

BUREAU OF EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES

JULY 29, 2016

Weekly Memo

Action Items

ABLE United

ABLE United was established to encourage and assist people with disabilities to save private funds to support health, independence and quality of life. As Florida's qualified ABLE program, ABLE United allows for the creation of savings and investment accounts for individuals with disabilities without negatively impacting federal benefits. Like a Roth IRA or a 529 college savings plan, an ABLE United account is a tax-free savings account that provides the opportunity for individuals to save up to \$14,000 per year with the help of family and friends. A webinar will be held **August 4, 2016**, at 2:00 p.m. Please share the registration link with anyone you feel may be interested. For more information and to register for the webinar, go to <u>ABLE United webinar</u>.

Grant Opportunity

RESPECT of Florida, a nonprofit agency charged with helping employ Floridians with disabilities, has funds available to assist a person with a disability in starting or improving their own business. Preference will be given to proposals that contribute to value added (labor provided directly from an individual with a disability) to a current RESPECT product or service that is outsourced. The deadline for proposal submission is **August 19, 2016**, at 5:00 p.m. Please share the link for RESPECT Certified Employment Centers with anyone you feel may be interested. To view information about current RESPECT Certified Employment Centers, go to http://www.respectofflorida.org/category/331/Partners.html.

2016 Digital Classrooms Plan (DCP)

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) has issued the following memorandum regarding DCPs. According to section 1011.62(12)(b), Florida Statutes, district DCPs are due to FDOE for approval by **October 1, 2016**. The memorandum may be viewed at http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-7692/dps-2016-107.pdf (Memo),

http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-7692/dps-2016-107.pdf (Memo), http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-7693/dps-2016-107a.pdf (Attachment A), http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-7694/dps-2016-107b.pdf (Attachment B), http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-7695/dps-2016-107c.pdf (Attachment C) and http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-7696/dps-2016-107d.pdf (Attachment D).

Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! 2017

The FDOE has issued the following memorandum regarding Literacy Week, Florida! 2017. The deadline for schools and students to submit their literacy-civics-based projects is **December 12, 2016**. The deadline to submit your Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! 2017

plan is by **January 15, 2017**. The memorandum may be viewed at http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-7687/dps-2016-103.pdf (Memo), http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-7688/dps-2016-103a.pdf (Attachment B), http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-7690/dps-2016-103c.pdf (Attachment C) and http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-7691/dps-2016-103d.pdf (Attachment D).

Informational Items

Emergency Guidelines for Florida Schools

The Florida Department of Health's (DOH) School Health Program has updated the Emergency Guidelines for Schools 2016 Florida Edition. The new edition includes flowcharts to guide the care for students in emergency situations when the school nurse is not on campus and provides valuable information about infection control, emergency planning for students with special needs, injury reporting, school safety and emergency preparedness. Additional copies may be downloaded and printed directly from the DOH School Health web site. To view the new guidelines, go to http://www.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/childrens-health/school-health/reports-information.html.

Guidance for Students with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)

The U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights issued guidance clarifying the obligation of schools to provide students with ADHD with equal educational opportunity under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. This guidance provides a broad overview of Section 504 and school districts' obligations to provide educational services to students with disabilities, including students with ADHD. The department also released a Know Your Rights document, which provides a brief overview of schools' obligations to students with ADHD. To view the guidance, go to http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/letters/colleague-201607-504-adhd.pdf and to view the Know Your Rights document, go to http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/dcl-know-rights-201607-504.pdf.

Release of the 2014-15 Elementary and Secondary Education Act School Public Accountability Reports

The FDOE has issued the following memorandum regarding these reports. The memorandum may be viewed at http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-7683/dps-2016-112.pdf.

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