



J.E.S.S.E. Newsletter

September 2016

New & Improved JESSE Website

Over this past summer, the JESSE website was overhauled and drastically improved. The website is much more user-friendly for educators and parents/families. More additions and improvements will eventually be added throughout this school year including Early Childhood/Preschool, Indiana IEP supports, and additional resources for various topics in special education. www.jesse.k12.in.us



“Meet the JESSE Staff” – Kathy Lynch & Louise Buza

Kathy Lynch (left) has been with JESSE for 17 years serving as the Referral Compliance Monitor. Beginning this year, Kathy’s role has evolved. She is now the IEP and Referral Compliance Monitor for the following school corporations: Plymouth, Argos, Culver, and Triton.

Louise Buza (right) has been with JESSE for 11 years serving as the Early Childhood/Preschool Coordinator Assistant, as well as the Indiana IEP Advisor. Beginning this year, Louise’s role has also evolved. Along with Kathy, Louise is now an IEP and Referral Compliance Monitor. She monitors the following corporations: Union-North, John Glenn, Oregon-Davis, Knox, and North Judson-San Pierre.

Both Kathy and Louise play a major role in the JESSE Central Office. Every single student IEP and/or Educational Evaluation Referral comes across their desk for compliance monitoring. These ladies enter data to the State, generate reports, and truly do a phenomenal job of keeping all of our schools within JESSE compliant with all the paperwork they receive.

Adding ‘Related Services’

When looking to add a Related Service to a student’s IEP, such as OT, PT, or School-based Therapy, be sure to consult with those service providers prior any case conference or any decisions. We have created a new OT/PT Referral Form and Procedures, which can be found on the JESSE website under the Teachers/Staff tab (see Forms). As for School-based Therapy, please consult with your School-based Therapist, Connie Erickson-Loucks or Tim Goode, when considering this Related Service. It’s important to remember that a student’s provisions (services/supports) should match their disability and needs. For example, if a student has a Specific Learning Disability for Reading Comprehension, School-based Therapy would not really align with their educational needs. The student may have some behavioral issues, but that’s not why they qualified for special education services. If the behavior is becoming more of an issue, interventions and possible reevaluation may be warranted. School counselors or outside wrap-around services (e.g. Bowen Center) may also be utilized prior to adding School-based Therapy as an actual Related Service.



Upcoming Training Dates

- Knox Middle School: September 13, 2016 (8:00-11:00 and 12:00-3:00 CST)* Refresher
- John Glenn Admin. Building: September 14, 2016 (8:30-2:30 EST)* Full Version
- Culver Elementary: September 16, 2016 (12:00-3:00 EST)* Refresher
- North Judson-San Pierre Jr.-Sr. High: October 3, 2016 (7:30-10:30 CST)* Refresher

Professional Development Opportunities

PATINS (special education technology-based trainings) - FREE

<https://www.smores.com/v18p3-fall-2016-trainings?ref=email-content#w-9200669312>

Indiana IEP Resource Center - Various topics: Indiana IEP Trainings, IEP Processes, Improving Local Practices - FREE

<https://indianaieprc.org/index.php/training-events>

Indiana Resource Center for Autism (IRCA) Trainings and Workshops - Costs vary

<https://www.iidc.indiana.edu/styles/iidc/defiles/IRCA/UpcomingWorkshops2016.pdf>

ARMC 5K Walk for Autism

Please join us for the 3rd Annual Walk for Autism on September 17.

Registration: Begins at 11:00 EST

5K Walk: Begins at 1:00 EST

Location: Plymouth River Park Square (downtown Plymouth)

No registration fee - Any and all walkers are welcome!

New for this year - STAR WARS Characters! The Northern Darkness Garrison of the 501st Legion will have Darth Vader, Stormtroopers and others in attendance for free photo opportunities during Registration and the 5K Walk. Don't miss out on this awesome experience!



Autism Resources of Marshall County (ARMC) is encouraging walkers to try to get pledges to help reach their goal of \$15,000. If you get \$60+ in pledges you will receive a free t-shirt on the day of the walk. Early registration will be available and encouraged via the ARMC Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/ARMC.Marshall.County.Indiana

The proceeds from this event directly support the ARMC Summer Camp for students with autism. The 2016 Summer Camp was extended from 1 to 2 weeks per age group, number of campers increased by 50%, 3

school corporations provided transportation, and JGSC donated a mini bus for the entire 4 weeks to transport students to outings. Needless to say the 2nd Annual Summer Camp was a great success!