



Each and Every Child

Quick news for Parents, Teachers and Students

An e-newsletter by the Iowa Department of Education's Bureau of Student and Family Support Services

Something about autism

You hear a lot of about autism spectrum disorder (ASD) these days, but how much do you really know about it?

Though the spectrum includes several different disorders, they share similar symptoms and developmental histories (how those characteristics develop over time). They also share these three patterns:

1. Communication difficulties
2. Social problems
3. Restrictive activities (fewer things interest them)

ASD is a developmental disability with symptoms occurring shortly after birth or by age 2. It is a neurological disorder – they have differences in

the way their brains work. There are at least two causes:

- 75-85 percent of the cases are genetic.
- The remainder comes from pre- or post-natal problems.

Since the spectrum includes everything from mild to severe, a diagnosis of autism spectrum does not necessarily mean special education. The individual's pattern has to affect his or her social and academic performance.

Regardless of education needs, people working with those with ASD should have high expectations in order to maximize their educational experiences. Other conditions also may contribute to success, but with appropriate behavioral and education techniques, those within the spectrum can live fulfilling lives.



AUTISM

Myth: Vaccines cause autism.

Reality: There is no scientific evidence that vaccines cause autism. The "study" has been withdrawn by its publisher. The author lost his medical license.

In the September Each and Every Child, we will list best practices for working with students within the autism spectrum disorder.



IDEA Update

The state of Iowa has met requirements of Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) for 2009-2010.

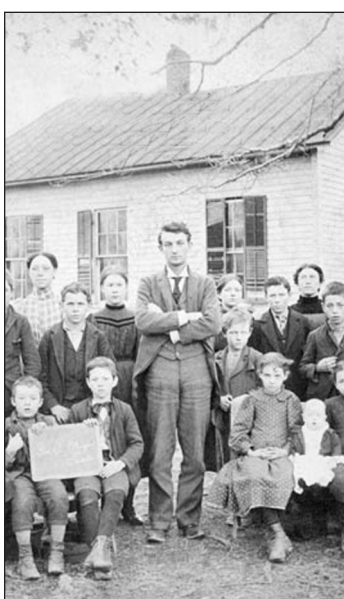
In order to ensure compliance, the state department collects extensive data focusing on three main areas:

- **Disproportionality**, which ensures a subset of students isn't over-represented in special education.
- **Free and appropriate public education** in the least-restrictive environment.
- **Effective general supervision**, which ensures the state is properly overseeing the mandate, and effective transitions, which works to create seamless transitions for students from preschool through post-secondary.

Next month....

With teachers back, we will return to the main focus of this e-newsletter: enhancing parent-teacher communication.

Times are (always) a-changin'



Prospective teachers in 1898 needed a high school diploma and special in-service training to be qualified to be a teacher. In addition, teachers were required to take the examination on the right.

Teacher training has evolved over the years. So has our understanding of what's possible with students in special education. Shoot for the stars. Everything is possible.

TEACHERS' EXAMINATION-1898.

1. Define and illustrate momentum.
2. Write a promissory note using \$750 at 6 percent for two years which will not be paid until eight months and 18 days after maturity--how much was due?
3. Sketch a map of Africa--name countries, rivers and main cities.
4. Define syntax, analysis, and synthesis.
5. What have been the most important acts of Congress during our present administration?
6. What is the highest aim of education? Explain.
7. Who are citizens according to the Constitution?
8. Should women receive the same wage as men?