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Bureau of Special Education FY'12 Memo #16

Date: December 22, 2011

To: Superintendents of Schools
Directors of Special Education
Teachers of the Visually Impaired

From: Office of the Commissioner of Education

Division of Instruction
Bureau of Special Education

RE: Professional Development

The New Hampshire Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education, New Hampshire Accessible Instructional Materials (NHAIM) is pleased to announce the upcoming Professional Development opportunities.

When: Tuesday, January 3, 2012 ~ 4:00pm-6:00pm

Topic: Print Disability Resources

Location: Walker Building, 21 S. Fruit Street, Room 100*

Presenter: Kim Stiles along with a Learning Ally and Talking Book Program Representative

Intended Audience: Administrators, General and Special Education Educators, Teachers of the Visually Impaired, and Parents

Description: To help schools and families understand available resources for students who are print disabled. Participants will explore information and materials that are available including Learning Ally, and the New Hampshire State Library Talking Books Program. ***Please note room change.**

When: Tuesday, January 13, 2012 ~ 9:00am-11:00am

Topic: Print Disability Resources

Location: NHDOE, Room 15

Presenter: Kim Stiles along with a Learning Ally and Talking Book Program Representative

Intended Audience: Administrators, General and Special Education Educators, Teachers of the Visually Impaired, and Parents

Description: To help schools and families understand available resources for students who are print disabled. Participants will explore information and materials that are available including Learning Ally, and the New Hampshire State Library Talking Books Program.

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When: Friday, February 10, 2012 ~ 10:00am-3:00pm
Topic: Isave - Individualized Systematic Assessment of Visual Efficiency.
Location: NHDOE, Room 15
Presenter: Kim Stiles along with an APH Representative
Intended Audience: Administrators, General and Special Education Educators, Teachers of the Visually Impaired, and Parents

Description: To help schools and families understand Isave. Isave is a functional vision assessment tool that provides a process for making formal observations in students. Isave is used to gain information which can be transformed into effective and unique intervention strategies-- helping the student apply "even the slightest degree of visual functioning". Isave can be used for Infants, children, and young adults with significant additional impairments who cannot respond reliably to standard measures of visual functioning.

When: Tuesday, March 6, 2012 ~ 1:00pm-3:00pm
Topic: Sense of Science Series
Location: NHDOE, Room 15
Presenter: Kim Stiles along with an APH Representative
Intended Audience: Administrators, General and Special Education Educators, Teachers of the Visually Impaired, and Parents

Description: Sense of Science is a unique tactile/visual science series designed for visually impaired students in grades K-3, and for other students who may benefit from a multi-sensory approach to learning. Sense of Science is designed to make the world of science accessible, understandable, and enjoyable.

When: Friday, April 13, 2012 ~ 1:00pm-3:00pm
Topic: The Importance of Braille Literacy
Location: NHDOE, Room 15
Presenter: Kim Stiles along with an APH Representative
Intended Audience: Administrators, General and Special Education Educators, Teachers of the Visually Impaired, and Parents

Description: This presentation speaks to parents and school staff to help understand the importance of Braille Literacy for students.

When: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 ~ 1:00pm-3:00pm
Topic: The Digital Light Box
Location: NHDOE, Room 15
Presenter: Kim Stiles along with an APH Representative
Intended Audience: Administrators, General and Special Education Educators, Teachers of the Visually Impaired, and Parents

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When: Monday, April 30, 2012 ~ 9:00am-4:00pm
Topic: Cortical Visual Impairment
Location: NHDOE, Room 15
Presenter: Christina Roman from APH
Intended Audience: Administrators, General and Special Education Educators, Teachers of the Visually Impaired, and Parents

Description: To help parents and educators gain a better understanding of Cortical Visual Impairment. Dr. Christina Roman is the APH Project Leader in the area of Cortical Visual Impairments. Chris, a well-known educator, author, and lecturer, has provided a number of National Instructional Partnerships events for APH in the area of CVI as it relates to APH products. She is a member of our CVI Synergy focus group, and was instrumental in helping us develop and refine the "FDB" (Functions at the Definition of Blindness) category in the Federal Quota Student Registration System.

When: Tuesday May 1, 2012 ~ 9:00am-3:30pm
Topic: Cortical Visual Impairment
Location: NHDOE, Room 15
Presenter: Christina Roman from APH
Intended Audience: Administrators, General and Special Education Educators, Teachers of the Visually Impaired, and Parents

Description: To help parents and educators gain a better understanding of Cortical Visual Impairment. Dr. Christina Roman is the APH Project Leader in the area of Cortical Visual Impairments. Chris, a well-known educator, author, and lecturer, has provided a number of National Instructional Partnerships events for APH in the area of CVI as it relates to APH products. She is a member of our CVI Synergy focus group, and was instrumental in helping us develop and refine the "FDB" (Functions at the Definition of Blindness) category in the Federal Quota Student Registration System.

When: Friday, May 4, 2012 ~ 11:00am-3:00pm
Topic: Book Port Plus
Location: NHDOE, Room 15
Presenter: Kim Stiles along with an APH Representative
Intended Audience: Administrators, General and Special Education Educators, Teacher's of the Visually Impaired, and Parents

Description: Book Port Plus™ represents the latest generation of accessible media player/recorders. Its small size, quality recording, and unique capabilities make it an ideal replacement for cassette player/recorders, earlier Digital Talking Book (DTB) players, or inaccessible commercial digital recorders. Its specialized hardware and software makes Book Port Plus easier to use, more reliable, and more flexible than cell phones or PCs that might perform some of its functions.

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Please register for all trainings with Kerry Schmidt at: Kerry.L.Schmidt@doe.nh.gov . Directions are attached for the Department of Education at Londergan Building (101 Pleasant Street) and Walker Building (21 South Fruit Street).

Should you have any questions, please call the NHAIM at: (603)271-0818.

Further information on products and presenters can be found at: <http://www.aph.org/> .