

MNDEC Newsletter <http://www.mndec.org/>

Minnesota Division of Early Childhood

Inside this issue:

	page		
President's message	1	<u>MNDEC SPRING Convention 2015 Award Recipients</u>	3
<u>State Updates</u>	2	<u>Article Summary</u> <u>DEC Position Statement March 2015</u>	3
<u>Higher Education</u>	2	<u>Resources</u>	4
		<u>Professional Organizations</u>	4



June 8, 2015
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President's message

Aaron Deris, MN DEC President

Can you believe it is the end of yet another school year!?!? It is amazing how quickly time goes by. I do hope that you were able to accomplish all that you set out to do and remember, there is still some time left in the school year, so there is still time to meet some of those goals.

Your local board for MN DEC has had another successful year. A few of our many accomplishments have included-

1. Making our board meetings more accessible to individuals from outside the metro area
2. Providing quality conferences- we organized with MN Department of education the annual fall leadership conference and with much board support with the leadership of Chris Hansen and Louise Rath had another successful spring practitioner conference.
3. Continued to provide an outlet to school districts to post job openings on our website
4. Continued presence at MDE forums with coffee and pastries being provided
5. Continued presence at Summer Institute with the wine reception for members

Cast your votes by June 11, 2015 This year we are looking for individuals for the following positions on the board:

President Elect (1 year term and then moves to President – 1 year, and then immediate past president- 1 year)
Treasurer (2 year term)
Member at Large (up to 4 individuals)

A heads up to mark your calendars-

Annual Fall Leadership Conference will be- September 30 – October 2, 2015
Spring Practitioner Conference- tentative dates- March 10 – 11, 2016

Information from National-Mark your calendars-

National DEC Conference in Atlanta, Georgia- October 7 – 9, 2015.

It has been an honor to serve as your state President for MN DEC. I look forward to all that great things that will be accomplished under our new President, Judy Beaton.

Sincerely,

Aaron R. Deris, MN DEC President

State Update

Carol Maliszewski , ECSE Education Specialist MDE/Office of Early Learning

MNDEC State Updates June 2015



First Annual Mindful Leadership Session at the 2015 Summer Institute.
Selected members of the first Mindful Leadership cohort will:

- Learn a working definition for mindfulness and mindful leadership practice
- Develop a personal approach to mindfulness and Just in Time Learning
- Learn several evidence-based theories in action for leaders
- Develop new theories in action for leadership practice
- Learn new strategies for leadership development and leading change in communities

ECTA Webinars to support the Inclusion of Young Children with Disabilities.

<http://www.ectacenter.org/~calls/2014/inclusion/inclusion.asp>

The US Department of Health and Human Services and the US Department of Education official debut a draft policy statement on Inclusion on May 2015.

<http://fpg.unc.edu/news/federal-officials-debut-draft-policy-statement-fpgs-inclusion-institute>

Higher Education

Kellie Krick Oborn- St Thomas University, MN DEC board member

Aaron Deris, MN DEC President-Minnesota State University, Mankato at Edina

It is that time of year again, Minnesota Early Intervention Summer Institute at St. John's University is fast approaching; June 11-12, 2015. By now those that are going should be getting quite excited about the learning that will occur. As in past years, information after the institute will be available on the Center for Early Education and Development website

<http://www.cehd.umn.edu/ceed/events/summerinstitute/pastinstitutes.html>

Did you know that nearly 40% of licensed ECSE teachers in MN are over the age of 50 and quickly approaching retirement? YIKES! Sixty is the average age of retirement in MN. That coupled with continued projected enrollment increases in ECSE, districts can expected to continue to experience challenges associated with teacher shortages.

The good news is, many of you come in contact with dedicated and skilled educators, paraeducators, interpreters, family members, and other community partners every day, who would make exceptional ECSE teachers! Help us keep the field growing and thriving by encouraging others to consider a career in ECSE. Please consider sharing this link, which provides an overview of all the ECSE licensure programs in the state:

<https://sites.google.com/a/umn.edu/mn-ecse-programs/home/overview-of-all-ecse-programs>

Wishing you a safe and restful summer.

Aaron and Kellie

MN DEC Spring 2015 Practitioners' Conference: Award Recipients

Judy Beaton- President Elect (Eden Prairie Public Schools)

Two awards were presented at the Spring 2015 MN DEC Practitioners' Conference. Please join us in congratulating the MN DEC Award winners!

Recipient of MN DEC Practitioner of the Year Award:

Lori Ptak, Speech/Language Pathologist with Roseville Area Schools, was awarded the 2015 MN DEC Practitioner of the Year Award. Lori holds licenses in both speech/language pathology and early childhood special education. Lori has been a partner in education with her team and instrumental in designing instructional space using the Zones of Regulation and Routines Based Intervention in the classroom setting. Lori's contributions and leadership in the Roseville ECSE program were acknowledged.

Recipient of MN DEC Leader of the Year Award:

Donna Marget, Special Services Coordinator with Wayzata Public Schools, was awarded the 2015 MN DEC Leader of the Year Award. Many leadership strengths were highlighted in her nomination. Donna's strong and supportive leadership style was an asset to the Wayzata ECSE program. She was commended for being a champion for children and families in the area of early childhood mental health. Donna's positive collaboration with others and infectious sense of humor had a lasting impact on her team.

Article Summary

Liz Barnett, MA, CCC-SLP, MN DEC newsletter editor, website manager

It often feels as though there is not enough time during the school year to read the high quality DEC resources available to members. I suggest scanning the contents and reading the abstracts to find something that sparks your interest and is pertinent to your present situation. Often, it is rewarding and surprising as you find articles that validate your current practices or describe the rationale for your work while referring to supporting research. I find myself thinking "I could try that", "Oh, good. That's something I do", "I didn't know that" or "I have to tell my team about this". I hope you will find some time to read and rejuvenate this summer.

The December 2014 *Journal of Early Intervention*, Volume 36 Number 4, is a special issue on the Center for Response to Intervention in Early Childhood (CRTIEC). The last article, *Development of a Tier 3 Curriculum to Teach Early Literacy Skills* (Kaminski, Powell-Smith, Hommel, McMahon and Bravo Aguayo, p. 313) is interesting in its description of the development of a Tier 3 intervention called RRELI (Reading Ready Early Literacy Intervention). The authors describe the diversity of students requiring Tier 3 intervention (e.g. ELL learners and learners on IEPs), rationale for development of their specific intervention, implementation challenges in Early Childhood environments, modifications to their original plans, and moderate to strong effect sizes. An appendix describes an RRELI lesson sequence and encouragement/guidance strategies for individualization. They aimed to meet guidelines of the acronym **BRIEF** (Brief, Reading-related, Intense, Integrated, Engaging, and Focused <http://www.crtiec.dept.ku.edu/research-agenda/focused-program-of-research-aims/develop-new-promising-instructional-interventions-for-tier-3/>). Observations regarding challenging behaviors, assessment fatigue, "getting stuck", intervention target choice, intensity of instruction, repetitions based on individual need and environment challenges are of interest to Early Childhood providers.

The Latest Position Statement from DEC, March 2015

Position statements are formal expressions of the Division for Early Childhood that have been developed with input and reviewed by members and approved by the Executive Board. These statements address a specific topic or issue and represent the official position of the organization.

[Leadership in Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education](#)

[http://dec.membershipsoftware.org/files/Position%20Statement%20and%20Papers/LdrshpPositionStatement_final_Mar%202015%20\(1\)\(1\).pdf](http://dec.membershipsoftware.org/files/Position%20Statement%20and%20Papers/LdrshpPositionStatement_final_Mar%202015%20(1)(1).pdf)

News and Events

Summer Institute 2015

June 11-12, 2015

Annual Fall Leadership Conference

September 30 – October 2, 2015

National DEC Conference (Atlanta, Georgia)

October 7 – 9, 2015

Spring Practitioner Conference tentative dates

March 10 – 11, 2016

Do you have an ECSE question?

The Minnesota Department of Education Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) leadership team has a general email address that can be used to submit any ECSE question, birth to five. The emails will be answered in a timely manner by members of this team. Email questions to: mde.ecse@state.mn.us

Resources

Looking for a job in ECSE? www.mndec.org http://mndec.org/Job_Postings.html

Prospective Employer? Complete the document to post on MN DEC's website:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1XPHA15yLJWaLeTMKe5TZmLkgerQFLTr1Asx-s3wSipM/viewform>

Minnesota Centers of Excellence has a very well developed website. www.mncoe.org

Minnesota Parents Know <http://parentsknow.state.mn.us/parentsknow/index.html> Provides trusted parenting information, resources, and activities to help your children grow, develop, and learn from birth through high school. Links, podcasts, videos, newsletters, and how-to-connect to programs for parents of children of all ages and abilities are available. Many materials are translated or presented in additional languages.

National Implementation Research Network (NIRN) NIRN's mission is to "contribute to best practices and science of implementation, organization change, and system reinvention to improve outcomes across the spectrum of human services". <http://nirn.fpg.unc.edu/> Go to their website and you will find a resource titled Implementation Drivers: Assessing Best Practices.

PACER's Early Childhood website <http://www.pacer.org/ec/>

Help Me Grow <http://www.helpmegrowmn.org/> An interagency initiative of the State of Minnesota (Department of Education, Department of Health and Department of Human Services) partnering with all local service agencies.

Head Start Center for Inclusion <http://depts.washington.edu/hscenter/>

Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Intervention for Young Children (TACSEI)

<http://www.challengingbehavior.org/>

Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL) <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/csefel/>

Technical Assistance Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Effective School-wide Interventions and Supports <http://www.pbis.org/>

Minnesota ECSE Licensure Programs <https://sites.google.com/a/umn.edu/mn-ecse-programs/>

Professional Organizations

The Division for Early Childhood (DEC) <http://www.dec-sped.org>

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) <http://www.cec.sped.org>

The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) <http://www.naeyc.org>

Please do not forget to follow us:

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Minnesota-DEC/132315643458975?v=wall>

Twitter https://twitter.com/mndec_info

MNDEC is Minnesota's Chapter of The Division For Early Childhood

