

Act, Champion, and Inspire

By Tanni L. Anthony

I want to start out new the year with an adage that I learned last spring when I had the chance to attend a behind-the-scenes meeting of a world-famous business. The CEO shared her 3-part philosophy of what makes this business so successful. I have taken the liberty of adjusting it to the framework of our work in the education world and specifically with our learners who are blind/visually impaired.

Act on what we must do: It is important not to diminish the importance of this first statement. All school professionals must work together to ensure that every student has first-best instruction in the core content areas. We are key partners with general educational professionals. We can help to increase frequency and intensity of the core instruction in our time with students. We must take action to ensure that our students have the same high quality instruction as their peers.

Champion what we choose to do: In addition to recognizing the core curriculum, our field embraces the Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC), which targets the other learning needs of children with blindness/visual impairment. Some of the ECC's content may fall into the "need to champion" category as school personnel and family members work to support opportunities for students in recreation/leisure, social, and daily living skills— all critical for a learner's self identity, health, and independence.

Inspire what we uniquely do: This final category is what truly defines one business from another, one educational service from another. In our case, it details what is unique about our specific role with a student. We are a self-standing profession because of this unique knowledge. From knowing the braille codes, magnification or screen reader tools, or teaching a student to listen to traffic sounds to cross a street—we have a set of unique teaching skills for our students to learn and use. This is what we uniquely do. We are small, but-mighty field of practitioners and when we are the best we can be, so can our students be the best they can be.

We can and should act and champion – but always, we should inspire what is unique about our knowledge and skill set for the good of the student. My best wishes for a great school year – let's make it an inspirational one.

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KEEPING IN TOUCH!

A Newsletter for Parents and Service Providers
of Colorado Children Who Are Blind/Visually Impaired
August—September 2014

August—September 2014

Colorado Resources and Training /Support Activities Specific to Children and Youth who are Blind/Visually Impaired, Their Families and Service Providers for School Year 2014-15

Compiled By Tanni Anthony
State Consultant on Blindness/Visual Impairment, Colorado Department of Education

Legend for Acronyms:

CDE ESSU =	Colorado Department of Education Exceptional Student Services Unit
CIMC =	Colorado Instructional Materials Center
CMAS =	Colorado Measures of Academic Success
COMS =	Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist
CSDB =	Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind

We have a lot of good things happening over the course of the upcoming school year. The following resources and activities are not exclusive to all that may be happening across the state in the area of supporting children and youth with blindness/visual impairment, their families, and service providers. If there is a resource or activity that was missed on this list, please be in touch with Tanni to post it in future editions of the newsletter.

Adult Role Model Team: The Adult Blind and Visually Impaired Role Model Team's purpose is to provide students who are blind/visually impaired, their parents and teachers the opportunity to meet successful adult role models who are blind/visually impaired and to openly and frankly discuss, from personal experience, topics related to low vision, vision loss and blindness. Team members share their experiences, triumphant and otherwise, on topics ranging from low vision aids and high-tech devices to overcoming denial and when and how to seek support. Discussion topics have included careers, social interaction, drivers' licenses, organizations, resources, orientation/mobility, daily living skills and other topics that are of interest to students and their families. Contact Laura Douglas at 719-578-2110 or ldouglas@csdb.org for more information.

Anchor Center for Blind Children: This not-for profit organization dedicated to providing early intervention / education to very young (birth through five years) children who are blind/visually impaired throughout the state of Colorado. It has a staff of TVIs trained in early childhood and related service providers including occupational, physical, music, horticulture therapists and a speech pathologist. Anchor Center for Blind Children was founded in 1982 by a librarian from the Colorado Library for the Blind, who saw a need for services for blind and visually impaired children, and the local Delta Gamma Alumnae chapter. The first group of children included four preschool students and six home bound infants. Today the Anchor Center serves more than 400 children and families each year from across the state. For more information, contact Alice Applebaum at info@anchorcenter.org or (303) 377-9732.

Audio Information Network of Colorado: AINC is among the nation's leading resources for blind, visually impaired and print-disabled individuals, providing its listeners with free access to recorded programming 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The only service of its kind in Colorado, their services allow registered listeners to access audio programs online, through downloaded podcasts, on TV or over the phone. With recorded content from over 100 newspapers and magazine articles, our statewide programs provide over 1,500 listeners with everything from national news to local news and community events. For more information, please contact their Boulder office at studio at (303) 786-7777 or 1-877-443-2001 (toll free).

Braille and Large Print Format Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) Test Review: TVIs had the opportunity to meet with the CDE Unit of Student Assessment and the CMAS publisher in school year 2013-14 to review the large print and braille CMAS tests. There will be continued work specific to these new online assessments and their hard-copy formats. For more information, contact Tanni Anthony at Anthony_t@cde.state.co.us or (303) 866-6681.

Braille Transcriber Mentor Project: The Braille Transcribers Mentor Project is for experienced Library of Congress certified braillists to mentor new braille transcribers who are working on their LOC certification. Arrangements will be made to pay the mentor for his or her time. For more information, contact Jim Olson at jolson@csdb.org or (719) 578-2195.

Colorado Center for the Blind Summer Activities: Throughout the school year and over the summer, the CCB offers learning and recreation programs to students who are blind/visually impaired. For more information, please contact Brent Batron at bbatron@cocenter.org or (303) 778-1130 x 222.

CDE State Conference on Blindness/Visual Impairment: The key professional development activity for TVIs during this school year will be on the Unified English Braille Code. The speakers will be Beth Conly-Edwards and Shirley Caron. There will be two back-to-back sessions of a two-day training in order to cover the needs across the state. Individuals will sign up for either the first session (October 7-8) or the second session (October 9-10). The training is open to all CO TVIs and braillists. Other interested parties may be considered depending on space availability. The training will be held at the Holiday Inn on 4040 Quebec Street in Denver. For more information, please contact Tanni Anthony at Anthony_t@cde.state.co.us or (303) 866-6681.

Colorado Chapter of the Association of the Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind/Visually Impaired (CAER): CAER is the professional organization for many TVIs, COMS, and braillists. Colorado has a board with diverse representation of student and adult service professionals. It is an active chapter with an annual awards banquet, professional development offerings, and recreational opportunities for students who are blind/visually impaired. For more information, contact David Gooldy at (720) 554-3037 or dgooldy@cherrycreekschools.org

Colorado Instructional Materials Center (CIMC): Housed on the campus of CSDB, the role of the CIMC is to provide braille textbooks and serve as a repository for APH educational materials for all Colorado school-age students through twelfth grade who are blind/visually impaired. The CIMC also houses a lending library of professional materials for access by TVIs. For CIMC questions or assistance, contact Jim Olson at jolson@csdb.org or (719) 579-2196. CIMC webpage: www.csdb.org; click on "Programs and Services," "Outreach", then "CIMC."

Colorado Talking Book Library: The CTBL provides free library service to Coloradans of all ages who are unable to read standard print material due to visual, physical or learning disabilities whether permanent or temporary. CTBL provides audio, Braille and large-print books and magazines postage paid through the mail. For more information, contact Debbi MacLeod by email at ctbl.info@cde.state.co.us or by phone (303) 727-9277 or toll free at 1-800-685-2136.

CIMC Brailist Scholarships: The CIMC has a \$400 scholarship fund to help certified Library of Congress braillists from Colorado attend National Braille Association (NBA) Professional Development Conferences. Scholarship recipients are asked to share the conference information with other Colorado braillists. Conference information is posted at www.nationalbraille.org For more information, contact Jim Olson at jolson@csdb.org or (719) 578-2195.

CSDB Internship Placements: CSDB offers an educational setting with a diverse student population for university students completing their graduate training in vision to obtain internship or student teaching credits. Contact Carol Hilty, CSDB Superintendent, at chilty@csdb.org or (719) 578-2102.

CSDB Lending Library: The library provides materials and information in a variety of formats for students who are deaf/hard of hearing and/or blind/visually impaired, as well as their parents and service providers. Most items may be borrowed the library's community use form. The libraries are open Monday—Friday during the school year from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Please call before coming in person to either library. For more information, please refer to the CSDB website at www.csdb.org

CSDB Summer Enrichment Program: Each summer programs are offered for middle school students who are blind/visually impaired across the state. The programs focus on Braille/O&M/ independent living, social relationships, and recreational activities. For more information, contact Donna Keale at dkeale@csdb.org or (719) 578-2251.

CSDB Touch Museum: Some animal specimens are available for loan within the State of Colorado. The contact person is Laura Douglas ldouglas@csdb.org or (719) 578-2110.

Colorado O&M Workshop: This training is co-sponsored by CDE and CAER. A planning committee works together to determine the theme, presenters, dates and location. Be watching future newsletters for more details on the annual workshop. This training is reserved for Colorado Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialists (COMSs). The contact person is Tanni Anthony at (303) 866-6681 or Anthony_t@cde.state.co.us

Colorado Services for Children and Youth with Combined Vision and Hearing Loss Project (also called the Colorado Deafblind Project): The project will be entering its second year of a new five year grant cycle. There are currently 134 children and youth, age birth through 21 years, who have combined vision and hearing loss (deafblindness) in Colorado. Free technical assistance is provided the families and service providers of children and youth with combined vision and hearing loss (deafblindness).

The Colorado Deafblind Project hosts an annual Summer Institute, which focuses key assessment of and intervention / instructional strategies for children and youth who are deafblind and/or who have significant support needs. The project website has over 100 fact sheets (in English and Spanish) on information specific to deafblindness. The library is open to parents and professionals and is stocked with great resources, including about 100 items specific to blindness/visual impairment. The library's inventory is listed on the website, where there also is a downloadable book-loan order form. For more information about the Colorado Deafblind Project's free technical assistance services, contact Tanni Anthony at Anthony_t@cde.state.co.us or (303) 866-6681, Gina Quintana at Quintana_g@cde.state.co.us or (303) 866-6605 and/or go the project's continually updated webpage: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/SD-DB>

CO TVI COMS listserv: This listserv is exclusively for Colorado TVIs and COMSs working in Colorado administrative units or the Anchor Center for Blind Children. It is a venue for professionals to share information or ask questions of their colleagues across the state. Persons wishing to be added tor removed to the listserv should contact Tanni Anthony at Anthony_t@cde.state.co.us or (303) 866-6681.

Family Learning Retreat 2015: The weekend retreat is for families who have a child who is deaf/ hard of hearing, blind/visually impaired, or deafblind. The retreat is a great opportunity for families to meet other families and share their stories, have fun, make friends, and learn together. More information about the Family Learning Retreat will be posted in future *Keeping in Touch* newsletters and on the CSDB website www.csdb.org

Family Literacy Packs: Each Family Literacy Pack contains several books (braille and print) along with a Video or DVD of each story and several Activity Kits placed in a colorful child's back pack. Students keep the items they make and return the extra materials with the backpack. Activities may include a game, a song, or an activity and can be enjoyed by the whole family. The packs are available for TVIs to check out by contacting Laurie Taylor ltaylor@csdb.org or (719) 578-2198.

Foresight Ski Guides: Foresight Ski Guides served 32 students with visual disabilities during the 2013-14 ski season in Vail. Students came with a school group and their TVI's while others came with their parents and families. Every student learned how to ski and how to be guided by our expert guides.

Foresight Ski Guides can partner with TVIs, districts and/or parents to address several important areas of the Expanded Core Curriculum for the Blind, as well as Colorado State Standards for Physical Education for your students. Bring your students to Vail for the most fun they might ever experience, all while learning important life skills including a sport they can safely enjoy throughout their lifetime with family and friends. Coming this fall – work with Foresight Ski Guides may qualify as a tool in your IEP Toolbox. Stay tuned or contact Foresight at (303) 506-3859 and follow them on Facebook and Twitter, and visit their website at www.fresightstskiguide.org

Keeping in Touch (KIT) Newsletter: This newsletter started about 19-plus years ago when folks across the state talked about a lack of communication continuity. It has mostly been a labor of love internal to CDE, but there are always some great folks who help to contribute to the different editions. Please consider being one of them – there is always room to highlight the accomplishments of a colleague, post an announcement, and/or to share an article. The newsletter is sent out to CO parents of children and youth who are blind/visually impaired, TVIs, COMS, braillists, and VI paraeducators. It is also posted on the CDE Blindness/ Low Vision website for others to download. The following editions are planned for this school year: August / September 2014, October 2014, November / December 2014, January / February 2015, March / April 2015, and May 2015. For more information, please contact Tanni Anthony at Anthony_t@cde.state.co.us or (303) 866-6681.

Low Vision Evaluation Clinics: The Low Vision Evaluation Team is once again funded for five regional clinics. The clinic team consists of an optometrist specializing in low vision services (Dr. Tom Theune), certified low vision therapist / TVI (Jim Olson), certified low vision therapist (Wendy Stoltman), and a Clinic Coordinator (Debbie Haberkorn). The dates of the 2014-15 clinics are posted within this newsletter, as are the local site coordinators for each clinic (who organized the pre-clinic paperwork). For more information, contact Tanni Anthony at Anthony_t@cde.state.co.us or (303) 866-6681.

National Braille Challenge: The Colorado regional contest will again be held at CSDB in 2015. Students may also compete individually in their home school with their TVI administering the tests. Students compete in various categories such as spelling, reading comprehension, speed and accuracy, proofreading, and charts and graphs. Please hold January 29, 2015 for this event. For more information, contact Diane Covington dcovington@csdb.org or (719) 578-2225. Please visit www.brailleinstitute.org for additional information about the National Braille Challenge.

Psychological Assessments and Consultation: Psychological assessments (cognitive and social emotional) provided to school districts to assist school districts in developing appropriate educational services and supports for students with vision losses. There is a fee for this service. The contact person is Laura Douglas at ldouglas@csdb.org or (719) 578-2110.

Sensory Safari: This event is in collaboration with the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo in Colorado Springs. It involves a special day for students with visual impairments – there is time to touch, hear, smell, and smell the exhibits! The event will take place in early Spring 2015. The contact person is Donna Keale at dkeale@csdb.org or (719) 330-7387.

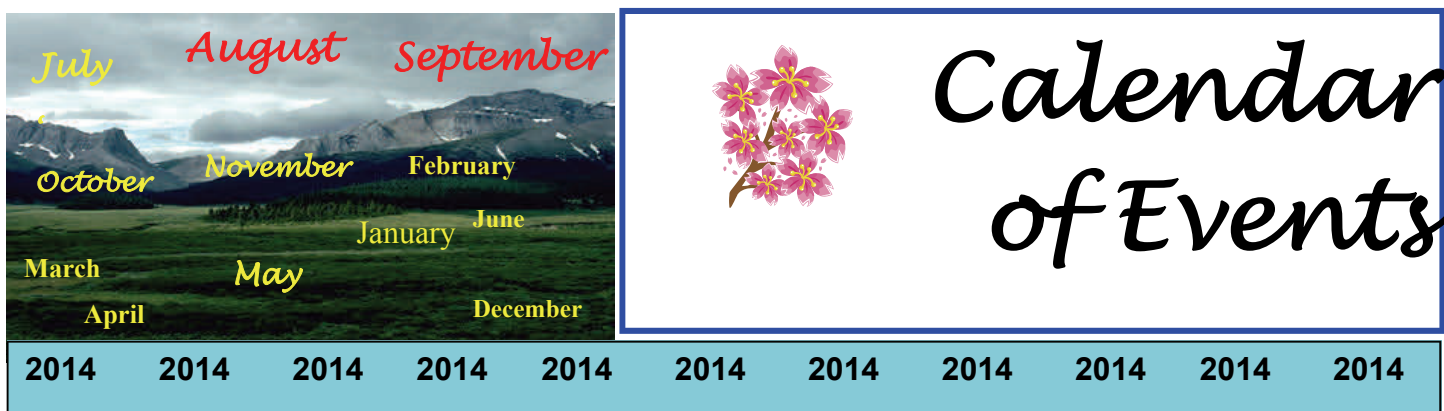
Student Activities Mini-Grant Funds: To achieve the goal of supporting students with vision loss coming together for social and recreational opportunities, the CSDB Outreach program offers some funding for school districts and BOCES staff who want to offer Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC) activities for their students in these areas. For more information, please contact Dr. Laura Douglas at ldouglas@csdb.org or (719) 578-2110. A mini-grant request form is also provided on the CSDB website.

TVI / Braille Competency Mentor Project: This will be the 12th year of the mentor project! The goal is to provide mentoring assistance to students enrolled in the UNC Visual Impairment Program, as well as new TVIs and/or COMSs in Colorado administrative units. Each participant will be paired with a mentor teacher currently working in Colorado. Mentors will receive a \$500 for their time and commitment to mentoring over a full school year.

In addition the CDE will fund up to ten mentor sessions for TVIs who need tune-ups with the literary braille code (specific to braille competency testing). If you would like to be a mentor or would like to have a mentor, please contact Tanni Anthony at anthony_t@cde.state.co.us or (303) 866-6681

United States Association of Blind Athletes: USABA is a Colorado-based 501(c) (3) organization that provides life-enriching sports opportunities for every individual with a visual impairment. A member of the U.S. Olympic Committee, USABA provides athletic opportunities in various sports including, but not limited to track and field, nordic and alpine skiing, biathlon, judo, wrestling, swimming, tandem cycling, powerlifting and goalball (a team sport for the blind and visually impaired). For activities specific to Colorado outreach activities, please contact Matt Simpson at msimpson@usaba.org or by phone at (719)866-3019.

Vision Coalition: The Vision Coalition is a statewide advisory committee on the educational activities for students who are blind/visually impaired, support activities for their parents, and professional development activities specific to their service providers. Members include: Tanni Anthony (CDE ESSU), Paula Conroy (UNC), Nancy Cozart (Metro region), LaVerne Dell (Vocational Rehabilitation), Sarah Bickford Vallese (Anchor Center for Blind Children), Chris Cockrill (School for the Blind– CSDB), Barb Galgano (CAER), Judy Mumford (Southern Region), Jim Olson (CIMC), Karin Hensel (CSDB Outreach), Everett Romero (Parents of Blind Children), Angela Sims (Western Region), and Elaine Karns (Northern region). The VC meets three times a school year. For more information, please contact Tanni Anthony at anthony_t@cde.state.co.us or (303) 866-6681.



- September 1** **Due date for AUs to submit payment of CIMC invoices to CSDB**
- September 5** **Mosaic: A Showcase of the Arts 5:30 pm—9:30 pm—Colorado Center for the Blind, Littleton,**
Contact: Dburke@cocenter.org
- September 8** **Metro TVI Meeting – Cherry Creek Schools**
Contact: Jeannie Lei - jlei@cherrycreekschools.org
- September 11** **CSDB Board Meeting**
Contact: Jacky Skinner at (719) 578-2102 or jskinner@csdb.org

- September 19-20** **Western Region LVE Clinic**—Grand Junction
Contact: Sarah.sonnier@d51schools.org or Angela.sims@d51schools.org
- September 27** **Norman Kunc and the Think and Act Conference**—9:00 am—2:00 pm, Carbondale, CO
Contact: bschaffner@peakparent.org
- October 1** **Southern LVE Clinic**—Pueblo
Contact: Donice Fennimore— dfennimore@ppboces.org
- October 7-8** **CDE State BVI Conference—UEB Training (first session)** - Denver, CO
Contact: Tanni Anthony - anthony_t@cde.state.co.us
- October 9-10** **CDE State BVI Conference—UEB Training (second session)** - Denver, CO
Contact: Tanni Anthony - anthony_t@cde.state.co.us
- October 9** **CSDB Board Meeting**
Contact: Jacky Skinner at (719) 578-2102 or jskinner@csdb.org
- October 15** **Deadline for the Tools for Life Scholarship**
Contact: Dr. Tom Theune—(719) 471-3200
- October 16-18** **PEP Conference**—location to be determined
Contact: ramer_d@cde.state.co.us
- October 30-31** **CNIB National Braille Conference, Toronto, Ontario**
Contact :<http://cnib.ca/en/get-involved/join-an-event/conferences-and-seminars/Pages/2014-CNIB-National-Braille-Conference.aspx>
- Oct, 30—Nov. 2** **60th Annual State Convention for the CO—National Federation for the Blind**
Contact: Lisa Bonderson at lbonderson@labarrelaw.com
- October 31** **Southern LVE** - Colorado Springs
Contact: Donice Fennimore— dfennimore@ppboces.org
- November 3-21** **Tentative CMAS and CoAlt Science and Social Studies Assessment**
- November 13** **CSDB Board Meeting**
Contact: Jacky Skinner at (719) 578-2102 or jskinner@csdb.org
- November 20-21** **Northern LVE Clinic—Ensignt Center**—Fort Collins
Contact: elk@psdschools.org or Love_carol@svvsd.org

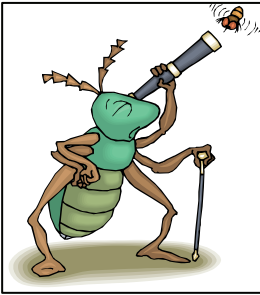
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- January 8** **CSDB Board Meeting**
Contact: Jacky Skinner at (719) 578-2102 or jskinner@csdb.org
- January 12-15** **South Pacific Educators of the Visually Impaired (SPEVI). Melbourne, Australia**
Contact: <http://www.spevi.net/spevi/spevi-conference-2015.php#tab2>

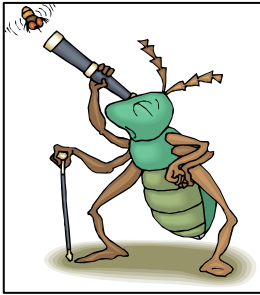
- January 23`** **Southern LVE Clinic**—Colorado Springs
Contact: Donice Fennimore—dfennimore@ppbooces.org
- January 29** **Braille Challenge**
Contact: Diane Covington dcovington@csdb.org
- February 5-7** **PEP Conference**—location to be determined
Contact: ramer_d@cde.state.co.us
- February 12** **CSDB Board Meeting**
Contact: Jacky Skinner at (719) 578-2102 or jskinner@csdb.org
- February 20-21** **Metro LVE Clinic**—Anchor Center for Blind Children—Denver
Contact: Rebecca Warnell—rewarnell@aps.k12.co.us
- March 9—April 3** **Tentative CMAS: PARCC Testing**
- March 15** **Deadline for Education for Life Scholarship**
Contact: Dr. Tom Theune (719) 471-3200
- March 12** **CSDB Board Meeting**
April 9 Contact: Jacky Skinner at (719) 578-2102 or jskinner@csdb.org
- April 9-11** **AFB Leadership Conference**—Phoenix, AZ
Contact: www.afb.org
- April 13—May 1** **Tentative CMAS and CoAlt Science and Social Studies Testing**
April 13—May 15 **Tentative CoAlt and DLM Testing**
April 27—May 22 **Tentative CMAS PARCC Testing**
- April 30-May 2** **PEP Conference**—location to be determined
Contact: ramer_d@cde.state.co.us
- June 11** **Graduation at the Anchor Center for the Blind**
- June 11** **CSDB Board Meeting**
Contact: Jacky Skinner at (719) 578-2102 or jskinner@csdb.org
- July 19-22** **AER International O&M Conferenc e– Pittsburgh, PA**
Contact: aerbvi.org
- July 6—9** **15th International Orientation and Mobility Conference**—Montreal, Canada
Visit: <http://imc15.com/en/>
- July 30—August 2** **12th International CHARGE Syndrome Conference, Chicago, IL**
For more information: chargesyndrome.org

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January 4 **Official Date for Full UEB Implementation in the United States!**



LOW VISION EVALUATION CLINIC NEWS



2014 -2015 Low Vision Evaluation Clinics

Region	Dates and Location	Paperwork Deadline	Site Coordinator(s)
Western	<u>Grand Junction</u> Friday, September 19, 2014 Saturday, September 20, 2014	Wednesday, September 3, 2014	Sarah Sonnier, Sarah.sonnier@d51schools.org Angela Sims, Angela.sims@d51schools.org
Southern	<u>Pueblo</u> Wednesday, October 1, 2014	Monday, September 15, 2014	Donice Fennimore, TVI dfennimore@ppboces.org
Southern	<u>Colorado Springs</u> Friday, October 31, 2014	Monday, October 6, 2014	Donice Fennimore, TVI dfennimore@ppboces.org
Northern	<u>Ensign Center - Fort Collins</u> Thursday, November 20, 2014 Friday, November 21, 2014	Tuesday, November 4, 2014	Elaine Karns, TVI elk@psdschools.org Carol Love, TV Love_carol@svvsd.org
Southern	<u>Colorado Springs</u> Friday, January 23, 2015	Wednesday, January 7, 2015	Donice Fennimore, TVI dfennimore@ppboces.org
Metro	<u>Anchor Center - Denver</u> Thursday, February 19, 2015 Friday, February 20, 2015 Saturday, February 21, 2015	Tuesday, February 3, 2015	Rebecca Warnell, TVI rewarnell@aps.k12.co.us

 * **Attention all TVIs:** Please work closely with your Regional LVE Clinic Coordinators to ensure *
 * that all paperwork is fully completed and turned into the clinic staff in a timely manner. You *
 * can also find the paperwork on the CDE website at: [http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/SD-](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/SD-Vision_Activities.asp) *
 * [Vision Activities.asp](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/SD-Vision_Activities.asp) Please be advised that if you are recommending a student to attend the *
 * LVE Clinic, it is your responsibility to prepare the student and parent for the appointment, *
 * attend with them, and ensure that you assist with any needed follow-up training of the *
 * prescribed device(s). Thank you for helping to ensure the success of the clinic for each student. *

Colorado Instructional Materials Center (CIMC)

A Review of CIMC Braille Check-Out Procedures

Please take time to read through the following policy of the Colorado Instructional Materials Center on braille check-out procedures.

- Teachers of students with visual impairment (TVIs) working in Colorado Administrative Units (AUs) may check out one (1) braille for each of their students with Visual Impairment, Including Blindness who are registered with the Colorado Instructional Materials Center (CIMC).
 - Order forms for braille check out are available online. You can visit our webpage at www.csdb.org, click on “Programs and Services,” select “CIMC” from the dropdown menu.
 - CIMC forms are frequently updated. Always make sure you are using the most current version of any form by starting at the CIMC page of the website. Please be sure to delete your cache and cookies on your web browser before opening the braille order form. This will ensure your browser opens the most recent version and prevent you from unintentionally using a previous version.
 - Brailles currently available for check out include:
 - (A) Perkins Classic Braille
 - (B) Perkins-APH Braille
 - (C) APH Light-Touch Perkins Braille
 - The new “APH SMART Braille by Perkins” which will become available in July 2014 from www.aph.org, in limited quantities, for check-out from the CSDB Outreach Technology Loan Bank for the Blind. Loan bank request forms must be signed by Directors of Special Education and are entered into the circulation queue on a first-come-first-served basis. Technology is loaned for a 30-day evaluation period to allow TVI’s to make a data driven decision about the effectiveness of technology for their students.
 - Braille order forms must be signed by the Director of Special Education
 - The need for braille instruction or materials in braille format must be documented in the students Individualized Education Program (IEP). The CIMC reserves the right to ask for this documentation.
 - The CIMC provides brailles for use in the school setting only. The CIMC does not provide brailles for use in a student’s home environment.
- blue header.

- Brailers checked out of the CIMC are the property of the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). The brailers are not the property of Colorado AU's or school districts and must be returned to the CIMC upon request. Brailers will have a CIMC barcode affixed to them that states "Property of CIMC B/VI Technology" printed on a
- Brailers checked out of the CIMC are the property of the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). The brailers are not the property of Colorado AUs or school districts and must be returned to the CIMC upon request. Brailers will have a CIMC barcode affixed to them that states "Property of CIMC B/VI Technology" printed on a blue header.
- When a student withdraws from your AU, the braille checked out to them needs to be returned to the CIMC or your district will be invoiced for the current replacement cost of the braille. If a student is transferring between two Colorado school districts, the first school district is required to return the braille to the CIMC. The CIMC will then update the statewide braille inventory. The second Colorado school district will be required to submit a new braille order form to the CIMC signed by their Director of Special Education. The new school district will then be re-issued the exact same braille, with the same serial number/barcode, for use by their new student.
- No brailers will be provided by the CDE/CIMC for use by TVIs, para-educators, parents, consumers, etc.
- The CIMC will repair brailers currently checked out with the blue CIMC barcodes attached; repair of all other brailers is the responsibility of the administrative unit. Go to the "CIMC Brailers" section of our web page and click the "Braille Repair" tab for the "Braille Repair Form" in Word, PDF, and plain text formats.
- If you have any questions please email cimcbrailers@csdb.org.

UDL Resource: We've all heard people say that there are so many resources on UDL, it's hard to know where to go to get started, right? A couple of years ago, the IDEA Partnership initiated an effort to create a 'tour' of UDL resources that would help to guide individuals to targeted resources based upon the individual's questions about UDL.

Many people jumped in to help, in particular: Jeff McCormick of OCALI, fellow National UDL Task Force members Fran Smith and Loui Lord Nelson, and CAST staff members Grace Meo and Allison Posey. The Massachusetts Department of Education helped fund some of the work. Today, we are very excited to announce the addition of the new page "Take a tour of UDL Resources" <http://www.udlcenter.org/aboutudl/take_a_tour_udl>." You'll find it on the main page of the National Center as a quick link in the highlight box and as a menu bar link on the "About UDL" <<http://www.udlcenter.org/aboutudl>>" section.



CONJUNCTIVITIS

Information retrieved from: <http://www.webmd.com/eye-health/eye-health-conjunctivitis>
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmedhealth/PMH0002005/>
<http://www.allaboutvision.com/conditions/conjunctivitis.htm>

What is Conjunctivitis? Conjunctivitis, also known as pinkeye, is an inflammation of the conjunctiva. The conjunctiva is the thin clear tissue that lies over the white part of the eye and lines the inside of the eyelid.

What Causes Conjunctivitis? Conjunctivitis has a number of different causes, including: viruses, bacteria (such as gonorrhea or chlamydia), irritants such as shampoos, dirt, smoke, and pool chlorine, and allergies, like dust, pollen, or a special type of allergy that affects some contact lens wearers. Conjunctivitis caused by some bacteria and viruses can spread easily from person to person, but is not a serious health risk if diagnosed promptly. Conjunctivitis in newborn babies, however, should be reported to a doctor immediately, as it could be a vision-threatening infection.

What Are the Symptoms of Conjunctivitis? The symptoms of pinkeye differ based on the cause of the inflammation, but may include: redness in the white of the eye or inner eyelid; increased amount of tears; thick yellow discharge that crusts over the eyelashes, especially after sleep; green or white discharge from the eye(s); itchy eyes; burning eyes, blurred vision; and increased sensitivity to light.

How is Conjunctivitis Diagnosed? A doctor will conduct an exam of the eyes and may use a cotton swab to take a sample of fluid from the eyelid to be analyzed in a lab.

How can Conjunctivitis be Treated? The treatment will depend on the cause of the inflammation. If the conjunctivitis is from bacteria, it will be treated with antibiotics in the form of eye drops, ointments, or oral medication. Eye drops or ointments may need to be applied to the inside of the eyelid three to four times a day for five to seven days. Pills may need to be taken for several days. The infection should improve within a week. If it due to a virus, such as from a common cold, it may need to run its course, which usually lasts four to seven days. Viral conjunctivitis can be highly contagious. An individual should avoid contact with others and wash his or her hands frequently. The individual should talk to the doctor about whether or not to replace contact lenses worn during the episode of conjunctivitis.

What Are the Complications of Conjunctivitis? Usually, conjunctivitis is a self-limited disease, either clearing up on its own or after a course of antibiotics. However, certain forms of conjunctivitis can become serious and sight-threatening, because they can cause cornea scarring. They include conjunctivitis caused by gonorrhea, chlamydia, or certain strains of the adeno virus.

Is Conjunctivitis Preventable? Yes, it can often be prevented with good hygiene. Best practices are: Change pillowcases frequently, do not share eye cosmetics or towels, keep hands away from eyes and remember to wash hands often.

Resources and Materials

FREE CURRENCY IDENTIFIERS

During a four month pilot project (beginning September 2nd) the U.S. Bureau of Engraving, will be offering patrons of the National Library Service a free money identifier. To receive a currency reader call 1-888-657-7323. After confirming the library account information, a currency reader will be delivered to the address on file. Shipment of the currency readers will begin in January, 2015.

Fact Sheet on Immigrant Children

The United State Department of Education has put out a Fact Sheet on educational services for immigrant children and those recently arrived to the United States. The fact sheet identifies existing resources that may be helpful to communities enrolling immigrant children, including newly arrived children. It also answers FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions).

<http://www2.ed.gov/policy/rights/guid/unaccompanied-children.pdf>

New Study on the Common Core State Standards

The Center on Education Policy – a well-respected think tank in DC – has just released A Compendium of Research on the Common Core State Standards, which includes over 60 studies focused on a range of issues and topics related to the Common Core. This user-friendly compendium summarizes each study on a single page, highlighting important details about topic, scope and timeline, and includes URL links to the original study documents. Research from government entities, independent organizations, and peer-reviewed publications from academic journals are included.

The compendium is organized into nine distinct categories so users can find the information they seek quickly and easily:

- Communications and Public Opinion
- Comparison of CCSS Content to Wide-Scale Assessments
- Content, Curriculum, and Alignment
- Cost Analysis
- Governance and Leadership
- Implementation
- Teacher Preparation
- Teaching and Professional Development
- Testing and Assessment

To access the compendium, go to:

<http://www.cep-dc.org/displayDocument.cfm?DocumentID=438#sthash.6nHrkAtD.dpuf>

just for PARENTS

Policy Statement on Early Literacy Promotion from American Academy of Pediatrics

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recently published a formal policy statement recommending that pediatric providers promote early literacy development for children beginning in infancy and continuing at least until the age of kindergarten. Literacy Promotion: An Essential Component of Primary Care Pediatric Practice<<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2014/06/19/peds.2014-1384.full.pdf>> (June 2014; discusses five recommendations related to: (1) encouraging all parents to read with young children; (2) counseling all parents about developmentally appropriate shared-reading activities; (3) providing developmentally appropriate books at health supervision visits for all high-risk, low-income young children; (4) using a robust spectrum of options to support and promote these efforts; and (5) partnering with other child advocates to influence national messaging and policies that support and promote key early shared-reading experiences.

Help for Problematic Sleep Patterns

Does your child who is blind have sleep patterns that are different than the rest of the world? Does he or she sometimes fall asleep during the daytime when it is time to be awake? Are there difficulties falling asleep, staying asleep or keeping a regular sleep routine? If your child is blind, this could be due to a real sleep problem related to the lack of light needed to keep the body's internal clock in sync with the day and night cycle, called Non-24-Hour Sleep-Wake Disorder.

If your child or someone that you know might be affected, please email info@non24registry.com call (844) 361-2424 to learn about clinical research studies with investigational treatments being studied for this type of sleep problem. When calling, you can complete a short sleep survey. For each completed survey, \$24 will be donated to an organization that supports individuals with blindness. Your child may be eligible to participate in the clinical trial if she/he is less than 18 years old and is totally blind. Volunteers will be compensated for their participation in the clinical study and will receive study-related medication, and medical evaluations.

August—September 2014

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 www.peakparent.org.
- The Legal Center for People with Disabilities and Older People (www.thelegalcenter.org) and
- The Arc of Colorado (www.thearcofco.org) are other resources for families looking for advocates.

If your family is looking for support groups and/or trying to connect with other families, Parent to Parent of Colorado is a useful resource -

www.p2p-co.org.

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.

For more information, please visit

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/PEP.asp>

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 COMs: 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:

anthony_t@cde.state.co.us or to Tanni Anthony, CDE ESSU, 1560 Broadway, Suite 1175, Denver, CO 80202. Or please leave a voice message at (303) 866-6681. Thank you so much!

ORIENTATION & MOBILITY



SAVE THE DATE

Institut Nazareth et Louis-Braille (INLB) and École d'optométrie (School of Optometry) of the Université de Montréal will host the 15th International Mobility Conference (IMC15) to be held in Montréal from **July 6 to 9, 2015**. The keynote address, delivered by Bernard Voyer, O.C., C.Q., Ph.D. (Hon.), F.S.G.R. (C.), Ch.L.H., is titled “Travelling in Challenging Environments: Reflected Thoughts about Determination and Perseverance.” In addition to this fascinating opening keynote is a diverse panel of experts and two exciting plenary sessions: the invited speakers of IMC15 will know how to stimulate exchange.

Bookmark IMC15 in your agenda! This Conference promises to put forward an innovative program that will promote the exchange of science and practice, on a Canadian and international level. This major international forum in orientation and mobility will allow participants to: **Gather Information, Learn, Share, and Network**. For more information visit <http://imc15.com/en/>

The Call for Abstracts will open on the website in October 2014. Do you have colleagues that would also like to submit an abstract ? Invite them to subscribe to the newsletter to get the latest news about the Conference and upcoming deadlines. To submit an abstract and/or to subscribe to the newsletter, go to: <http://imc15.com/en/call-for-abstracts/>

Cross Walk Laws in Each State

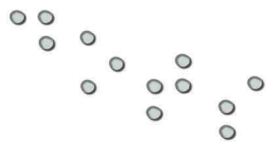
This article summarizes and discuss crosswalk laws in each state: <http://www.ncsl.org/research/transportation/pedestrian-crossing-50-state-summary.aspx>

PEAK Parent Center Presents: Norman Kunc and the Think and Act Conference in beautiful Carbondale, Colorado.

Saturday, September 27, 2014 9:00 am—2:00 pm

The conference registration deadline is Monday, September 15, 2014 - but space is limited, so register soon! Affordable registration rate - \$35 per person; special rate for self-advocates with disabilities - \$25 (for sign language interpretation, please register by September 8, 2014.)

Are you coming from outside of the area? Act now to take advantage of the special PEAK conference rate of \$108/night (available for Friday and Saturday night) at the Carbondale Comfort Inn— reservation deadline for the reduced rate is Tuesday, August 26, 2014 (call: 970-963-8880). The conference weekend is predicted to be peak for viewing the spectacular fall foliage in and around the Roaring Fork Valley – a nice bonus for making the trip to Carbondale. To Register: <http://bit.ly/ThinkAct> or <http://hosted.verticalresponse.com/205905/2cda0a6f70/1473610897/6509b338c5/>



DOTS OF INTEREST



UEB Resource from Australia

RIDBC Renwick Centre is delighted to announce the launch of its first online training course in Unified English Braille (UEB), entitled “UEB Online for Sighted Learners”. UEB Online is an ideal course for professionals, parents and community members who wish to learn braille. It may be used by classroom teachers as a project for their students, or by specialist and mainstream educators and support staff who wish to obtain a qualification in braille.

UEB Online consists of 30 lessons that are sub-divided into two modules. The course may be accessed using a Mac or PC computer and any web browser (e.g. Safari, Internet Explorer). The course is not available via a tablet, e.g., iPad. Lessons are completed with a standard computer keyboard using a number of keys to replicate the keys of a braillewriter. Marking is fully automated so that learners receive immediate feedback as they progress through each lesson. There are a number of lesson support videos under “video resources” in the “resources” section of the course. The videos are also available via YouTube.

For those wishing a Certificate of Completion, RIDBC Renwick Centre offers certificates for each of the two modules, with a processing fee of AUD\$50.

Please visit <http://uebonline.org/> to sign up and get started!

UEB Chart Available for Download from Duxbury, Systems, Inc.

For Duxbury’s one page chart/list of UEB symbols go to:

<http://www.duxburysystems.com/braillechart.asp>

or to go directly to the pdf of the UEB chart, here's the URL:

http://www.duxburysystems.com/images/ueb_black.pdf.



Happy 30th Anniversary, NBP Children's Book Club!

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Children's Braille Book Club at National Braille Press (NBP)! For three decades, NBP has been delivering braille books to children who are enrolled in this innovative program. Families can choose to simply pay \$100 and receive a book automatically each month, or can sign up to receive monthly notices about the book of the month and decide to buy it at the same cost as the print version. In honor of this milestone, NBP is collecting video stories from families who wish to share their memories and thoughts about the Book Club. They ask participants to use their creativity, but please keep the videos to two minutes or less. Videos can be uploaded from mobile devices by emailing it to vx5b2211etg@m.youtube.com

For more information about the Book Club itself, visit <http://www.nbp.org/ic/nbp/programs/cbbc/cbbc.html>

DOTS OF INTEREST



BANA News

The Braille Authority of North America (BANA) held its 2014 spring meeting April 3-5 in Philadelphia, PA. Associated Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired, (ASB), a BANA member organization, hosted the meeting. During its three-day meeting, the BANA Board reviewed and acted on semiannual reports from its eighteen committees, considered committee recommendations, and deliberated issues and challenges facing braille users and producers. The UEB Task Force reported on the development of a plan for the transition to UEB in the United States as well as the collaborative steps that have been taken to initiate dialogue and planning among the various braille communities. The development of resources for training teachers, transcribers, consumers, and family members is a focus of BANA's efforts at this time.

BANA welcomed three new organizational representatives to their first meeting as members of the Board. Dawn Gross is the new representative from the Alternate Text Production Center of the California Community Colleges (ATPC). Peggy Schuetz now represents the California Transcribers and Educators of the Blind and Visually Impaired (CTEBVI). Kyle Key has recently been appointed as the representative from the Clovernook Center for the Blind. In addition to extensive deliberations involved in the 44-item meeting agenda, the actions of note included the following:

- Revisited and revised organizational priorities in order to balance BANA's work during this time of focus on the transition to UEB.
- Approved a recommendation from the Tactile Graphics Technical Committee that any braille volume containing one or more tactile graphics should contain a note on the Transcriber's Notes page stating: "The Guidelines and Standards for Tactile Graphics, 2010 was used in the preparation of the tactile graphics."
- Approved a document detailing specific factors and specifications that should be employed when producing braille signage. This new fact sheet will be posted on the BANA website.
- Voted that, in light of the major revision underway to align the Braille Formats publication with UEB, BANA will not produce for sale hardcopy editions of Braille Formats 2011, which can be downloaded free of charge from the BANA website and printed or embossed. The Board also voted to add the recently posted errata in the HTML, PDF, and BRF files of Braille Formats 2011 that are posted on the BANA website. These decisions followed an extensive deliberation of the complex issues impacting BANA's current obligations and resources. NOTE: Braille Formats 2011 went into effect on January 1, 2013. Materials now being transcribed should follow these guidelines.

On Saturday morning, BANA hosted an Open Forum,. They discussed the progress of the transition to UEB as well as ongoing plans for informing braille readers and preparing educators and transcribers about specific code changes. For additional resource information, visit www.brailleauthority.org

DOTS OF INTEREST



Updated Ashcroft Text

For decades, many universities have used the Ashcroft's Programmed Instruction in Braille textbook to teach pre-service teachers how to read and write braille. The book has now been updated and renamed to reflect the changes in braille codes. The new book, Ashcroft's Programmed Instruction: Unified English Braille will be available this summer from SCALARS Publishing, ready for fall university courses. The 12 chapters of the book were designed for university students in teacher preparation programs to learn braille from the beginning—no previous knowledge of braille is required. In addition to the textbook, an instructor's manual is available to qualified instructors, and a "companion reader" in embossed braille for students to use as a supplement to their learning. The exact titles and ISBNs are:

- Ashcroft's Programmed Instruction: Unified English Braille ISBN 978-0-9960353-0-9
- Ashcroft's Programmed Instruction Instructor's Manual: Unified English Braille ISBN 978-0-9960353-1-6
- Ashcroft's Programmed Instruction Companion Reader: Unified English Braille ISBN 978-0-9960353-2-3

For more information about these resources, contact SCALARS Publishing by calling 901-737-0001 or visiting their website: <http://www.scalarspublishing.com>.

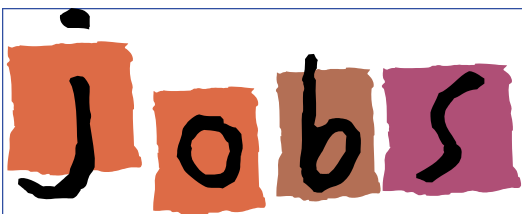
Free Slates and Styluses!

The National Federation of the Blind (NFB) is giving away—free of charge—slates and styluses to any blind individual in the fifty states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Requests may be made as often as once per year.



The slate and stylus is the only braille-writing device that has the same portability, flexibility, and affordability as a pen and pencil. To request a free aluminum 4-line, 28 cell slate with the Whozit logo, and a round plastic bulb stylus, visit this online at <http://freeslates.nfb.org/>

NFB also offers a fillable PDF form that can be completed on computer and print, or simply downloaded to print and complete by hand and mailed to NFB. Completed applications should be mailed to: Free Slate Program, National Federation of the Blind, 200 East Wells Street, Baltimore, Maryland, 21230



IMPORTANT! We have JOB OPENINGS!!

Please be proactive with anticipated vacancies for this school year or the one starting in fall 2014. 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 brailist, 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

Southern Region Jobs

- ✓ Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind is actively recruiting and accepting applications for the 2014-15 school year. For details about what positions may be open, please contact Chelle Lutz at clutz@csdb.org or (719) 578-2114.

Western Region Jobs

- ✓ **TVI/COMS** (1 FTE) for San Juan BOCES. Please contact HR Director Paula Sublett at (970) 247-3261 x 203 or psublett@sjboces.org.

Metro Region Jobs

- ✓ **Brailist** position in Adams 50 School District: For more information, please go to: <http://www.applitrack.com/adams50/onlineapp/default.aspx?Category=ESP+-+Office%2fStudent+Support+Staff>
- ✓ **TVI / COMS** (1.FTE) in Adams 12 School District. For more information, please contact Heather Greicius at gre008602@adams12.org

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!



TRANSITION INFORMATION ABOUT MOVING ON!

Report from the NRTC State of the Science Conference

The National Research and Training Center on Blindness and Low Vision (NRTC) held its State of the Science (SoS) Conference on Improving Employment Outcomes for Individuals who are Blind or Visually Impaired on April 9th and 10th, 2014 in Bethesda, MD, in conjunction with the annual NCSAB Spring Conference. Results from the six projects funded under the NIDRR grant on the same topic were presented during the conference. The six project areas are: transportation barriers to employment, employment mentoring, VR agency-employer interactions, best practices for the Randolph-Sheppard Business Enterprise Program, competitive employment outcomes of SSDI recipients, and accessibility of office equipment.

More than one hundred people attended the NRTC's SoS conference. Audience members were able to participate in the conference through the use of clickers, wireless devices that allow instant polling, and discussions with expert panel members who discussed the implications for practice of the research findings. Center staff received a great deal of informal positive feedback on the conference, and formal feedback from audience members indicated that the conference was informative and worthwhile, with 93% of attendees agreeing that they could envision improvements for their agency or organization based on the information that was presented.

The conference agenda with PowerPoint, braille, and audio files, and a summary of each presentation, is available on the NRTC website: <http://www.blind.msstate.edu/training/state-of-the-science/>

T E C H N O L O G Y U P D A T E

ACCESSIBLE VIDEO ON DEMAND SERVICE

Scheduled to launch later this year, Zagga Entertainment will be offering a fully accessible video on demand subscription service. A wide selection of audio described movies and TV shows will be available through an accessible, secure website and mobile app designed to work with screen readers. Now children who are blind/visually impaired can independently navigate to the movie they want to watch and have it play to them on a computer or tablet with all the action described. For more information about this service, go to the website for Zagga Entertainment at www.zagga.tv



NEWS

2014-2015 BOARD MEMBERS AND THEIR COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

President: David Gooldy

President-Elect: Brent Batron

Past-President: Heather Solberg

Treasurer: Trina Boyd-Pratt

Secretary: Nancy Cozart

Representatives/Committee Chairs:

Membership: Barb Galgano

Recruitment: Barb Galgano

Additional Board Members: Bill Muir, Sally Burch, Mike Plansker, and Ann Cunningham

CAER Highlights:

- Mini-Grants: Each fall and spring, the board of CAER at their November board meeting award financial support to individuals in the field of visual impairments. Recipients in the past have included students, teachers, families and groups of individuals with visual impairments. A detailed document and application is available on the CAER website at co.aerbvi.org
- Certification and Renewal Reimbursements: CAER is proud to support professionalism in the area of visual impairments through a partial reimbursement of ACVREP issued certificate.. The current amount are \$100 for all new certifications and \$50 for all certification renewals. A detailed document is available on the CAER website at co.aerbv.org
- Online Website Resource Center: Established in 2013, CAER is proud to host a collection of copyright free and original resources for free download from the CAER website. Resources include a number of great rubrics, check-lists, as well as handouts from recent workshops and AER conference. Resources even include books about individuals with visual impairments, including autobiographies by visually impaired authors.

Previous Events/Programs Brought To You By CAER:

- Annual Snowshoe Weekend
- Annual Awards Banquet
- Braille Music Workshop
- Scientific Notebook Workshop
- HumanWare Technology Open House
- USABA National Fitness Challenge "Fuelband Challenge"

Upcoming Events/Programs:

- Partnering with USABA for statewide introductory Goalball coaching clinics
- Development of a youth Goalball programs in Colorado Springs, Denver & Fort Collins

Website Information

co.aerbvi.org - This will always be the best place to find the most up to date info on all events and resources! (The website will always be the best place to find the most up to date info on all of the events and resources from CAER)



NEWS

Access to Exhibits

By Ann Cunningham

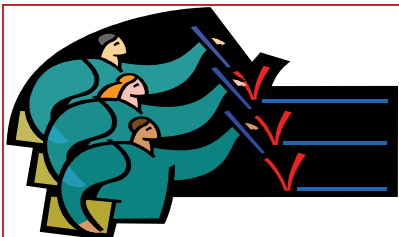
I just returned from AER (Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired) Conference in San Antonio and interest in tactile images seems to be at an all time high. Not only did we have people, like Lucia Hasty of Colorado Springs, presenting great information about making tactile graphics for school subjects, we also had the Meadows Museum from Dallas talk about how they are building accessibility into *all* their tours.

The staff at AER kindly gave me a table so that I could share an exhibit about "Access to Exhibits." This exhibit features the information that we have been able to learn about how different types of information are received by patrons at the Denver Art Museum (DAM) on access days.

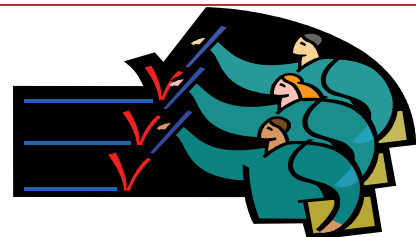
Arrangements can be made to see the tactile images anytime at DAM but if you just want to stop by, every other month tables are set up and manned by docents to share in-depth information about the featured pieces in the exhibit. The next exhibit will be on October 10th and 11th, 2014 from 10AM to 1PM. For more information go to: <http://www.denverartmuseum.org/calendar/tactile-tables-modern-and-contemporary-art-oct-11>

The types of tactile images we have been using range from on-the-spot raised-line drawings traced on the Sensational BlackBoard, small models, collages and fully painted and sculpted low relief pictures of paintings from their collection. I have used a wide variety of materials like sculpy, an oven baked clay, paint and sticky backed foam, glass bead textures and even plastic fruit!

I received a mini grant from the Colorado AER State Chapter and was able to take the same exhibit to Orlando to share with people attending the National Federation of the Blind Convention. I can safely report that the more materials I am able to use that mimic the actual subject matter makes for the most realistic images. The cut and paste collages are appreciated but perceived as more cartoon-like. The raised-line images are good to help make more information accessible but they are just that, more information. For an aesthetic experience the clear winner is the sculpted low relief multimedia kitchen sink approach. They are fun to make too! I will be sharing this information with Colorado AER at a meeting this fall. Thanks CAER for your support.



CHECK IT OUT!



APH Offers “Field of Blindness” Resources

For the benefit of both American Printing House for the Blind (APH) employees and the general public, the APH Resource Services Department maintains Additional Resources, or links pertaining to 22 topics related to the field of blindness, as well as support on how to locate accessible media. Composed of areas of interest such as Assistive Technology, Copyright, and Free Braille Books for Children, the complete list is available online: <http://louis.aph.org/> To get to this section from APH’s homepage, at www.aph.org, click on the link to Louis at the top of the page. Then, click on Help in the middle of the blue menu bar at the top of the Louis database. At the bottom of the list on the Louis Search Help page, you will find the Additional Resources.

One of the areas worth highlighting is our Statistics page, which directs users toward 10 significant websites for finding numerical data, at both the federal and international levels. Some of the recommended sites include Cornell University’s Disability Statistics and the World Health Organization. The most recently added resource is the unpublished Bureau of Labor Statistics Monthly Disability Table Data. Containing the most up-to-date labor force, employment, and unemployment statistics for persons who are visually impaired, they upload this PDF report at the beginning of each month.

CCSS Math Listing Through Grade 12 Now Available

The American Printing is pleased to announce another update of their Common Core State Standards webpage (<http://www.aph.org/ccss/index.html>) that that list APH products aligned with CCSS mathematics. APH math products are now listed for grades K-12. The site also has links to the Common Core State Standards, the Maryland Common Core State Curriculum Framework for Braille, the five Assessment Consortia, as well as links to webinars on implementing the CCSS and other free resources.



Medicaid Bulletin: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released an information bulletin with respect to services available under the Medicaid program to children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) <http://www.medicaid.gov/Federal-Policy-Guidance/Downloads/CIB-07-07-14.pdf>

Great Resources to Support Literacy

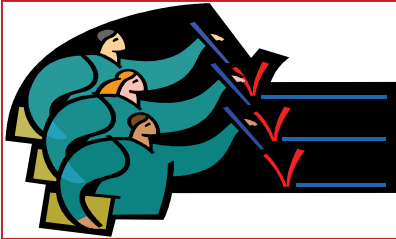
Position statement on leisure reading: http://www.reading.org/Libraries/position-statements-and-resolutions/ps1082_leisure_reading.pdf

American Association for Pediatrics statement on reading: <http://aapnews.aappublications.org/content/early/2014/06/24/aapnews.20140624-2>

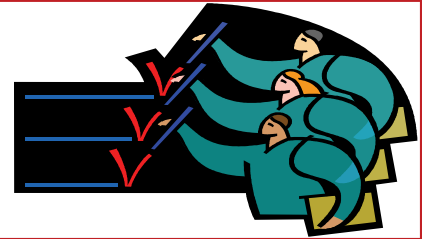
Resources for early reading materials: <http://www.reachoutandread.org>

National Library Service Kids Zone: <http://www.loc.gov/nls/children/index.html>

Sources of braille books: <http://www.perkins.org/resources/scout/literacy-and-braille/sources-of-braille-books.html>



CHECK IT OUT!



State NFB Convention

Make plans now to attend the 60th Annual State Convention of the National Federation of the Blind of Colorado, October 30-November 2, 2014. Come for the fun and comradery, stay for the education and inspiration. Bring your friends and family to Thursday night Beatlemania as NFB member Art Schreiber takes us on a journey with the Beatles during their first U.S tour. Art was one of two journalists with "a ticket to ride." The fun will continue all weekend long with informative presentations, seminars, and much more!

NOTE: Exhibitors will be demonstrating their products on Friday and Saturday. Look for information about our vendor times and location

The Blind Coloradan

The National Federation of the Blind of Colorado is pleased to announce that their newsletter "The Blind Coloradan" will now come to you via our new blog. This exciting change will allow us a 21st Century platform to provide our readers with exciting, dynamic, and timely information in a manner that is interactive and easily sharable. Comment on our posts and let us know what you think. The Blind Coloradan will now evolve into a blog Blind Coloradan theblindcoloradan.blogspot.com

Please send news people can use, notices of upcoming chapter activities, and opinion to Kevan Worley or Jessica Beecham. Email kevanworley@blindmerchants.org or jbeecham@nfbco.org. The affiliate plans to keep the blog lively and up-to-date. NFB CO also plans to add the blog to the local news channel on *NFBNewsline*.

Check out the video on the Colorado Department of Education. Go to:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/CoDeptOfEd>



COLORADO
Department of Education

Resources from the National Association of State Head Injury Administrators

Special Education and TBI: A Summary of State Definitions and Guidance for Educating Students with TBI-related

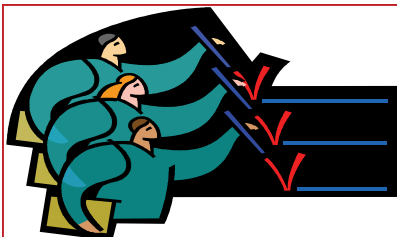
Disabilities can be found at: http://www.nashia.org/pdf/state_education_tbi_definitions_criteria.pdf

This summary includes state definitions for TBI and eligibility criteria for special education and related services.

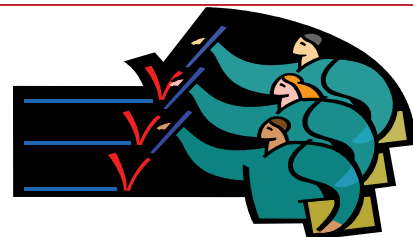
State Services for Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Their Families can be found at:

<http://www.nashia.org/pdf/state-services-2014.pdf>

This handout provides an overview of how states use various funding resources to support the delivery of TBI rehabilitation and community resources and services. Included is a color coded map to illustrate the programs which the states administer.



CHECK IT OUT!



Professional Development from Perkins School for the Blind

Check out the following professional development activities. For more information, please go to: PerkinsTrainingCenter@Perkins.org

- ✓ *Essential Assessments for Students with Visual Impairment* with Karen E. Blankenship, PhD—Starting September 29 for 8 weeks
- ✓ *Communication for Children/Students Who are Deafblind: An Overview of Methods, Assessments, and Technology* with Angel Perez—Starting August 13
- ✓ *Preparing for Transition from School to Adult Life—Starting the Process Early* with Tara Mason, PhD. Starting September 22 for 8 weeks
- ✓ *Working with Learners with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Visual Impairment (ASDVI)* with Kristine Davis, MA. - Starting October 6 for 8 weeks
- ✓ *Assistive Technology in Minutes for Students who are Blind with Multiple Disabilities* with Therese Willkomm, PhD, ATP—Starting October 6 for 8 weeks

MOSAIC: A SHOWCASE OF THE ARTS

Friday, September 5, 2014 from 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Enjoy an evening out at the Colorado Center for the Blind and help support the CCB Youth Services Programs.

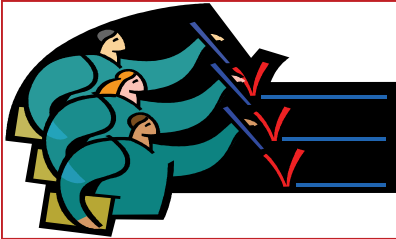
Headliner, *Café Americana*, will be performing a musical blend of jazz, bluegrass, folk and Americana music. The evening will include exhibits of students' tactile and industrial arts, an exciting live auction, a cash bar and a great selection of food from some of Littleton's best restaurants. The event will take place at the Center: 2233 West Shepperd Ave., Littleton, CO. Tickets are \$30. To purchase, contact Dan Burke: 303-778-1130, ext. 213; dburke@cocenter.org.



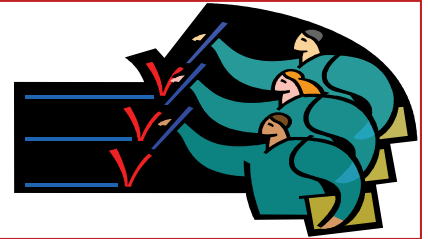
CDE Webpage on Visual Impairment, Including Blindness

Tanni maintains a webpage specific to visual impairment, including blindness on the CDE website. All TVIs are recommended to have this webpage in their list of favorites! It has a host of information including the state eligibility criteria for visual impairment, including blindness; the forms for the regional low vision clinics; the braille competency testing procedures; local/state/national resources ... and a good bunch of other stuff.

Please be sure to put this url in your browser: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/sd-vision>.



CHECK IT OUT!



THE SEE THE FUTURE FUND
Scholarships for the Blind & Visually Impaired



Education for Life for Colorado Residents

Application Deadline: March 1, 2015

\$42,000 may be awarded to six deserving recipients. In addition, two “full-ride tuition” scholarships may be awarded to visually impaired or blind students through the Kane Family Foundation. Please visit our website for criteria and information.

To apply for an “Education for Life” scholarship and to obtain more information, please go to: www.seethefuture.org and click on “Education for Life” then “Application Information”. You may also call Tom Theune, OD – Chairperson of the SEE THE FUTURE Fund at 719.471.3200.

“Tools for Life” Scholarships

Since 2007



Application Deadline: October 15, 2014

Assist in purchasing necessary and appropriate adaptive equipment to support literacy and the pursuit of higher education.

\$152,000 Awarded to over 90 Families

To apply for a “Tools for Life” scholarship and to obtain more information, please go to:

www.seethefuture.org

Click on “Tools for Life” then Click on “Application: Tools”



WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

Welcome to **Andrea Peralta**! She shares that she is privileged to be the new Program Director for the Anchor Center for Blind Children. In this role, she will be coordinating, developing and overseeing all in-center, in-home and in the community child and family centered programs. Andrea will be managing and mentoring all program staff in the Infant and Toddler, Preschool, Home Visit, Rural Outreach and Family Services Programs. She comes to the Anchor Center after being the Manager of Child and Family Programs at Rocky Mountain Human Services for over four years and the Manager of Early Intervention for the three years prior at Developmental Pathways. In addition, Andrea worked in both the mental health and developmental disabilities field in California prior to her family's move to Colorado 7 years ago. Andrea's family consists of her husband of twenty-two years Phil, her daughter Ashley, who is a Junior this year in the Honors and Leadership Program at the University of Colorado Denver, her son Shawn is a fifteen year old who has a significant intellectual developmental disability and medical special needs yet has surpassed all of the medical professionals expectations, and their three Shih Tzus.

Welcome to **Kari McIntyre**, a new TVI and COMS-in-training with Cherry Creek School District. Kari lives in Conifer, Colorado with her husband Drew. She grew up in the suburbs of Chicago, but for the past five years Colorado has been her home. She has been a special education teacher for the past 8 years, and has taught both self-contained and resource classes in intercity and rural settings. This year, she will be teaching and working as a TVI with Cherry Creek School District. Kari shared that she is excited to be part of such an amazing team and to start a new chapter in her life advocating for students with visual impairments. Kari is enrolled in the dual certification program at UNC and plans to graduate this December. Previously, she graduated from Illinois State University with a degree in Secondary English Education with a middle school endorsement in English Language Arts and Social Studies. She returned to graduate school at National Louis University to earn an endorsement in Special Education. Kari notes, "Being a special education teacher is incredibly rewarding, but I was always drawn to the students with visual impairments. While teaching in the self-contained setting, I have worked with students with multiple disabilities, which included visual impairments. My younger sister also has Stargardt's Disease, and she continues to inspire me daily." We are so happy to have Kari on board with our community of TVIs and COMSs.

We also want to welcome **Chris Cockrill** to his new position as School for the Blind Principal at CSDB and **Lori Mattick** in her role as a Transition Teacher with CSDB's Employability Center.

TVIs in New Places

Congratulations to the following TVIs who are now working in new Colorado districts! **Marty Rahn** is working for CSDB as the Daily Living Skills teacher. **Grace Katolas** is working in Brighton School District. **Janet Anderson** is still in Aurora School District, but is back as a TVI/COMS. **Abby Beaton** continues to work for Centennial BOCES and will also be working for Fort Lupton, Fort Morgan, and Weld County RE-3J (Hudson and Keenesburg). **Kaitlin Lombardi** will be working in Adams 14 and Adams 50.



colorado connections

- ☞ We have three marriages to celebrate! Happy belated marriage best wishes to **Lorraine (Estrada)** and **Nick Chevarria** who were married April 25, 2014! Congratulations to **Teresa (Barone)** and **Timothy O'Brien** on their marriage on June 7th. The happy couple met almost five years ago at Hollowell Park in the Rocky Mountain National Park. It turns out they lived 30 minutes from one another in Chicago, yet they met here in Colorado! More wedding congratulations to **Robin (Theryoung)** and **Nathaniel Tueting** on their July 5th wedding in Colorado Springs.

- ☞ There were several TVIs who attended the June 9 and 10 SWAAAC Conference and one got an award! In attendance: **Tanni Anthony, Amber Rundle Kahn, Tara Mason, Judy Mumford,** and **Chloann Woolley** attended and the *Service with a Smile Award* was given to our very own **Chloann Woolley** for all of her tireless work (with a smile!) in UTE BOCES specific to ensuring that students have appropriate assistive technology. Congrats to Chloann!

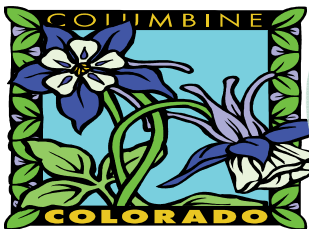
- ☞ The June 2014 Summer Institute on Deaf-Blindness was well attended by several CO TVIs! **Tanni Anthony, Sally Burch, Mary Chambers, Amber Rundle Kahn, Amy Gunning, Judy Mumford, Marci Reid, Wendy Schlageter, Angela Sims, Wendy Stoltman,** and **Chloann Woolley**

- ☞ Congratulations to **Ashley Ives** and **Meghan Crosby** for earning their CDE Certificates of Braille Competency. Thanks to proctor **Sarah Sonnier** for her work on the Western Slope.

- ☞ We say “thank you and farewell” to **Pam Edinger**, who most recently has been a TVI with Adams 14. Pam has retired, but is still interested in contract work and maybe a writing project! Also farewell to **Julie King**, formerly with Brighton School District.

- ☞ Congrats to **Tara Mason**, who has a new job. Tara writes, “I am excited to pass on that I was offered a position with St Vrain Valley School District. I will be working as their lead assistive technology and written language program specialist. I will continue keeping up with all things iPads and visual impairment, so please get in touch with news to share or questions. Lastly, I have a couple projects that will continue with Perkins School for the Blind regarding the Math CCSS and transition for students who are visually impaired. Please get in touch if you would like to share your math expertise. Check out our web-resource: www.perkinselearning.org/ccss.”

- ☞ Hat's Off to **Dr. Kay Ferrell** for receiving the Warren C. Bledsoe Award for her book *Reach Out and Teach!* at the 2014 AER International AER Conference. Thanks to all the Colorado people who attended and many who presented at the AER Conference this summer in San Antonio.



colorado connections

The SEE THE FUTURE Fund 2014 “Education for Life” Recipients

Congratulations to the following three recipients of the 2014 Education for Life scholarships! We are so proud of these graduates!

Ms. Quinita Thomas

High School: Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind in Colorado Springs

Award: \$10,000 over 8 semester & the \$1,000 Ashley Fritz “Humanitarian” Memorial Scholarship.

Will Attend: CU – Colorado Springs with a stated major in Spanish

Ms. Hannah Finklea

High School: Home-schooled

Amount Awarded: \$8,000 over 8 semesters

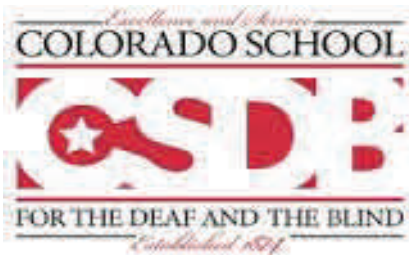
Will Attend: UC – Colorado Springs with a state major in Philosophy & History

Ms. Ashley Dale

High School: Mountain View in Loveland

Amount Awarded: \$4,000 over 4 semesters

Will Attend: Front Range Community College with a state major in Criminal Justice



CSDB BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The CSDB Board of Trustees for the 2014-2015 school year are: Nancy Brown, Michelle Butler, David Dawson, Chris Madison, Andy McElhany, Walter Von Feldt and Linda Williams. Their scheduled meetings are September 11, October 9, and November 13, 2014. January 8, February 12, March 12, April 9 and June 11, 2015. For more information, please contact Jacky Skinner: jskinner@csdb.org or (719) 578-2102

A special thank you to past CSDB Board of Trustee’s Dr. Carolena Steen, Dr. Kay Ferrell, and John Dickson for their past years of services.



colorado connections

National Federation of the Blind Names Michelle Chacon

2014 Blind Educator of the Year

Orlando, Florida (July 3, 2014): The National Federation of the Blind (NFB) has named Michelle Chacon, a teacher of blind students in Colorado, as its 2014 Blind Educator of the Year. Ms. Chacon was presented with the award at the NFB's seventy-fourth annual national convention, held at the Rosen Centre in Orlando, Florida.

Ms. Chacon began working with blind people in 1997 as a home management instructor at the Colorado Center for the Blind. In the summer of 1998, she directed the center's Confidence Camp for Kids, a program targeted to blind children ages four through ten. She balanced all of these duties with raising her four children and providing advice to other blind parents. Ms. Chacon went to Albuquerque, New Mexico, to receive her master's degree in teaching blind children and worked in the Albuquerque public schools. She returned to Colorado in 2008 and earned a second degree in orientation and mobility from the University of Northern Colorado. In addition to her daily teaching duties as an itinerant teacher of blind students in Arvada, Colorado, Ms. Chacon spends evenings and weekends with her students, teaching them independent living skills such as cooking and cleaning or taking them on field trips to work on orientation and mobility skills. She is also active in the National Federation of the Blind, serving as president of the North Metro chapter of the NFB of Colorado and as a co-coordinator of the NFB of Colorado's Braille Enrichment for Literacy and Learning (BELL) programs.

Dr. Marc Maurer, President of the National Foundation for the Blind, said: "Ms. Chacon's exceptional work in the education field is proof of our conviction that blind people can compete on terms of equality. She has dedicated herself to educating blind students, providing much-needed instruction and also serving as a role model and mentor for her students, who are likely not often exposed to competent and successful blind people.

She is also an outstanding mentor for blind parents. The National Federation of the Blind commends Ms. Chacon for her outstanding professional accomplishments as well as her commitment to helping all blind people live the lives they want."

The Blind Educator of the Year Award carries with it a \$1,000 prize. While in Orlando, Ms. Chacon addressed several hundred people and have an opportunity to share the experiences and insights that she has gained from being a blind educator.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MICHELLE! WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!

Who Ya Gonna Call? SCHOOL YEAR 2014-2015

Tanni Anthony at (303) 866-6681 or anthony_t@cde.state.co.us

- Braille Competency Testing/Braille Certification Renewal / UEB Training
- CDE web pages on Blindness/Low Vision, Deafblindness, and O&M
- CDE Initiatives specific to State Assessments, Standards, READ Act, School Readiness Act, etc.
- CDE TVI and COMS listserv
- CO Services for Children and Youth w/ Combined Vision & Hearing Loss Project
- Eligibility of Learners with Visual Impairment, Including Blindness or Deaf-Blindness
- IEPs, Learning Media Assessments and LMA Plans, instructional accommodations
- Job Clearinghouse – TVI and O&M Specialist positions within Colorado
- Licensure and Highly Qualified Status of TVIs and COMSs
- Mult Tiered Support / READ ACT for students with BVI or deafblindness
- NIMAS and NIMAC procedures within Colorado
- Policy / Guidance documents pertaining to learners with BVI and/or DB
- State Conference on Blindness/Visual Impairment / Annual O&M Conference
- Keeping in Touch (KIT) newsletter
- Vision Coalition
- Visual Impairment Webpage —<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/sd-vision>

Alice Applebaum at (303) 337-9732 or applebaum@anchorcenter.org

- Anchor Center for Blind Children Director

Brent Batron at (303) 778-1130 x222 or bbatron@cocenter.org

- Colorado Center for the Blind Youth Programs

Dinah Beams at (720) 413-7567 or dbeams@csdb.org

- CSDB Colorado Home Intervention Program (0-3 children with DHH or DB)

Deb Branch at (719) 578-2168 or dbranch@csdb.org

- CSDB Distance Learning Coordinator
- CSDB Strategic Plan, Outreach Facilitator

Chris Cockrill at (719) 578-2200 or ccockrill@csdb.org

- CSDB School for the Blind Principal

Colorado Instructional Materials Center (CIMC) at (719) 578-2196

- CIMC webpage: www.csdb.org; click on “Programs and Services”, then “CIMC”
- CIMC Email Accounts:
- “APH order form” submissions & questions: cimcaphorders@csdb.org
- braille & large print book sourcing inquiries, questions & orders: cimcbookorders@csdb.org
- “braille request” & “braille repair” form submissions & questions: cimcbrailleurs@csdb.org
- (719) 578-2195, Jim Olson (Coordinator) jolson@csdb.org
- (719) 578-2196, general CIMC phone line (rings all CIMC computer-based phones simultaneously)
- (719) 578-2197, Debbie Haberkorn, dhaberkorn@csdb.org (braille transcriber)
- (719) 578-2198, Laurie Taylor, ltaylor@csdb.org (shipping & receiving related questions)
- (719) 578-2199, Marla Wallace Raynor, mwallace@csdb.org (Count 1: CDE Registration and Count 2, APH Federal Quota)
- (719) 578-2207, CIMC FAX
- Mailing Address: CIMC, 1015 East High Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3559

Paula Conroy at (970) 351-1651 or paula.conroy@unco.edu

- UNC’s Teacher Training Program on Visual Impairment
- UNC Representative at Vision Coalition meetings

Diane Covington at (719) 578-2225 or dcovington@csdb.org

- CSDB School and Community Liaison
- Braille Challenge
- Family Learning Retreat

Nancy Cozart at (303) 734-3090 or nCozart@lps.k12.co.us

- Metro TVI/COMS representative at Vision Coalition meetings

Mark Davis at (866) 860-0972 or info@forseightskiquides.org

- Foresight Ski Guides

Julie Deden at (303) 778-1130 or jdeden@cocenter.org

- Colorado Center for the Blind

David Dawson at (303) 786-7777 x 101 or ainc@aincolorao.org

- Audio Information Network of Colorado

LaVerne Dell at (303) 866-3562 or Laverne.DELL@state.co.us

- Colorado Rehabilitation Services representative at Vision Coalition meetings



Laura Douglas at (719) 578-2110 or ldouglas@csdb.org

- CSDB Outreach Services (DHH and BVI)
- Close-Up
- BVI Adult Role Model Team
- Regional Student Activity Mini-Grants
- Touch Museum
- Assessment (functional vision, low vision, O&M)
- Contracts for TVI's/COMS Services
- Role Model Team



Family Literacy Packs at familylitpacks@csdb.org

- Request CSDB Family Literacy Packs

Barb Galgano at (303) 349-7661 or bgalgano@cherrycreekschools.org

- CAER representative on Vision Coalition

David Gooldy at (720) 554-3037 or dgooldy@cherrycreekschools.org

- CO Chapter of AER President

Donice Fennimore at (719) 290-6441 or dfennimore@ppbooces.org

- Site Coordinator of the Southern Low Vision Evaluation Clinic
- Southern Region TVI Meeting Coordinator

Debbie Haberkorn at (719) 578-2197 or dhaberkorn@csdb.org

- Statewide Low Vision Clinic Coordinator

Lucia Hasty at (719) 339-2935 or Lucia@TactileGraphics.org

- Colorado Braille Test Proctor and Renewal Modules Proctor

Karin Hensel at (720) 917-9838 or khensel@csdb.org

- CSDB Itinerant TVI/COMS/CLVT serving the Denver Metro area
- CSDB Strategic Plan, Outreach Facilitator
- Metro area student activities for students who are blind/visually impaired
- CSDB Outreach Representative at Vision Coalition Meetings

Carol Hilty at (719) 578-2102 or chilty@csdb.org

- CSDB Superintendent
- CSDB Intern Placement

Donna Keale at (719) 578-2251 or dkeale@csdb.org

- CSDB Summer Enrichment Program
- Sports Camp

Jeannie Lei at (720) 810-1363 or jlei@cherrycreekschools.org

- Metro TVI Regional Meetings

Debbie Macleod at (303) 727-9277 or Macleod_d@cde.state.co.us

- Colorado Talking Book Library

Judy Mumford at (719) 719 234-1360 or judy.mumford@asd20.org

- Southern TVI/COMS Region Representative at Vision Coalition Meetings

Terrie Noland at (325) 260-3911 or tnoland@learningally.org

- Learning Ally – authorized CO NIMAS file user

Teresa O'Brien at (970) 613-5564 or teresa.obrien@thompsonschoools.org

- Northern Region TVI Meetings

Jim Olson at (719) 578-2195 or jolson@csdb.org

- CIMC registration of Colorado students who are blind/visually impaired 9 (year round)
- Annual Federal Quota Program (first Monday in January) registration
- Ex Officio Trustee for the Colorado Department of Education Federal Quota Accounts
- CIMC Braille Book Orders and APH Loan Materials—authorized CO NIMAS file user
- CIMC National Braille Association Conference stipend Scholarships for Brailleists
- Braille Transcribers Mentoring Project
- CIMC Professional Lending Library

Andrea Peralta at (303) 377-9732 x112 or aperalta@anchorcenter.org

- Anchor Center for the Blind Program Coordinator

Gina Quintana at (303) 866-6605 or quintana_g@cde.state.co.us

- Colorado Services for Children and Youth with Combined Vision and Hearing Loss Project

Mimi Schaper at (720) 519-8026 or mschaper2@cherrycreekschools.org

- Metro TVI Regional Meetings



Brenda Shepard at (303) 995 7913 or Brendashep@comcast.net

- Colorado Braille Test Proctor and Renewal Modules Proctor

Angela Sims at (970) 254-5414 or sims@mesa.k12.co.us

- Site Co-Coordinator for Western Region Low Vision Evaluation Clinic
- Western Slope TVI/COMS Representative at Vision Coalition meetings

Matt Simpson at (719) 866-3019 or misimposn@usaba.org

- USABA Membership and Outreach Coordinator

Jacky Skinner at (719) 578-2102 or jskinner@csdb.org

- Executive Assistant to the CSDB Superintendent
- CSDB Board of Trustees' meetings

Joyce Smith at (719) 327-4076 or jsmith@csdb.org

- CSDB Media Specialist

Sarah Sonnier at (970) 254-5414 or ssonnier@mesa.k12.co.us

- Site Co-Coordinator for Western Region Low Vision Evaluation Clinic
- Colorado Braille Test Proctor and Renewal Modules Proctor

Sarah Bickford Vallese at (303) 377-9732 (ext. 126) or sarah@anchorcenter.org

- Anchor Center for Blind Children representative at Vision Coalition meetings

Jon Vigne at (719) 578-2177 or jvigne@csdb.org

- CSDB Director of Special Education
- Questions about CSDB and Enrollment

Julie Wetzstein at (303) 216-6124 or jwetzste@jeffco.k12.co.us

- Colorado Braille Test Proctor and Renewal Modules Proctor

Rebecca Warnell at (303) 343-3664 or rewarnell@aps.k12.co.us

- Metro Low Vision Evaluation Site Coordinator

Dale Wolf at (719) 578-2245 or [dewolf@csdb.org](mailto:dwolf@csdb.org)

- Technology Loan Bank

State of Colorado Department of Education

Colorado State Board of Education

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COLORADO
Department of Education

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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25-43E-3401

MAIL TO: