

MEMORANDUM

To: Glenna Gallo, Director of Special Education Services
From: Utah Special Education Advisory Panel (USEAP)
Subject: Dyslexia
Date: July 10, 2014

In our role as an advisory panel, we would like to provide input and recommendations to the Special Education Section of the Utah State Office of Education to improve services for students with disabilities through the provision of additional LEA support to students with disabilities, staff, and their teachers as it relates to Dyslexia/Learning Disabilities.

Recommendations:

- LEAs will provide parent information and support about Dyslexia; it is part of the Specific Learning Disability eligibility.
- LEAs will incorporate Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) for all students in the approach for addressing Dyslexia/Learning Disabilities in general education classrooms. MTSS would include primary interventions at the whole school level, which may include increasing the awareness of Dyslexia/Learning Disabilities throughout the entire school and community, and by improving higher education for pre-service teachers working with students with disabilities in their classroom. Additionally, implementing Universal Design for Learning (UDL) in their MTSS structure.
- Provide UDL professional development for general education teachers to improve Tier 1 teaching for all students.
- Provide resources that address UDL to all LEAs.
- LEAs provide adequate staff development opportunities.
- General and special education collaborate in recognizing those at risk for Dyslexia/Learning Disabilities.
- Promote disability awareness activities throughout the schools.
- Institutions of higher education (IHEs) will address within their teacher preparation programs the characteristics, instructional strategies, and resources available to appropriately provide services for students with learning disabilities, including dyslexia.

Thank you for your time and consideration in reviewing these recommendations. We as a panel appreciate all of your efforts on behalf of children with disabilities throughout the State of Utah.