en sábado y el desayuno en domingo.

El costo del Retiro de Aprendizaje de Familia es solo \$15 por adulto y \$10.00 por niño bajo la edad de 18. Interpretes de Español y Lenguaje de Señas serán disponibles por solicitar.

Los padres serán responsables de proporcionar cualquier alimentación asistida o procedimiento médico que requiere su hijo o hija. No habrá enfermeras disponibles durante el curso del retiro.

Vengan a relajarse. Conocer nuevos amistades. Disfrutarse en una experiencia de aprendizaje inolvidable

¿Tienen preguntas o quieren registrase? Llame a Diane Covington en CSDB al (719) 578-2225. Participantes hispanohablantes llamen a Gloria Romero al (719) 578-2288.









Retiro de Aprendizaje Familiar

Cuando: 14-16 de junio, 2013

Lugar: Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind

... Learning, Thriving, Leading

Colorado Department of Education	Ultimo día para registrarse 1 de junio, 2013 ciego/discapacidad visual o sordo-ciego asisten para establecer con- tactos, aprender y divertirse juntos. Padres/adultos asistirán entre- namientos durante el día, mientras que sus hijos participen en varias actividades proporcionado por un programa de la juventud.							
		Nombre						
	Nombre del Padre	Nombre	Apellido					
			CiudadCódigo					
	Teléfono (h)	Correo	Elec					
	Nombre del Nino/a	Edad	Sordo, Ciego, Sordo-ciego, Otro, Nonguno					
Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind	Nombre del Nino/a	Edad	Sordo, Ciego, Sordo-ciego, Otro, Nonguno					
33 North Institute Street Colorado Springs, CO 80903								
Color ado springs, CO 80703	Nombre del Nino/a	Edad	Sordo, Ciego, Sordo-ciego, Otro, Nonguno					
	Adulto Adicional Adulto Adicional	Pa: Pa	rentesco rentesco					
Checque/orden de compra debe Incluirse con este formulario.	Haz UD. asistido previamen Acomodaciones:	te? (Encierre uno) Intérprete de So Especifique Otro (por ejem	Si No					
	CUOTAS							
Escribe el cheque al nom- bre: CSDB Envíe por correo a:								
Attention: Diane Covington 33 North Institute Street Colorado Springs, CO 80903 Email: d <u>covington@csdb.org</u>	Para información adicional o si necesita cancelar antes del cierre de negocios 01 de junio de 2013, póngase en contacto con Gloria Romero en gromero@csdb.org_o al 719-578-2288. No se entregara reembolsos para cancelaciones realizadas después de 01 de junio de 2013. Por favor solicite acomodaciones de ADA en el momento de la inscripción.							



- A belated happy wedding congratulations message to **Dr. Silvia Correa-Torres** and Josh Zaffos, who were married on 12-12-12 at 12:12 p.m.! Our best wishes to the happy couple!
- Congratulations to Sherry Bainbridge for earning her CDE Certificate of Braille Competency! Also "woo hoo" to the following folks who have earned CDE renewal hours on braille competency: Mary Chambers, Carol Davidson, Taryn Galow, Karin Hensel, Donna Keale, and Jeannie Lei. Thanks so much to proctors Julie Wetzstein, Brenda Shepard, and Lucia Hasty. Also thanks to braille mentors Lisa Brocard and Michelle Chacon.
- Congratulations to Dr. Paula Conroy who has received the University of Northern Colorado's Distinguished Scholar Award. We are so proud of you, Paula! This is a wonderful accomplishment.
- A very warm Colorado Welcome to Grace Katolas, the new TVI in Aurora School District! She recently moved to Denver from Billings, Montana. She has thirteen years experience as a Special Education teacher in a self contained Life Skills classroom serving 5 8 year old students. Grace began classes online with the University of Northern Colorado in Fall 2010 and will graduate as a TVI in May 2013. She will tentatively complete her COMS in 2014. Grace reports that she is very excited to be working with a group of AWESOME dedicated TVIs at Aurora Public Schools. She notes she is so grateful for the opportunity and look forward to learning from their combined experience. Grace moved here with her dog Lacy and looks forward to many hours hiking and exploring the area. Her daughter Molly currently lives in Golden and her son Seth lives in Billings. Other interests include reading, gardening, cooking, and road trips.
- Our very own Jim Olson was a member of the US Department of Education's Expert Review Panel met on March 12 for their annual review of new American Printing House for the Blind products. The group, chaired by Dr. Cay Holbrook, reviewed six 2012 products. Always so proud of you, Jim!



Top row (from left): Laura Brown, Cay Holbrook, Derrick Smith, Tiffany Wild, John Glenn. Bottom row (from left): Linda Lyle, Jim Olson, Joe Petrosko.

State of Colorado Department of Education

Colorado State Board of Education

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COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION COLORADO DEPARTIVIENT Exceptional Student Services 1560 Broadway, Suite 1175 Denver, CO 80202

25-23B-3401

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