TIME DATED INFORMATION

The deadline for school districts to submit book orders to the Colorado Instructional Materials Center (CIMC) for textbooks and novels in braille and large print format is **May 1, 2014.** Orders submitted after May 2nd are not guaranteed to be filled during the 2014-15 school year. Please check with your AU's teacher certified in the area of visual impairment to ensure that all needed books have been ordered. The TVI may be in need of assistance in working with general education personnel to identify the identified textbooks for the next school year. If there are any questions about ordering novels or textbooks for school year 2014-15, please talk to Jim Olson at jolson@csdb.org or (719) 578-2195 or Tanni Anthony at Anthony_t@cde.state.co.us or (303) 866-6681.

SUMMER TRAINING

2014 Summer Institute on Deafblindness and Significant Support Needs will focus on a Level 2 (advanced) training on *Literacy for Students with Significant Support Need*s. Colorado is very fortunate to have the resources to once again bring Dr. Karen Erickson and Dr. Penny Hatch from the Center for Literacy and Disability Studies back to Colorado. The dates training will be June 16-20, 2014/ There will be two 2.5-day sessions of which participants can pick one session. Each session will be the same content. The first session is Monday - Wed noon and the second session is Wed starting at 1:00 p.m. and going all the way through Friday afternoon. For more information, contact Tanni Anthony at Anthony_t@cde.state.co.us or (303) 866-6681.

The Preschool Special Education Team is delighted to announce the availability of Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge funds to support personnel and agencies serving children birth to age 5 with disabilities. Available funds target eligible applicants enrolled in, or recently graduated from, higher education, licensure and certification programs in disciplines with known shortages and in geographic areas in which employers are unable to recruit or retain appropriately endorsed early intervention and preschool special education personnel. Grantees can use funds for one of three allowable purposes: 1) Scholarships for tuition, 2) Loan Repayment, 3) Recruitment and Retention Programs. Attached is a PDF copy of the Request for Proposal.

Applications are **due** by Thursday, May 22nd, 2014 at 4 p.m. An (optional) application webinar will be held Wednesday, April 23rd, 2014 from 10 – 11:00 a.m.

Plan for your district to participate in the *Differentiating English Language Arts and Mathematics Instructional Shifts for Students with a Disability* blended learning project beginning this Fall. CDE will be accepting **applications** from K-12 school teams in **August, 2014** to participate in a collaborative project which is intended to increase the academic achievement of students with a disability by **enhancing the knowledge of** and **application of standards-based differentiated instruction and Colorado Academic Standards instructional shifts** by general and special education teachers. See the CDE special education website for more information.

Please join this live webinar session for an overview of the Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment system and the implications for instruction. Administrators and teachers of students who have a significant cognitive disability, receive instruction on alternate standards and take alternate assessment are invited. Gina Quintana and Linda Lamirande from the Exceptional Student Services Unit will host the session on April 30, 3:30-4:30 PM. To register: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DLM_KickOff_Webinar

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SAVE THE DATE! September 25, 2014
The Exceptional Student Services Unit is pleased to host
Special Education and Common Core – Tools for Success
presented by Mary Schillinger and Rebecca Wetzel

Common Core aligned instructional shifts represent new challenges and opportunities for students receiving special education services. Two nationally recognized special education practitioners, and authors of the new publication; Common Core and the Special Education Student: Your Guide to Instructional Shifts and Implementing Services and Supports, will present strategies and guidelines for success in a full day interactive training here in the Denver Metro area on September 25, 2014. This Fall kick-off event will provide an overview of the instructional shifts and support structures for special education students, as well as specific strategies, checklists, sample common core aligned IEP goals, and more! Breakout sessions in the afternoon will address specific guidelines unique to the challenges for administrators and teachers. You will leave this workshop filled with information about instructional shifts in English Language Arts and Mathematics; ready-to-use ideas and strategies; and CDE will provide one copy of the book for each district.
Consider assembling your school team, consisting of an administrator, general and special education teacher to attend. Registration will be announced in the SCOOP the first week of August.

RECRUITMENT ASSISTANCE

If you are in need of assistance to advertise for related service and sensory-disability specific special education personnel for the 2014-15 school year, please be in touch with the following ESSU personnel to assist you:

Tanni Anthony – anthony_t@cde.state.co.us (teachers of students with visual impairments (TVI) and certified Orientation and Mobility Specialists (COMS)

Barb Bieber – bieber_b@cde.state.co.us (school psychologists)

Tami Cassel – cassel_t@cde.state.co.us (speech language therapists)

Jayne Dougherty - Dougherty_j@cde.state.co.us (OTs, PTs, and adapted physical education teachers)

Ruth Mathers – mathers_r@cde.state.co.us (teachers of the Deaf, audiologists, and educational interpreters)