



J.E.S.S.E. Newsletter

March 2017



Specialty Designed Instruction (SDI)

As everyone knows by now (hopefully), the Goals section– “Needs” textbox has been renamed to “Specialty Designed Instruction.” The purpose of this field is to offer a place for teachers and committee members (including parents) to identify in general terms the instruction this student needs in order to make progress academically and functionally. In general, SDI is adapting content, methods, or instructional delivery to address the unique needs of a student. (*Article 7-32-88*)



A “compliant” Specialty Designed Instruction (SDI) response would describe the instruction provided to a student through special education. SDI is what makes special education “special.” It is *instruction* intended to close the academic performance gap between an individual student with disabilities and his/her general education peers. The Annual Goal then measures the effectiveness of this specialized instruction.

Professional Development Opportunities

- [I Hate to Write! Helping Reluctant Writers Increase Academic Achievement and Improve Behavior](#) (March 23)
- [Developing Behavior Intervention Plans](#) (April 12)
- [TEACCH \(Structured Teaching for Autism\) 5 Day Training](#) (June 12-16)



Autism Awareness Carnival - April 15th (12:00-5:00pm) @ Plymouth High School

Flyers were sent out to all elementary schools within the JESSE cooperative. See attachment (flyer) for additional details.



Summer Camps for Students with Disabilities. For more info...

Meet the Staff - Karen Oberly

Karen Oberly has served 17 years as the Hearing Impairment consultant with the JESSE Central Office. Prior to that, Karen began her career as a Hearing Impairment teacher in Gary, Indiana and then moved on to North Dakota where she taught three years. Karen then returned to Indiana where she taught at Argos and Oregon-Davis as the JESSE Hearing Impairment Teacher. Upon having her own children and stay at home for several years, Karen returned to teaching in 2001 when she joined the JESSE Central Office at the Hearing Impairment consultant working across across the nine partnership school corporations.