# OFFICE OF LEARNING STUDENT SERVICES

### **Informational Updates**

#### Sarah Drinkwater, Assistant Superintendent

Greetings From ODE, and Here's to Wonderful Spring and Close to the School Year!

This is our final newsletter of the 2013-2014 school year, and it has a new look! Let us know what you think of the format and organization, and if you have any other suggestions to make it better.

I would like to highlight three topics for you. One is the new information regarding **Modified Diplomas** and Extended Diplomas. As official high school completion documents, and one of three high school diploma options in Oregon, students who earn these diplomas are eligible to apply for federal financial aid for post-secondary education. Please review Executive Numbered Memo 008-2013-14. <a href="http://www.ode.state.or.us/news/announcements/announcement.aspx?ID=9806&TypeID=4">http://www.ode.state.or.us/news/announcements/announcement.aspx?ID=9806&TypeID=4</a>

Secondly, registration for the **Educator Institute on Networking and Transition** is occurring and we would like every special education transition teacher or case manager to attend. There are six regional trainings scheduled for late June 2014 and ODE is able to support the attendance of these specific district staff. Focus is on the transition from school to employment or postsecondary education, as well as the Executive Order. Please see the flyer on page 11 of this newsletter. Sign up soon!

Lastly, I will be travelling the state in May-June, and then September-October connecting with District and ESD Special Education Directors. Please see the dates and locations on page 2 of this newsletter. I look forward to meeting all of you, and would like to hear what is important to your local programs and share with you some of our latest initiatives.

Thank you for all of your work and support throughout the state. Enjoy your summer break with family and friends.

Take care, Sarah

#### FISCAL & DATA COLLECTIONS UPCOMING DUE DATES

DATE	TOPIC	ACTIVITY	ODE
			CONTACT
5/1/14	IDEA Annual Application	Application for Federal Funds for 14/15	Jackie McKim
		closes on 6/2/14	503-947-5629
5/15/14	Discipline Data	Discipline incidents for the 13/14 school	Michael Mahoney
		year closes 6/30/14	503-947-5628
5/15/14	June Special Education Exit	Special Education exit collections for 13/14	Trish Lutgen
		school year closes 6/30/14	503-947-5798
5/15/14	Special Education Child Find	Special Education child find data collection	Patrick Kelly
		for 13/14 school year closes 6/30/14	503-947-5655
5/15/14	Medically Fragile Services -	Number of students who are medically	Leslie Currin
	Nurses & Students HB2693	fragile; school nurses	503-947-5833

# District and ESD Special Education Directors Support Meetings Held Regionally

I've had about a year now to 'get my feet under me' as the new Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, and I have been reflecting on how best to begin a relationship of open communication with you, given the different needs across the state. We all have the same goal of providing quality educational services for students with disabilities and their families, though our challenges shift and change over time.

My model to open our dialogue is to 'come to you' around the state and get to know you personally. I have scheduled 6 meetings in different regions of the state over the next 6 months. Three meetings will occur prior to the end of this school year, and the remaining three will occur by early October. I am inviting you, <u>District and ESD Special Education Directors</u>, to attend one of the meetings near you. I have listed below the locations/dates/times and the counties included within that location, however, please attend whichever one works best for you. There will also be phone-bridge connections at each of the locations in case you cannot attend in person.

See you soon!

Sarah Drinkwater, Assistant Superintendent

#### DATES AND LOCATIONS

May 16 ~ 9-11:30: Douglas ESD-Roseburg including Douglas, Coos, Curry, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, and Lake

May 30 ~ 9-11:30: Intermountain ESD—Pendleton including Umatilla, Morrow, Baker, Union, Malheur, Grant, and Wallowa

**June 4 ~ 9-11:30: High Desert ESD**—Redmond including Jefferson, Crook, Deschutes, Harney, Gilliam, Wheeler, and Sherman

**September 25 ~ 1-3:30: NW Regional ESD**—Hillsboro including Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook, Washington, Marion, Polk, and Yamhill

October 7 ~ 9-11:30: LBL ESD-Albany including Linn, Benton, Lincoln, and Lane

October 10  $\sim$  9-11:30: Clackamas ESD—Clackamas including Clackamas, Multnomah, Hood River, and Wasco

If you have questions: Ruby.sandberg@state.or.us or 503-947-5738

SPECIAL E	DUCATION/GENERAL SUPE	<u> </u>	IUN/EI/ECSE
Nancy Johnson-Dorn	nancy.johnson-dorn@state.or.us	or	503-947-5703
Stella Brown	stella.brown@state.or.us	or	503-947-5643
Alan Garland	alan.garland@state.or.us	or	503-947-5759
Ginna Oliver	ginna.oliver@state.or.us	or	503-947-5662

EDUCATION/CENEDAL CUDED///CION/E//ECCE

Laura Petschauer laura.petschauer@state.or.us 503-947-5936 or **Bruce Sheppard** bruce.shepard@state.or.us or 503-947-5612 kara.williams@state.or.us Kara Williams 503-947-5728 or

### Nurse Updates - New OARs

OAR 581-021-0037 Administration of Prescription and Nonprescription Medication to Students has been expanded to include premeasured doses of epinephrine (epi pens) by trained school personnel. School districts are required to adopt policies and procedures for the administration of epinephrine and develop guidelines for the management of students with life-threatening food allergies. The rule has been filed and is scheduled for hearing and possible adoption by the Oregon State Board of Education in May 2014.

The second new OAR implements legislation from HB 3000 (2013) and requires education providers to require students entering education for the first time to submit "certification" that the student received a vision screening and/or eye examination. The education provider is required to file the certification and results in the student's education record. If the student does not have certification the education provider is required to provide information on vision screening and eye exams to the parent. The bill includes definitions of education providers, vision screening, personnel qualified to conduct vision screening and information the certification must include. ODE developed a temporary rule for implementing this legislation as soon as possible and the temporary rule was adopted by the State Board of Education at its March meeting. The final rule will be filed, scheduled for hearings, heard at the April State Board of Education meeting and adopted in May. The rule will be in Division 21 but does not yet have an assigned number.

If you have questions: <u>Leslie.currin@state.or.us</u> or 503-947-5833

# **Procedural Safeguards Update**

Dear Colleagues:

The Department of Education continues to look for ways to work more efficiently, and will again ask Districts to make their own arrangements to provide additional copies of the Procedural Safeguards booklet this year. This fall's shipment will contain the total number of booklets, including translations, that ODE will ship, and this will be the last year ODE will print and ship the Procedural Safeguards to the Districts.

Beginning next year (2015-16) districts will be responsible for making their own copies of the Procedural Safeguards and funds ODE historically used to produce and ship the booklets to Districts will be allocated to SPR&I grants.

ODE used the following district/program data to determine the number of booklets in each shipment:

1) December 2013 child count (SECC), 2) Child Find and Discipline Incident numbers, and 3) a 10% overage.

Translations are available in Spanish, Russian, Chinese, and Vietnamese. The July 2014 version and its translated versions are posted to the ODE website at <a href="http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/results/?id=261">http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/results/?id=261</a>.

If you have questions: <u>Stella.brown@state.or.us</u> or 503-947-5643

# Kindergarten Assessment 2014-2015

The 2014-2015 Kindergarten Assessment will be similar to last year's with three assessed segments: Early Literacy; Early Math & Approaches to Learning.

The final Kindergarten Assessment administration rules including universal tools, designated supports, and accommodations will be published in April in the Preliminary 2014-2015 Test Administration Manual. Important kindergarten assessment dates are in the Important Dates on page 2 of the Assessment and Accountability Update found at the following site: http://www.ode.state.or.us/news/announcements/announcement.aspx?=9800

If you have questions: Kara. williams@state.or.us or 503-947-5728

# 2014-2015 Systems Performance Review & Improvement (SPR&I)

Please review the <u>tentative</u> 2014 SPR&I Annual Training schedule listed below. The content for the 2014 SPR&I Annual Training will address multiple topics in a different format this year. We will start in the morning as a whole group covering such topics as writing standards-based IEPs through the lens of CCSS, SMARTER accommodations, and new guidance related to a few revised PCR standards started in the 2014-2015 school year. In the afternoon, participants will have an option between various topics. Participants will have 1-hour sessions to choose from covering such topics as transition planning, SPR&I 101 for staff unfamiliar with the system, and best practices to complete the SPR&I activities to make it meaning for staff. Please plan to invite individuals to the training that would benefit from the various topics. Finalized training schedule and agenda will be emailed to SPED directors via SPR&I system.

#### TENTATIVE – 2014 SPR&I Annual Training Schedule

10/1/14 – Hilton Eugene Hotel

10/7/14 – Willamette ESD (EI/ECSE only)

10/7/14 – Chemeketa Winema (School Age only)

10/9/14 – Clackamas Community College

10/14/14 — Eagle Crest Resort

10/16/14 — Geiser Grand Hotel

10/21/14 – Holiday Inn Eugene/Springfield

10/23/14 – Southern Oregon University (SOU)

If you have any questions: Laura.petschauer@state.or.us or 503-947-5936

# Systems Performance Review & Improvement (SPR&I) Sub-grant Deadline

SPR&I annual sub-grant awards assist districts/programs with annual performance data collection and reporting for special education. Grant monies may be used to attend required SPR&I trainings and to complete all state and federal components of the SPR&I System, which includes training activities related to indicator improvement and corrective action plans submitted to ODE. All monies must be used by 6/30/2014 and the final submission of claims is due no later than 8/13/2014.

If you have any questions: Laura.petschauer@state.or.us or 503-947-5936

# **IDEA COMPLIANCE AND DISTRICT RESOURCES**

Sarah Drinkwater	sarah.drinkwater@state.or.us	or	503-947-5702
Trish Lutgen	trish.lutgen@state.or.us	or	503-947-5798
Jackie McKim	jackie.mckim@state.or.us	or	503-947-5629
Wes Mouw	wes.mouw@state.or.us	or	503-947-5817
Rae Ann Ray	raeann.ray@state.or.us	or	503-947-5722
Claudette Rushing	claudette.rushing@state.or.us	or	503-947-5689
Jeremy Wells	jeremy.wells@state.or.us	or	503-947-5782
Blake Whitson	blake.whitson@state.or.us	or	503-947-5872
Steve Woodcock	steve.woodcock@state.or.us	or	503-947-5797

# **IDEA Complaints Update**

The Oregon Department of Education has completed the following investigations for State IDEA complaints since the last newsletter. You can find full text versions of the orders at <a href="http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/">http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/</a> page/?id=3527.

#### 13-054-035

This complaint examined allegations related to child find, initial evaluation requirements for a student with potential disabilities, and denial of a free appropriate public education (FAPE). The District had reason to know or suspect the student was in need of special education services due to the student's behavior in class and during school hours. Additionally, the parents of the student requested, a special education evaluation and an IEP. The District failed to identify or evaluate the student for special education or special education services, so the child find and initial evaluation allegations were substantiated. The FAPE allegation was not substantiated due to the fact that the student was never evaluated for special education services.

#### 14-054-002

In this complaint, the student had an accommodation of "additional time to get to class" on the current IEP, but the record shows the student was marked tardy to several classes. Two allegations were substantiated in this case, because the District did not distribute the accommodation "additional time to get to class" to the student's teachers in a timely manor and there was no evidence that the teachers and related services providers were given access to the IEP or told of their specific responsibility for implementing the student's IEP. Another allegation related to using positive behavioral supports was not substantiated, because the student's present levels statement did not include a reference to any required positive behavioral supports. Finally, a student records allegation was not substantiated as the Department held that the District may distribute binders with the student's IEP to staff that have a "legitimate educational interest" in the records.

#### 14-054-004

This complaint was related to private evaluations, and the Department did not substantiate this allegation, as there was no evidence the parent provided any private evaluations to the school. The District also conducted a Functional Behavior Assessment within 60 days, and met with the parent to discuss the FBA in a timely manner, so the allegation related to timely evaluations was not substantiated. The documentation provided also shows the district timely adopted and implemented an IEP for the student's communication needs so the Child Find allegation was not substantiated.

Continued on page 6

#### 14-054-006

In this case, the student is eligible for services under the Specific Learning Disability category and was performing successfully in school. The parent's requested an iPad for the student to use in some classes; however, the student did well in school and made improvements in reading without an IPad. The District also provided the student with another type of tablet to use in class and was in the process of conducting a comprehensive Assistive Technology (AT) evaluation when the complaint was filed. As such, the allegation that the District did not provide services as outlined in the IEP and the allegation that district failed to provide AT services were not substantiated. Likewise, the Department did not substantiate the denial of FAPE allegation. An allegation related to Prior Written Notice was not contested by the District.

#### 14-054-007

This complaint dealt with a medical bill for about \$300 that the parent received from a medical doctor after the doctor spoke with District staff regarding various assessments completed during the eligibility evaluation process. The parent alleged the District violated the IDEA's reevaluation requirements because it would not reimburse parent for this charge from the doctor and more, specifically, that the District exceeded the scope of consent provided by parent for reevaluation purposes. The Department concluded that the exchange of information between the District and doctor was clearly within the scope of the consent that the parent provided for the reevaluation process. Additionally, the District did not request, require, or initiate the follow up conversations with the doctor; the District had already completed its evaluation process when the doctor called to gain further information for the parent. All allegations were not substantiated.

If you have questions: Claudette.rushing@state.or.us or 503-947-5689

#### Save the Date!

COSA/ODE Special Education Administrators Annual Fall Conference 2014

Eugene Hilton Conference Center, Eugene, Oregon

Pre-conference Seminars: Wednesday, October 1, 2014

General Conference Sessions: Thursday & Friday, October 2 & 3, 2014

Featured Keynote Speakers:

From the Oregon Department of Education:

Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction, Rob Saxton and Assistant Superintendent, Sarah Drinkwater

From the PAXIS Institute:

Dennis Embry, Ph.D. Senior Scientist & Founder

## **SICC & SACSE Advisory Meeting**

The State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) and State Advisory Council for Special Education (SACSE) will have a joint advisory council meeting on Thursday, May 15, at the Public Service Building, 255 Capitol Street NE, Salem in Basement A. A link to this public announcement: <a href="http://www.ode.state.or.us/news/announcements/announcement.aspx?ID=9778">http://www.ode.state.or.us/news/announcement.aspx?ID=9778</a>.

The SICC and SACSE, together, advise the Department of Education on special education services for children birth-21 years of age. Specifically, our advisory panels assist the Department by:

- · Advising on unmet needs in early intervention, early childhood and school age special education services;
- · Reviewing and commenting publicly on any rules proposed by the Oregon Department of Education;
- · Assisting in developing and reporting data on and evaluation of the programs and services;
- · Assist in the development and implementation of policies that are a part of the statewide system;
- · Assist all appropriate agencies in achieving full participation, coordination, and cooperation for implementation of the statewide system;
- · Review and comment on services and policies regarding services to assure cost-effective and efficient use of resources.

If you have questions regarding the SICC contact: Ginna.oliver@state.or.us or 503-947-5662 and for SACSE contact: Steve.woodcock@state.or.us or 503-947-5797

#### **Data Collection Presentations**

April 29th at 2pm: Blake Whitson, a Research Analyst with the Special Education Data Unit, will be presenting on two of the Spring special education data collections — June SpEd Exit and Child Find (Indicator 11). Patty Johnson from Teaching Research Institute will be presenting on Special Education Post School Outcome Data collection.

May 1st at 2pm: Michael Mahoney, an Education Specialist, will be presenting the Discipline Incidents web based training.

You will find the link to attend the trainings located at <a href="https://district.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=234">https://district.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=234</a>. If you miss the live viewings, the recorded version of the trainings will be posted at the same web address.

If you have questions: Blake.whitson@state.or.us or 503-947-5872 or (Patty Johnson) johnsop@wou.edu or 503-838-8779 OR Michael.mohoney@state.or.us or 503-947-5628

# **SECC Boot Camp**

The Special Education Data Unit within the Office of Learning - Student Services will be conducting its annual SECC Boot Camp Trainings this fall on September 23 and September 25, 2014. The two one-day sessions held at ODE are for District/ESD staff who are **new** to the Special Education Child Count (SECC) process and are responsible for the submission of SECC data. Training includes Special Education Child Find and June Special Education Exit data collections. Each full day session covers basic coding of records, validating and submitting data to ODE. In general these trainings are limited to 9 slots, or on a "first come/first serve basis".

Further information can be found at <a href="http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?=4147">http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?=4147</a>.

If you have questions: Trish.lutgen@state.or.us or 503-947-5798 or Jackie.mckim@state.or.us or 503-947-5629

#### REGIONAL PROGRAMS/BEST PRACTICES

Lisa Darnold lisa.darnold@state.or.us or 503-947-5786 martha.buenrostro@state.or.us **Martha Buenrostro** 503-947-5611 or melissa.glover@state.or.us **Melissa Glover** 503-947-5811 or **Patrick Kelly** patrick.kelly@state.or.us 503-947-5655 or **Robin Shobe** robin.shobe@state.or.us 503-947-5816 or

# Distribution of the Special Education Report Cards by School Districts and EI/ECSE

Districts and programs must take responsibility for ensuring that the School District and EI/ECSE Special Education Report Cards reach the parents of all students with IEPs and IFSPs enrolled in Oregon public schools and EI/ECSE programs.

Many districts and programs choose to mail their report cards, but it is not a requirement. Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA 2004), each parent of a student with an IEP or IFSP must receive a copy of the report card.

The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) requires distribution no later than May 20 of each school year, and the distribution procedures are left to the discretion of the district or program.

Further requirements for this distribution can be found at:

http://www.ode.state.or.us/data/schoolanddistrict/funding/sped/reports/distribution\_rc-031314.pdf for school districts.

http://www.ode.state.or.us/data/schoolanddistrict/funding/sped/reports/distribution\_rc\_ecse-031314.pdf for EI/ECSE programs.

If you have questions: Robin.shobe@state.or.us or 503-947-5816

# Medical / Health Assessment Update

The medical statement or health assessment statement form was again revised in March 2014, along with instructions for completing the form. (These forms had previously been revised in November, 2013.)

This recent revision was necessary to make corrections to ensure consistency with OAR 581-015-2150 for Hearing Impairment eligibility. Both documents are located at the following locations on the ODE website: School Age Sample Forms Page <a href="http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=817">http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=817</a>
EI/ECSE Evaluation Forms and Medical Statements Page <a href="http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?=3166">http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?=3166</a>

If you have questions: Lisa.darnold@state.or.us or 503-947-5786 or Martha.buenrostro@state.or.us or 503-947-5611

#### **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, SECONDARY TRANSITION AND ASSESSMENT**

Mitch Kruska	mitch.kruska@state.or.us	or	503-947-5634
Sam Ko	sam.ko@state.or.us	or	503-947-5745
Brad Lenhardt	lenhardt@state.or.us	or	503-947-5755
Heather Lindsey	heather.lindsey@state.or.us	or	503-947-5791
Cherisse Loop	cherisse.loop@state.or.us	or	503-947-5776
Michael Mahoney	michael.mahoney@state.or.us	or	503-947-5628
Sally Simich	sally.simich@state.or.us	or	503-947-5639

# **Great Anti-Bullying Resources**

http://stop-bullies.com/Blog/?post\_format=video(school policies video); www.stop-bullies.com (bullying resources); www.stop-bullies.com (bullying resources); www.stop-bullying.gov (resources to prevent and intervene with bullying); www.oregonschoolclimate.org (clearinghouse of safe schools resources); www.pbis.org (provides free anti-bullying program – "Expect Respect") www.ode.state.or.us/opportunities/grants/nclb/title\_iv/a\_drugfree/whatisbullying.pdf (facts about bullying and cyber-bullying); www.cyberbullying.us (resources devoted to cyber-bullying);

If you have questions: Michael.mahoney@state.or.us or 503-947-5628

#### **Post-School Outcome News**

The exit collection is now open, and the exit interview has been updated to include questions on in-school work experiences. The list of required students to interview for the follow up interview will be posted on April 11th and data entry for the interviews will open June 1st. Both collections will remain open through September.

It is crucial that all districts update their contact information on the PSO 2.0 Application, the Exit Interviews, and the follow up collections. An upcoming survey will be sent to the contacts on this list to help us understand the supports school districts need to successfully collect and use the post school outcomes data to support informed decisions around transition. Training and technical assistance will focus on what we learn from that survey.

Please plan to join us for the WebEx on 4/29/14 when we will revisit PSO 2.0 and go over collection details. More information on the WebEx coming soon.

If you have questions: johnsop@wou.edu or 503-838-8779 or

Sally Simich - sally.simich@state.or.us or 503-947-5639

## **Smarter Balanced Update**

2014-2015 Preliminary Test Administration Manual Now Available

To help district test coordinators prepare for the 2014-15 school year, ODE has posted the 2014-15 Preliminary Test Administration Manual (TAM) to <a href="http://www.ode.state.or.us/go/tam">http://www.ode.state.or.us/go/tam</a>. The purpose of the Preliminary TAM is to provide districts with advance notice on the <a href="https://www.ode.state.or.us/go/tam">and requirements</a> that will govern administration of the 2014-2015 Oregon Statewide Assessments, including the operational Smarter Balanced assessments in mathematics and English language arts. In addition, please note that the Preliminary TAM also contains the final policies and requirements in effect for the 2014-2015 Kindergarten Assessment. ODE will publish an Interim Test Administration Manual by August 1, 2014 that locks down all policies and requirements that are not specific to the new Smarter Balanced assessments; this Interim Test Administration manual will also include information about the nationally-normed test that will be offered in 2014-2015 for all students in Grade 10 as required under ORS 329.488. Once the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium releases its final policies and requirements that will govern the operational administration of the Smarter Balanced assessments, ODE will publish a Final Test Administration Manual that includes the final policies and requirements for administering the Smarter Balanced assessments.

2014-2015 Preliminary Statewide Assessments Accessibility (formerly known as "Accommodations") Manual is planned to be available in May

Smarter UAA Guidelines, FAQs, & Training Modules can be found at <a href="http://sbac.portal.airast.org/field-test/resources/#training">http://sbac.portal.airast.org/field-test/resources/#training</a>, specifically:

Manuals and User Guides

Test Administrator Resources

School Test Coordinator and District Test Coordinator Resources

**Student Resources** 

Field Test Communications Toolkit

**Training Modules** 

ODE Accommodations ("Accessibility Supports") webpage: <a href="http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=487">http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=487</a> to access the following topics:

Smarter Balanced Usability, Accessibility, and Accommodations Guidelines

**Smarter-OAKS Accessibility Crosswalk** 

Smarter Balanced Guidelines FAQ

Smarter Balanced UAA Implementation Guide

To keep current with the latest assessment news please visit the Assessment & Accountability Update webpage at <a href="http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?=1312">http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?=1312</a>.

If you have questions: Brad.lenhardt@state.or.us or 503-947-5755

# Educator Institute on Networking and Transition

Organized by Oregon Department of Education with direction from Governor's Executive Order 13-04



**Institute Information:** ODE will offer a regional training which will provide a basic overview of agencies that assist with the transition from school to employment or postsecondary training. Teachers will have an opportunity to learn about the Governor's Executive Order 13-04, Vocational Rehabilitation, Developmental Disability Services, Employment First, Parent Advocacy Resources, and transition related curriculum.

**Welcomed Attendees:** Middle school and high school SPED teachers, ESD teachers, Transition Specialists, Resource Room and Transition Teachers. There are 100 slots allocated for each location (65 for Baker City); registration is on a first come, first serve basis.

# Registration is now OPEN at: <a href="http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/results/?id=266">http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/results/?id=266</a>

June 23<sup>rd</sup>- Medford, OR June 25<sup>th</sup>- Portland, OR June 26<sup>th</sup>- Bend, OR

August 7th- Seaside, OR

**If you have questions contact:** heather.lindsey@state.or.us or 503-947-5791

ALL INSTITUTES HELD 9:00am - 4:00pm

#### **New Staff**



We have three new staff to Student Services and want to welcome them to ODE. Feel free to contact them should you have special education or data related questions.

Jeremy Wells (right) is our new special education communications and resource specialist, and is a county contact for districts within Clackamas ESD. He is also supporting Crook and Jefferson counties while Cherisse Loop is on military leave. Jeremy grew up in Eastern Oregon (Milton-Freewater) and has lived and worked in Western Oregon since 2000. He was the Special Program Coordinator for the Alsea School District for the past 6 ½ years, and is knowledgeable about small school district issues. Jeremy is the father of a 5 year old son and a 3 year old daughter. He loves to garden and is learning how to adapt his former classroom plants to cubical living.

Wesley Mouw (left) is a new research analyst in Student Services and brings research experience to ODE. He moved to the 'Beaver State' to attend graduate school at OSU after earning a B.S. in Environmental Psychology from California State University San Marcos. His most recent work was with the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. As a father with a six year old daughter, Wes is invested in Oregon's education system. Outside of work, you can often find Wes hiking, flying a kite with his daughter, or reading a book with a tasty cup of tea.

Cynthia Garton (center) is our new office specialist, specifically supporting the data unit in Student Services. Her previous job was as a newsroom assistant at the Statesman Journal in Salem, supporting staff for the reporters and editors. Duties included customer service, data entry and assisting with website editing. Cynthia comes from a teamwork environment and feels that the data team is a good fit for her. Cynthia enjoys reading with her 'lap feline' Lily, and hiking with her husband.

#### Other Oregon Department of Education Updates

If the reader is interested in updates from other ODE offices, they may be found at:

**Education Updates**, Office of Deputy Superintendent Rob Saxton

Assessment & Accountability Updates, Office of Assessment & Information Services

Informational Updates are posted online at: <a href="https://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=3843">www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=3843</a>

Video training schedule for Collections at: <a href="https://district.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=234">https://district.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=234</a>

Need more information?

ODE Helpdesk Webex trainings: <a href="https://district.ode.state.or.us/search/results/?id=431">https://district.ode.state.or.us/search/results/?id=431</a>

Changes to the listserv contact: Ruby.sandberg@state.or.us

It is the policy of the State Board of Education and a priority of the Oregon Department of Education that there will be no discrimination or harassment on the grounds of race, color, sex, marital status, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability in any educational programs, activities or employment. Persons having questions about equal opportunity and nondiscrimination should contact the Deputy State Superintendent of Public Instruction at the Oregon Department of Education, 255 Capitol Street, NE, Salem, Oregon 97310; phone 503-947-5740; or fax 503-378-4772.

Suggestions for future topics or ideas please contact Jeremy Wells at jeremy.wells@state.or.us or at 503-947-5782