Enrollment Audit
Final Notice: Enrollment Audit Survey Final Results Feedback Request

OSSE values your feedback and suggestions. Please take a moment to provide comments or feedback on the 2013-2014 SY Enrollment Audit by accessing our **LEA Enrollment Audit Survey**. If you have additional questions or concerns, please contact **Dr. Johnnie Meadors** or **Mr. Sean Flora**.

Thank you for assistance in this year's student enrollment audit process.

Division of Early Learning

New: 2014 DC Infant and Toddler Conference: April 14, 15, and 17

The 2014 DC Infant and Toddler Conference: "Creating Pathways to Early Success" will bring together more than 900 professionals in Infant/Toddler early care and education. Early intervention and infant/toddler specialists, home visitors, social workers, mental health providers as well as physical, occupational therapists, pediatricians, dietitians and other professionals will be joining OSSE as programming partners and conference participants as we continue our efforts to build healthy families and healthy communities.

The conference will be held on April 14, 15, and 17 from 8:30am to 5:00pm at The Kellogg Conference Center in Gallaudet University. The conference repeats each day, thus you only need to register for one day.

Register Now

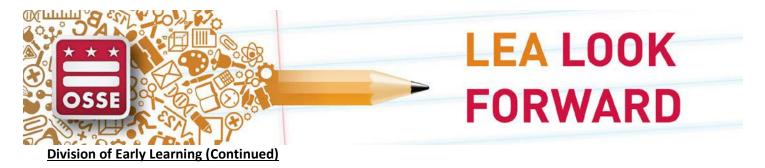**Reminder: Winter FY 2014 Professional Development Course Catalog**

The **Winter FY 2014 Course Catalog** was developed to provide the early childhood education (ECE) and Out-of-School Time (OST) workforces with multiple opportunities for professional growth and development; opportunities for meeting the yearly continuing education requirements; and opportunities to participate in a District-wide professional learning community. Please see the attached Winter FY 2014 Professional Development Course Catalog to check out the learning opportunities.

Please contact **Dana Caffee-Glenn**, Professional Development Coordinator at the Early Learning Professional Development Unit, via email for additional questions.

Reminder: Child Care Emergency Preparedness Online Workshop

Improve your skills and take your practice to the next level by ensuring that all the children in your care will be protected during emergencies.

Please access the online workshop through the U.S. Center for Child Development and Resiliency to complete the **Save the Children's Child Care Emergency Preparedness Training.**

Reminder: **The Pre-K Classroom Technical Assistance and Comprehensive Service Vendor Form**
The Pre-Kindergarten Grantee contractor approval form has been renamed to the Pre-Kindergarten Classroom TA and Comprehensive Services Approval Form. As a reminder, vendors should be selected from the OSSE Approved Trainer list.

Please submit all Pre-Kindergarten Classroom TA and Comprehensive Services Vendor Approval Forms to **NyKisha Haley.**

Approval Form submission deadlines are as follows:

- **March 14, 2014**
- **May 15, 2014**

For a copy of the Pre-K Classroom TA and Comp, please contact **NyKisha Haley.**

Reminder: **Distribution of Howard University Evaluation Data**
OSSE, in partnership with Howard University's Center for Urban Progress, conducted an annual evaluation of pre-kindergarten programs in community based organizations, traditional public and public charter schools during the 2012-2013 school year. The purpose of the evaluation was to assess classroom quality in the District of Columbia and provide useful data that can be used to strengthen the early childhood education system. As such, developmentally and culturally appropriate instruments such as Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS), the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test (PPVT4) and Expressive Language Vocabulary Test (EVT2), Infant and Toddler Environmental Rating Scale (ITTERS-R) and Family Child Care Environmental Rating Scale (FCCERS-R) were used to conduct the evaluation. The individual result of the evaluation was mailed and emailed to all providers including DCPS and PCS. Based on the evaluation results, OSSE is developing benchmarks and professional development opportunities for different stakeholders.

Division of Elementary & Secondary Education

Reminder: **2013-2014 School Improvement Grant Program**
The Office of Accountability, Performance, and Support at OSSE is pleased to announce the Request for Applications for FY 2013 School Improvement Grant (SIG) funding. The purpose of the SIG grant is to increase student achievement and teacher/principal effectiveness in the persistently lowest-achieving schools. SIG, authorized under section 1003(g) of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (Title I or ESEA), are grants to State educational agencies (SEAs) that SEAs use to make competitive sub-grants to LEAs. SIG funds are used for the purpose of implementing one of four Turnaround Models: Turnaround, Transformation, Restart, and Closure.

The SIG program is designed to fund significant reforms in low performing schools.

Please access and read thoroughly the **RFA and LEA Application** .

Please RSVP by emailing **LeeTosha Henry**

Reminder: 2013-2014 Teacher Quality Improvement Grant Program

OSSE is soliciting applications for the development and provision of professional development programs aimed at enhancing student achievement in eligible LEAs. The purpose of these professional development programs will be to ensure that teachers, highly qualified paraprofessionals, and, if appropriate, principals have subject matter knowledge in the core academic subjects they teach, and build upon the skills necessary to help students master core academic subjects.

Eligibility: The Teacher Quality Improvement Grant Program is a partnership grant. An eligible application must include the following principal partners at a minimum:

(1) a private or State IHE and the division of the institution that prepares teachers and principals;
(2) a school of arts and sciences; and
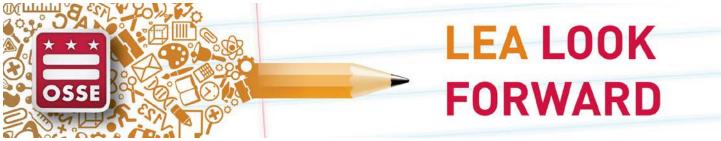(3) a high need LEA.

The Request for Applications (RFA) was released on Friday, February 7, 2014 and **the deadline for submission is Friday, March 14, 2014 at 5:00pm**.
The RFA is available on OSSE's website, **Teacher Quality Improvement Grant Program Request for Applications**, and/or by contacting the OSSE Division of Elementary and Secondary Education on (202) 741-5095.

Prospective applicants can access and download a copy of the **request for application** on OSSE's website.

Reminder: 2014 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

OSSE requests nominations for the 2014 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). There are outstanding science and mathematics teachers throughout the District of Columbia. Help us identify and recognize these exceptional educators by nominating them for the PAEMST. Recipients of the award receive a certificate signed by the President of the United States, a $10,000 award from the National Science Foundation and a paid trip for two to Washington, DC to attend a series of recognition events and professional development opportunities. In addition to recognizing outstanding teaching in mathematics or science (including computer science), the program provides teachers with an opportunity to build lasting partnerships with colleagues across the nation. This growing network of award-winning teachers serves as a vital resource for improving science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and keeping America globally competitive. Please refer to the eligibility criteria below, and visit the **PAEMST website** to complete an online nomination form.

Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (Continued)

2014 PAEMST Awardees nominees must:

- Teach mathematics or science (including computer science) at the K – 6th grade level (2014 deadline) in a public or private school.
- Hold at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution.
- Be a full-time employee of the school or school district, and teach students at least 50% of the time.
- Have at least 5 years of full-time, K-12 mathematics or science (including computer science) teaching experience prior to the 2013-2014 academic school year.
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.
- Not have received the PAEMST award at the national level in any prior competition or category.

For any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to **Kadena Duncan-Lawrence** or **Ayan Islam**.

Reminder: Cutting to the Core Training
Teach Plus and teachers from across Washington, DC will be hosting a collaborative training in understanding the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

Save the Dates and visit **teachplus.org** for more information

- Wednesday, March 19, 2014
- Wednesday, April 23, 2014
- Wednesday, May 21, 2014
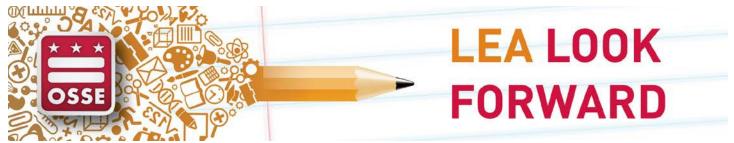
To learn more and RSVP, please visit **teachplus.org**.

Reminder: Save the Date - DC STEM Fair March 2014
The DC STEM Fair is a long-standing tradition for DC's public, public charter, parochial, private and homeschooled students to showcase their research skills and compete for a variety of awards and prizes, including the opportunity to represent all of DC at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Los Angeles, CA on **May 11-16, 2014!**

This exciting event will be held on Saturday, **March 22, 2014** from 8:00am – 3:00pm.

Visit the **DCPS STEM Fair site** for more details!

Division of Post-Secondary & Career Education

New: **FSA Tool Publishes FAFSA Completion Numbers for the High School Graduating Class of 2014**
The US Department of Education is now providing high schools with current data about their FAFSA submissions and completions so that high schools can track their progress and help to ensure that their students complete a FAFSA. For more information about the FAFSA Completion Tool, and to view high school completion rates, visit **here**.

Reminder: **Guiding Families in High School Fit and Match**
Understanding student-school fit and match is often one of the biggest hurdles in the school choice process. It is essential that families consider data throughout the high school choice process, but using data can feel daunting for parents and schools. This session, presented by Higher Achievement DC Metro, will empower school staff to be prepared for the necessary conversations about school fit. We will focus on how to examine "best fit" for a student, considering: school performance data, curricula, school location, and special programming.

Date: March 5, 2014
Time: 10:00am – 12:00pm
Location: 810 First Street, 3rd floor, OSSE Grand Hall

For questions and inquiries please contact **Chloe Woodward-Magrane.**

Reminder: **Event: OSSE College & Career Expo**
The College and Career Expo is a yearly event designed to expose 7th – 11th grade students and their families to the complete postsecondary landscape and to encourage smart college and career choices.
This year's Expo takes place on **Saturday, April 12, 2014** at the **Historic Howard Theater** from 9:00am – 1:30pm.

For questions please contact **Mike Andrews**.

Reminder: **2014/2015 DC TAG Application**
The DC TAG application opened February 1 and the deadline to submit all supporting documents will be **Monday, June 30, 2014.** To apply, visit **www.dconeapp.dc.gov**. Supporting documents must be brought to the Office of the State Superintendent of Education, third floor, 810 First Street, NE, Washington DC 20002; office hours are Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 5:00pm.

If you experience issues with completing the application, an update to the Compatibility View of your computer may be needed. To properly view and complete the DCONEAPP application, Internet Explorer 7 - 9 or Internet Explorer 10, Compatibility View" mode is required. Please see below to assist you in turning Compatibility View mode on/off. The system is not designed to function with any other browsers including but not limited to; Firefox, Safari, Android or Chrome.

Turning on/off Compatibility Mode

Click/tap the "Tools" command bar button

Click/tap the "Compatibility View" button (If Compatibility View is grayed out, then the webpage has no compatibility issues)

The webpage will now reload with Compatibility View turned on for it, and the website will be added to the list in compatibility view settings

For additional questions please contact: **Post-Secondary Education** on **(202) 727-2824.**

Reminder: Dual Enrollment Funding Available for Spring 2014 Semester
OSSE's Dual Enrollment Fund provides support for unmet tuition, fee and book costs for high school students enrolled in post-secondary classes at District universities. OSSE can provide support and funding to schools looking to create new dual enrollment partnerships. If your school is interested in increasing the number of students who participate in dual enrollment, or if you have any questions, please contact **Mike Andrews.**

Division of Specialized Education
New: Facilitated Individualized Education Program (FIEP) Pilot– Focus Group
The use of externally facilitated IEP meetings is growing nationally to help special education planning teams reach agreements. OSSE, in partnership with Advocates for Justice and Education, Inc., is piloting the option of Facilitated Individualized Education Program (FIEP) meetings in the District of Columbia.

 Prior to hosting a series of city-wide trainings and extending the option of FIEP to stakeholders, the Division of Specialized Education (DSE) is facilitating a focus group to gain feedback and input regarding the design of the pilot.
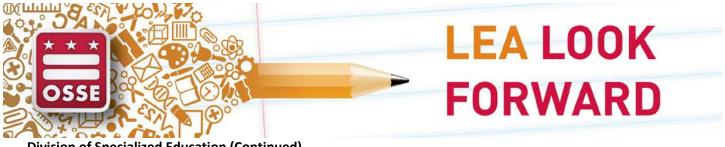
 Focus group attendees will be provided an introduction to IEP facilitation to help orient them to this emerging practice. The overview will include an understanding of the differences between IEP facilitation and Mediation, the benefits of a Facilitated IEP Meeting, and the way in which LEAs and IEP teams can use the process. Attendees will also be able to provide input to shape model forms and public awareness materials.

 The focus group will be held Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 10:00am – 11:30am at the OSSE, 810 First Street, NE – 3rd Floor (Grand Hall – Side B).

 To find out more about the FIEP focus group, or to confirm your attendance, please contact **Ms. Desirée Brown**, Special Projects Manager, Community and Parent Relations, by COB Thursday, March 6, 2014 using the subject line: FIEP Focus Group.

New: DSE Releases Individualized Education Program (IEP) Amendment Policy and the Confidentiality of Student Information Policy Guidance (FAQs)
On January 27, 2014, OSSE released the IEP Amendment Policy and the Confidentiality of Student Information Policy, which become effective on Monday, March 3, 2014.

Division of Specialized Education (Continued)

The IEP Amendment Policy formalizes requirements and appropriate procedural safeguards for parents related to changes made to IEPs after the annual IEP review takes place, through an IEP Team meeting or documented written agreement.

The Confidentiality of Student Information Policy governs procedures for ensuring the confidentiality of educational records with personally identifiable information in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

To assist LEAs in implementing the requirements of these new policies, OSSE DSE has released two frequently asked questions (FAQ) guidance documents.

To view the FAQs, please follow the links below:

IEP Amendment FAQ

Confidentiality of Student Information Policy Guidance

New: LEA Focus Groups for DCMR Title 5, Chapter 30 Updates
DSE is planning to hold focus groups to gather input from LEAs and other stakeholders on a variety of issues affecting special education services and students with disabilities in the District of Columbia.

Input collected from these focus groups will be taken into consideration as the agency considers changes to Title 5-E, Chapter 30 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations and related policies. DSE has developed a pre-focus group survey to gather information regarding how to best facilitate these sessions.

To view the survey, please follow the link below:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/XL6N2LV

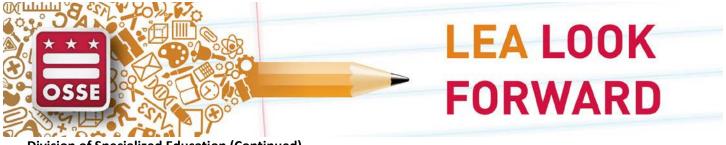**New: DSE Releases Special Education Data System (SEDS) Reports Framework via SLED**
A new SEDS reports tab will be available in SLED as of March 1, 2014 to all LEA Data Administrators. The SEDS Reports tab is a set of reports that provides point in time information on actionable SEDS data, allowing for more robust planning and management to ensure timely student service delivery.

For questions, please submit a ticket in the **OSSE Support Tool**.

Reminder: Division of Specialized Education Technical Assistance Request Form
In an effort to continue to provide high quality technical assistance to LEAs, DSE is happy to provide an online technical assistance request form.

Please access to submit a request for technical assistance at the link provided. Requests will receive a response within 2 business days. Access the **DSE Technical Assistance Request Form**.

Reminder: **Extended School Year (ESY) Services Policy Annual Certification Requirement**
Per the Extended School Year (ESY) Services Policy, LEAs must certify ESY student data to OSSE on an annual basis. This year's certification deadline is **May 5, 2014.**

It is critically important that LEAs submit accurate certification data, including school and student address and contact information. This data supports LEAs and nonpublic school programs in their efforts to ensure appropriate planning and staffing during the summer months, and permits OSSE to anticipate state-level expenses related to nonpublic ESY services and ESY-related transportation services.

DSE in partnership with the Division of Student Transportation (OSSE DOT), will provide webinars once per week over the next month. During the first hour DSE will address ESY eligibility determination and the remaining 30 minutes OSSE DOT will address ESY transportation using TOTE.

Webinars will be held on the following days and times:

Webinar Dates	Times	Registration Links
March 6, 2014	9:00am – 10:30am	**Register**
March 13, 2014	3:00pm – 4:30pm	**Register**
March 20, 2014	9:00am – 10:30am	**Register**

In addition to the above webinar dates, OSSE will host "office hours" beginning **March 3, 2014**, to answer LEA questions.

Please contact **Annette Thacker-Bartlett** to make an appointment during the following days and times provided below:

Mondays	10:00am – 5:00pm
Tuesdays	9:00am – 3:00pm and 4:00pm – 5:00pm
Wednesdays	12:00pm – 5:00pm
Thursdays	9:00am – 2:00pm and 3:00pm – 5:00pm
Fridays	10:00am – 3:00pm

Reminder: **Behavior Webinar Module I**
Legal Foundations of Behavior
This webinar will be discussing Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act and the 2004 Amendments to IDEA. We will go over the Continuum of Placements, Discipline, and Manifestation Determinations.

Presenter(s):	OSSE
Date(s):	March 11, 2014
Time:	10:00am to 11:30am
Register Here!	

Reminder: **Youth Mental Health First Aid Training**

Youth Mental Health First Aid is designed to teach parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, school staff, peers, neighbors, health and human services workers, and other caring citizens how to help an adolescent (age 12-18) who is experiencing a mental health or addictions challenge or is in crisis. Youth Mental Health First Aid is primarily designed for adults who regularly interact with young people.

The course introduces common mental health challenges for youth, reviews typical adolescent development, and teaches a 5-step action plan for how to help young people in both crisis and non-crisis situations. Topics covered include anxiety, depression, substance use, disorders in which psychosis may occur, disruptive behavior disorders (including ADHD), and eating disorders.

Presenter(s):	Department of Behavioral Health (DBH)
Date(s):	March 14, 2014
Time:	8:30am to 4:30pm
Location:	810 First Street, NE, 8th floor, Room 806 A
Register Here!	

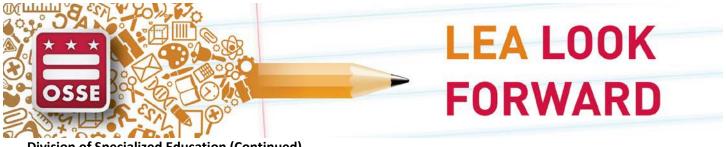**Reminder:** **Co-Teaching Project**

The DSE has partnered with 2 Teach LLC to provide high quality professional development and trainings on highly effective best practices and research-based techniques on co-teaching. This professional development opportunity and training will improve LEA capacity, teacher effectiveness, and outcomes for learners with varied educational needs.

Training will consist of two (2) full-day professional development trainings, one (1) full-day follow-up meeting for administrators and teachers, and one (1) virtual meeting. Through the training design, LEA teams will learn various co-teaching methods, be observed in an authentic instructional environment, and receive feedback on effective co-teaching strategies, communication, behavior management, and assessment.

LEAs participating in this opportunity will commit to assess impact through comparison of data to a traditional classroom and a commitment to serve as co-teaching demonstration sites for other LEAs in the District.

For more information and to register access the **Co-Teaching Project site**.

Presenter(s):	Dr. Wendy Murawski, 2 Teach LLC.
Date(s):	**March 4, 2014**; **March 5, 2014**; **May 6, 2014**. **September 2014** (*virtual meeting TBD*)
Time:	8:30am to 3:30pm
Location:	810 First Street, NE, 8th floor, Room 806 A & B
Register Here!	This training requires a physical application

Reminder: **Special Education Data System (SEDS) Nonpublic Point of Contact (NP POC) Quarterly Webinar Series**
DSE hosts a quarterly SEDS webinar support series for all NonPublic SEDS Point of Contacts (NP POCs). Each webinar will address various SEDS-related topics, including:

- SEDS updates and alerts
- The release of new OSSE special education policies
- OSSE Support Tool updates
- Training tips
- Resources and announcements

All Non-Public SEDS Point of Contacts should plan to attend and participate in these quarterly webinars. Please register for the webinar series using the links below:

Wednesday, March 19, 2014
10:00am - 11:00am
Register

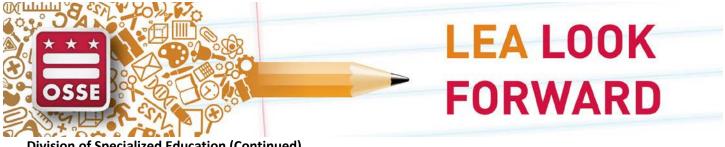**Wednesday, May 21, 2014**
10:00am - 11:00am
Register

Reminder: **Special Education Data System (SEDS) – OSSE Support Tool Updates**
As we receive feedback from users regarding the OSSE Support Tool, we continue to design ways to improve the tool. Recently, two changes were made in the OSSE Support Tool:

FERPA Language: You will see a message on your homepage asking to acknowledge the FERPA statement. To show acknowledgment of the FERPA statement, you will be required to click on a button that will take you to a page with a check box. By checking the box, you are confirming that you understand your role and responsibilities as it relates to FERPA and data available in the OSSE Support Tool.

New Status Categories: To understand the status of a ticket submission, the following changes are being made to the Status names:

- New Submission will now be **Brand New Submission**
- Received Investigating will now be **Investigating**
- LEA Action/Information Required remain the same
- Closed/No Response From User will now be **Resolved/Unconfirmed by User**
- Resolved will now be **Resolved Confirmed by User**
- Resolved/Pending User Confirmation will remain the same
- **Unresolved/No Response by User is a new status**

For any questions or concerns, please submit a ticket in the **OSSE Support Tool**.

Reminder: **Special Education Data System (SEDS) – SEDS LEA Data Administrator (LDA) Monthly Webinar Series**
DSE hosts a monthly SEDS webinar support series for all LEA Data Administrators. This webinar series takes place on the fourth Wednesday of every month from 10:00am - 11:00am.

Each month various SEDS-related topics will be discussed, including:

- SEDS updates and alerts
- The release of new OSSE special education policies
- OSSE Support Tool updates
- Training tips
- Resources and announcements

All LEA Data Administrators should plan to attend and participate in these monthly webinars. Please register for the webinar series using the links below:

Wednesday, March 26, 2014
10:00am - 11:00am
Register

Wednesday, April 23, 2014
10:00am - 11:00am
Register

Wednesday, May 28, 2014
10:00am - 11:00am
Register

Reminder: OSSE Publishes IDEA Part B LEA FFY 2011 Annual Performance Determinations Published
Each year the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) requires OSSE, as the state education agency, to make determinations about the performance of Local Education Agencies (LEAs) based on the same categories used for state determinations outlined in Section 616(d) of IDEA. In making such determinations, OSSE assigned LEAs one of the following determination levels:

1. Meets Requirements
2. Needs Assistance
3. Needs Intervention
4. Needs Substantial Intervention

Division of Specialized Education (Continued)

On August 2, 2013, each LEA serving students with disabilities age 3-21 received an IDEA Part B Local Determination packet from OSSE, which included the LEA's overall determination score and determination level for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2011 (SY 2011-2012). Please note that for the purposes of IDEA, all LEAs that have selected the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) as their LEA for the purposes of special education (i.e. "dependent charter LEAs") receive the same annual determination as DCPS.

As communicated to LEA leaders in OSSE's August 2, 2013 determination cover letter, OSSE is making the results of the FFY 2011 determinations publicly available to support ongoing efforts to provide useful information to District of Columbia stakeholders. Individualized LEA determination packets will be uploaded to Learn DC during the month of March.

Access and view table with each LEA's FFY 2011 determination status
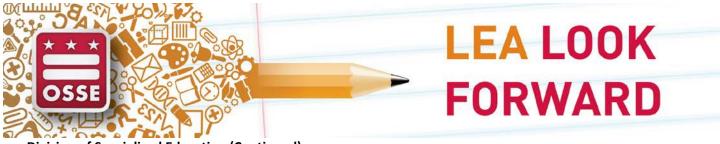
Access and view OSSE's LEA Determination scoring rubric

Reminder: Division of Specialized Education (DSE) Policy Release
On January 27, 2014, OSSE released three new policies: the Individualized Education Program (IEP) Amendment Policy, the Confidentiality of Student Information Policy, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B Grant Eligibility and Administration Hearing Process Policy. All three policies will become effective on Monday, March 3, 2014.

- The *Individualized Education Program (IEP) Amendment Policy* formalizes requirements and appropriate procedural safeguards for parents related to changes made to IEPs after the annual IEP review takes place, through either documented written agreement or IEP Team meeting.

- The *Confidentiality of Student Information Policy,* in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), serves to protect the confidentiality of students with disabilities by establishing procedures for the collection, storage, disclosure, and destruction of personally identifiable information in educational records collected, used, or maintained under IDEA Part B.

- The *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B Grant Eligibility and Administration Hearing Process Policy* establishes a hearing review process for grantees and subgrantees to request review of grant eligibility and administration activities, in accordance with the Education Department's General Administration Regulations (EDGAR).

Reminder: Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Training
The Nonviolent Crisis Intervention training program, developed by Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI), is embraced worldwide as a highly effective behavior management system for organizations committed to providing quality care and services in a respectful, safe environment.

Division of Specialized Education (Continued)

The strategies taught in the Nonviolent Crisis Intervention training program provide participants with a proven framework for decision making and problem solving to prevent, de-escalate, and safely respond to disruptive or assaultive behavior. This event will not go over physical restraint techniques. Please wear comfortable clothing, closed-toed shoes, and bring a water bottle.

Presenter(s):	OSSE
Date(s):	March 17, 2014
Time:	8:30am to 3:30pm
Location:	810 First Street, NE, 3rd Floor Grand Hall
Registration	

Reminder: Special Education Quality Review (SEQR) Tool Webinars
The SEQR Tool is a web-based self-assessment tool designed to assist schools, local education agencies (LEAs), and nonpublic schools in assessing the quality of school-level programming for students with disabilities. The tool uses selected quality indicators to assess present practices and guides users to identify and plan for school level improvements that are aligned with special education best practices.

To learn more about the tool and how it can contribute to improved special education practices at your LEA, register to participate in one of the following introductory webinars.

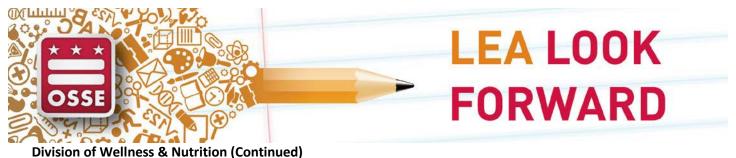**Special Education Quality Review (SEQR) Tool for Nonpublic Programs**
Date: **March 12, 2014**
Time: 9:00am – 11:00am
Registration

Special Education Quality Review (SEQR) Tool for Nonpublic Programs
Date: **May 14, 2014**
Time: 9:00am – 11:00am
Registration

Division of Wellness & Nutrition
New: National Federation of State High School Associations 2013-14 Athletics Participation Survey, Due May 30, 2014
The District of Columbia is participating in the National Federation of State High School Associations SY 2013-14 Athletics Participation Survey. It is time for all of our student-athletes to be counted and included in the national survey! All schools should have received a fillable PDF form from the DC State Athletic Association (DCSAA) to submit this data. Data should be submitted to **Marie Rudolph** by close of business, **Friday, May 30, 2014**.

Please contact the **Marie Rudolph** if you have not received your form or have any questions.

Final Notice: International School Meals Day, March 6, 2014

We invite schools, teachers, students, and child nutrition professionals to join in celebrating the 2014 International School Meals Day (ISMD) on March 6, 2014. The purpose of ISMD is to raise awareness of the importance of food and nutrition in education and to share school feeding experiences from across the globe. Schools around the world can celebrate ISMD by promoting healthy eating and learning, using the theme, Food Stories. Stories, like food, communicate the culture of peoples and their dreams for a healthier better future. Good nutrition and a healthy lifestyle are as important to a child's overall success as the curriculum that our schools teach every day. USDA's School Breakfast Program is an opportunity to remind everyone how important it is that every child starts the school day with a nutritious breakfast. Schools can promote healthy eating to reflect the new school meal standards and smart snacks while incorporating nutrition education into classroom learning using many of the education materials USDA has developed through **Team Nutrition** and **MyPlate.**

Reminder: Second Annual Leading with Pride GSA Conference, Saturday, March 11, 2014

The Second Annual Leading with Pride GSA Conference, co-sponsored by OSSE, DCPS and partner District and local organizations, will be held on Saturday, March 11, from 11:00am – 6:30pm at School Without Walls HS (2130 G Street NW, Washington, DC). This conference is geared towards LGBTQ and Straight Ally Youth ages 13-24, GSA Advisors and adult supporters and will include workshops on leadership skills, suicide prevention, healthy relationships, advocacy, gender, growing a GSA, and MORE!

For more information, contact **Sara Stahlberg,** or call on **202.442.5065**
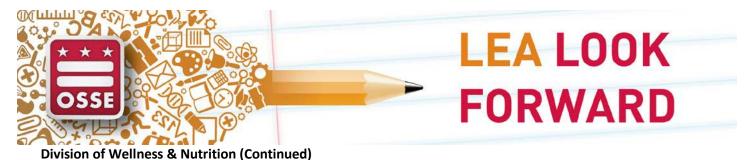
Register for the Conference!

If your organization is interested in having a table at our resource fair, **Sign-Up Here!**

If you are interested in facilitating a workshop, **Submit Your Proposal Here!**

Reminder: Pregnancy Prevention & Sexual Health Education Programs Available to Schools

The DC Personal Responsibility Education Program (DC PREP) within OSSE is currently offering pregnancy prevention and sexual health education programs through DC PREP's grantee organizations. DC PREP funds five local organizations to implement evidence-based or promising programs within DC Public and Public Charter Schools. These programs have been designed to educate adolescents on both abstinence and contraception to prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS. If your school is interested in learning more about any of these organizations and their programs, please **click here** to view grantee profiles and to complete an interest form for the program that would best fit your school's needs.

For questions and inquiries please contact either **Latonia Coryatt** or call on **202-442-3268,** or **Kevon Harris** or call on **202-741-6488**.

Division of Wellness & Nutrition (Continued)

Reminder: **DCSAA Winter Sports Schedule**
- DC State Cheerleading Competition – UDC
  Saturday, March 1, 2014 @ 10:00am-3:00pm
- DC State Boys and Girls Basketball Tournament (Semi Finals) – American University – Bender Arena
  Sunday, March 2, 2014 @ 1:00pm-3:00pm
- DC State Boys and Girls Basketball Finals – Verizon Center
  Wednesday, March 6, 2014 @ 6:00pm-10:00pm

For complete schedule of all games, please visit the calendar page on the **DCSAA website**

New: **DCSAA Girls Volleyball Coaches Clinic, Saturday, March 8, 2014**
Saturday, March 8, 2014, from 9:00am - 11:00am, the DCSAA will be holding a free coaches clinic led by Theresa (Terri) R. Kerley, Head Coach of Varsity Volleyball at Elizabeth Seton High School. The clinic will be held at **St. John's High School, 2607 Military Road NW, Chevy Chase DC.**

Access the **DCSAA** site to register for the **Girls Volleyball Coaches Clinic**

Reminder: **Training Sessions!**
Child & Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Orientation for Prospective Applicants
All organizations interested in applying to participate in the CACFP must first attend an orientation session. During the orientation, we will cover important information about the CACFP, including its benefits, meal specifications, and record keeping requirements. The session also provides in-depth instructions on how to submit a successful application.

Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2014
Time: 9:30am - 2:00pm
Location: OSSE Main Office, 810 First Street, N.E.
Room: 4002
Register Here! Deadline: **Friday, March 14**

DC Free Summer Meals Program Informational Session
This informational session is designed for organizations to find out about the DC Free Summer Meals Program and how they can participate as a Sponsor or a Site. The DC Free Summer Meals Informational Session is open to churches, afterschool programs, community based organizations, summer camps or anyone who will have summer programming for children or are interested in serving free meals to needy children this summer.

Date: Tuesday, March 25, 2014
Time: 1:00pm - 2:15pm or 2:30pm – 3:45pm
Location: OSSE, 810 First Street, N.E.
Room: 4002
Register Here! Then look under the **Training and Events** section.

Final Notice: **Rooting DC Conference, March 1, 2014**

OSSE's Division of Wellness and Nutrition is excited to announce its participation in the 7th annual Rooting DC conference, a free, all-day gardening forum that provides education about urban food production and consumption to cultivate health and preserve the environment. Members of the Healthy Schools Initiatives team will be on-hand; presenting on "Skills of a Successful School Garden Coordinator" as well as tabling with information on the Healthy Schools Act and FoodCorps. Joining OSSE will be a host of other organizations that are deeply invested in nutrition, food, and school gardens within the district. The event offers more than 70 workshops for beginner gardeners (e.g., seed starting, soil remediation, and irrigation), seasoned horticulturalists (e.g., beekeeping, mushroom cultivation, permaculture design), and citizens. An information fair with over 50 green businesses and nonprofits will take place from 8:30am-1:30pm.

The event will take place March 1 from 8:30am-4:00pm at Wilson Senior High School in Tenleytown.

For more information and to register, please visit the **Rooting DC** site.

Reminder: **DC Physical Activity for Youth Grant**

OSSE is pleased to announce that funds to increase the capacity of D.C. schools to provide physical activity to all students before, during, or after the school day will be available shortly.

Eligibility for application is open to D.C. public schools, D.C. public charter schools, and nonprofit organizations.

Application Submission Deadline: **April 4, 2014**
Funds: Awards are available for up to **$10,000**

Access and download more information on the **DC Physical Activity for Youth Grant**
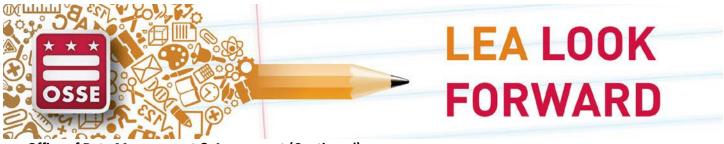
For further questions please contact **Katie Lantuh** by email or call on **(202) 481-3401**

Office of Data Management & Assessment

New: SY 2013-14 DC CAS Roster Verification

The pre-test DC CAS Roster Verification window will be March 3 to March 28. Detailed guidance will be posted **Monday, March 3**, on the OSSE website.

For questions and inquiries please contact by email **Gwen Rubinstein**, Data Analysis Manager, OSSE Data Management and Assessment Office.

Reminder: DC CAS Monitor Training

Each year, monitors are deployed by OSSE and LEAs to ensure that the statewide assessment is proctored in a fair, uniform, and equitable manner. Some of the procedures observed during the testing window (March 31- April 11, 2014) includes the following:

- Test administration (i.e. reading test directions verbatim);
- Test environment (i.e. seating arrangement, removal of curriculum material from walls);
- On-site supervision of the handling of secure and non-secure test materials, Inventory/distribution of secure and non-secure materials;
- Collection of scorable documents, and;
- Test packaging and shipment of secure and non-secure materials.

DC CAS 2014 Test Integrity Monitor Training will be offered from March 25-28 2014.
Register now. Sessions will be offered in the morning from 10:00am to 12:00noon and in the afternoon from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. For additional information, please contact **Dr. Tonya Mead**, or call on (202) 741-5991.

Reminder: Post-Secondary Report

OSSE has created a report that shares district-level data on college performance and early indicators. School-level files from this report are now available on the **SFTP site**.

For questions and inquiries, please contact **Emily Persons**

Reminder: Electronic Transcript Service

All LEAs have access to a service that allows students and LEAs to share transcripts electronically to colleges and other LEAs. The vendor Parchment will begin communicating with LEAs soon.

For questions and inquiries about the service please email **Emily Persons**.
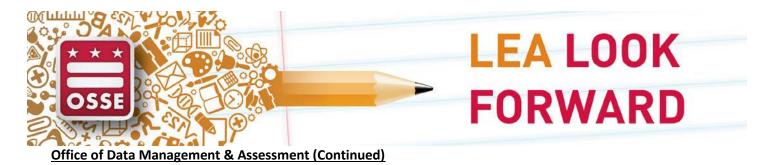
New: DC CAS Alt

The DC CAS Alt Composition testing window is March 3 – 7, 2014 (TAs must administer during the specified testing window).

The Portfolio testing window closes March 7, 2014.

Reminder: SY 2013-14 DC CAS Roster Confirmation

OSSE is kicking off roster confirmation: a process that involves teachers and administrators verifying and confirming the accuracy of student rosters for the D.C. value-added model. In spring 2014, all charter LEAs participating in Race to the Top must conduct roster confirmation in order to receive value-added results for teachers of ELA and math in grades 4–8. LEAs have the option to additionally include individuals who teach ELA or math in grade 3 and individuals who teach ELA in grades 9–10. Roster confirmation involves teachers and school administrators in the process.

Office of Data Management & Assessment (Continued)

Key Dates for 2013-14 Roster Confirmation

LEA Data Collected

School Setup Period Closed

Teacher Roster Confirmation Period:
Monday, March 3 – Friday, March 14

Administrator Review and Approval Period:
Due by Monday, March 24

LEA data managers will receive all correspondence and serve as your sole contact person for OSSE and our partner, Battelle for Kids (BFK).

For questions, please contact **Jessica Enos**, Director of Assessment on **(202) 535-2651**.

Reminder: ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Field Test
In spring 2014 and 2015, WIDA will field test the technology-based English language proficiency assessment, ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 (ACCESS 2.0).

The main purposes of field testing are to collect data to confirm that all test items and tasks are of the highest quality and to establish the psychometric linking between performances on ACCESS for ELLs® and ACCESS 2.0.

Interested LEAs requiring additional information, please contact **Michelle Tuggle.**
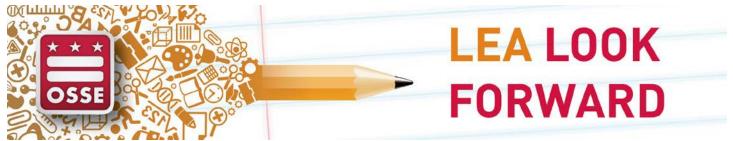
Reminder: PARCC Accommodations
The second edition of the **PARCC Accessibility Features and Accommodations Manual** has been posted.

For more information, please contact **Michelle Tuggle**.

Reminder: High School Access to National Student Clearinghouse Data
All DC high schools have the ability to directly receive student-level college enrollment and completion information from the National Student Clearinghouse for students in the classes of 2006 to 2013.

For details about how to create an account to obtain this information, please contact **Emily Persons**.

Office of Grants Management and Compliance

Reminder: Volunteers Needed to Test Enterprise Grant Management System (EGMS)

OSSE's Office of Grant Management and Compliance (OGMC) team is implementing an Enterprise Grant Management System (EGMS), and is issuing a call for reviewers to participate in a User Acceptance Training (UAT) for testing. EGMS is a solution intended to provide grant management enhanced operational efficiencies and security architecture, central data storage and warehousing, increased transparency, workflow automation, and process and performance accountability.

If you are interested or have any questions, please contact **Richard K. Rowley** on **(202) 727-3869**.

Selected individuals will be contributing to groundbreaking grant management trainings.

Chief Information Office

Reminder: FY 14 Schools Technology Fund

We are in the second quarter of the School Technology Fund (STF) for 2014. OSSE issued a purchase order to your LEA in October, 2013. In order to receive the fund amount, invoice OSSE for the full value of the purchase order and include the purchase order as backup for the invoice. Once you have made your purchases OSSE would like a copy of the receipts to document the value of the fund.

If you need a copy of the fund announcement, the purchase order or the invoicing instructions/template or if you want a follow up call from the OSSE STF manager or maybe there someone else who needs to be copied on future communications, please provide contact information to include name, title, phone number and email address to the attention of **Matthew Brownlee** and we will be glad to assist.

District of Columbia State Athletic Association (DCSAA)

Reminder: Scholar Athlete Scholarship Program Available

The launch of the DCSAA Scholar Athlete Scholarship Program was made possible by Modell's Sporting Goods and The Wendy's Company's generous donations to the ongoing work of the DCSAA.

The purpose of the scholarships is to recognize the distinguished academic, leadership and sportsmanship achievements of District of Columbia high school student athletes and the positive influence of athletics in each student's life.

District of Columbia State Athletic Association (DCSAA) (Continued)

Visit the DCSAA website for an **application and more information** on each scholarship.

Scholarship winners will be notified by **April 18, 2014** and posted on the DCSAA website by **April 25, 2014.**

Completed applications and supporting documents must be submitted in person or received via U.S. mail, no later than 4:00pm on **March 28, 2014**.

The address for submissions is:

District of Columbia State Athletic Association
Office of the State Superintendent of Education
Government of the District of Columbia
810 First Street, NE, 4th Floor
Washington, DC 20002

General Announcements

Reminder: Grant Opportunities and Programs

- *The Choices Program Summer Leadership Institutes*

Program Dates: **Thinking Geographically (June 24-27, 2014); Turkey (July 7-11, 2014)**
Application Deadline: **March 17, 2014**
The Choices Program is a non-profit organization, based at Brown University in Providence, RI, that develops curricula on current and historical international issues.
Choices Leadership Institutes are fully funded summer opportunities for classroom teachers to learn about international issues by immersing themselves in Choices awarding winning curricular materials in a university setting. This year's summer institutes are: "Turkey: Exploring Current Challenges" and "Thinking Geographically About International Issues," (which uses China as its content focus). Twenty-three (23) secondary social studies teachers will be selected from a national pool for each institute.
Participants will be expected to promote the Choices Program upon their return to their schools and districts.
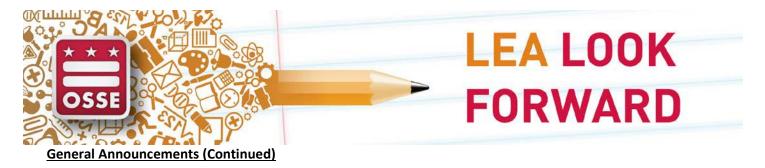
*For more complete information and application instructions, go to the **Choices Program site**.*

- *Teachers for Global Classrooms Program (TGC)*

Program Dates: **SY 2014-2015 (with travel component in spring or summer 2015)**
Application Deadline: **March 11, 2014**
The Teachers for Global Classrooms Program, funded by the US Department of State, is a very prestigious professional development opportunity for secondary school teachers from the US aiming to globalize teaching and learning in their classrooms and schools. Approximately 80 teachers will be selected nationwide for the 2014-15 program. The TGC Program includes an online professional development course, a Washington, DC Global Education Symposium in spring 2015, and a 2-3 week international fellowship in spring or summer 2015.

Applicants must be US citizens who are full time secondary teaching professionals with 5 or more years of classroom experience in ESL, English language arts, social studies, math or science. The TGC Program is administered by IREX.

*For further information and to apply, go to the **Teachers for Global Classrooms Program (TGC) site**.*
*Questions: Call **(202) 628-8188** or email **tgc@irex.org**.*

- ***Japan Society Educators' Study Tour to Japan***

Program Dates: **June 26-July 19, 2014 (includes pre-departure orientation)**
Application Deadline: **March 13, 2014**
The Educators' Study Tour offers educators who teach about Japan the opportunity to travel to Japan for 3 weeks to experience the country first hand and bring their experiences back to the classroom. Eight to 10 educators will be selected nationwide. The program is open to middle and high school classroom teachers, librarians, and school administrators, and includes an intensive pre-departure orientation in NYC. The study tour includes visits to Tokyo, Kyoto, Nara, Hiroshima, Aichi and Wakayama. Homestays and school visits are an important part of the program. The tour includes an optional visit to part of the Tohoku region hit by the 2011 earthquake and tsunami.
Applicants must demonstrate an individual and schoolwide commitment to continue teaching about Japan after the summer experience. The cost to participants is $1,000.

*For further information and application instructions, go to **Japan Society Educators' Study Tour to Japan site**.*
*Questions: Contact the Japan Society at **jseducation@japansociety.org** or on **(212)715-1275**.*

- ***Global Citizen Year***

Program Dates: **2014-15 School Year (this is a "Bridge" or Gap Year Program)**
Regular Application Deadline: **March 13, 2014**
Global Citizen Year (GCY) is a unique global bridge (gap) year program (for the year between high school and college) designed to unleash the potential of the next generation of young Americans as authentic leaders and effective agents of change. GCY is currently recruiting high potential graduating seniors to participate in their 2014-15 program of leadership training, language immersion, and deep global learning experiences. The 10-month program begins in fall 2014 with a training program in California, followed by an in-country orientation, ongoing language training, and six months living with a family and serving an apprenticeship in a community in Ecuador, Senegal, or Brazil, followed by a capstone experience in the student's home community. GCY provides generous, need-based scholarships.

*For more information and to apply, go to the **Global Citizen Year site** or contact Sally at **sally@dc-cgel.org**.*