



# Friday News Blast



---

11-8-2019

## **Final call for the Nebraska Paraeducator Conference:**

The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Paraeducator Conference is just days away. Don't let your Paraeducator miss Heather Robbins Keynote on "Forging Relationships: It Begins with Us," **or** Kent Gerlach's Keynote, "Who Am I and Where Am I Going?" **or** Matt McNiff's Keynote, "In Search of the Missing Link: Improving Your Meaningful Connections with Kids." Also, fourteen breakout sessions focus on topics that impact our students every day. Register at <http://www.cvent.com/d/d6qxvx>

## **Resources for Reading Science**

Please enjoy and share these excellent reading science resources with your educators:

- [Education Week Video](#): What Teachers Should Know about the Science of Reading, with Emily Hanford
- [A series of video interviews with Jack Fletcher](#), Ph.D., University of Houston
- [Reading 101](#): A Guide to Teaching Reading and Writing by Reading Rockets
- [Teaching Reading IS Rocket Science](#) by AFT Teachers
- [Essentials of Assessment, Preventing and Overcoming Reading Difficulties](#), by David A. Kilpatrick\*
- [Equipped for Reading Success](#), by David A. Kilpatrick\*
- [LETRS](#): Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling

\*Note that David Kilpatrick will be in Omaha December 9<sup>th</sup>. Registration is still open (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-day-with-dr-david-kilpatrick-tickets-68652053139>) but if you're not able to attend, you can still check out some of his materials.

## **K12 Engagement Project**

The student engagement project has a plethora of resources providing evidence based practices to support educators in improving student behavior and reducing exclusionary discipline. There are resources that will help strengthen educators' competence to collect data in order to evaluate and support the students they serve. The materials were created to be used by a variety of professionals with minimal training. Since the project was funded by the Nebraska Department of Education materials can be widely disseminated, free of charge. You will find materials that can be used for individual students, classrooms, school-wide, district-wide and materials can be adapted to any grade level.

This month's highlighted brief is: Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support (PBIS)

Positive Behavioral Interventions (PBIS) can be used to support children with challenging behavior. Not only are students with challenging behaviors unable to learn themselves, they often distract peers and teachers in the classroom. Many times this leads to ineffective discipline including detention, suspension or expulsion. PBIS provides a school wide frame work to prevent, reduce and replace problem behaviors. Learn more about the 3 Tiers of support in the K12 PBIS brief at - <https://k12engagement.unl.edu/positive-behavioral-interventions-and-supports>

### **Interpreter Referral Service**

As a reminder, the Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NCDHH) will cease operation of an interpreter referral service effective December 31, 2019.

Beginning January 1, 2020, you will need to contact a Nebraska licensed sign language interpreter on your own or utilize one of the many privately owned and operated interpreter referral agencies that have expressed an interest in providing these services in Nebraska to locate an interpreter for you.

Please go to [ncdhh.nebraska.gov](http://ncdhh.nebraska.gov) and under the "Find a Sign Language Interpreter" tab, you will find a list of Nebraska licensed interpreters and their approved contact information, as well as a list of privately owned and operated interpreter referral agencies. You may begin using these resources at any time prior to December 31, 2019.

NCDHH wants to thank you for the many years of providing interpreter referral services for you. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Sharon Sinkler (402-471-3593) or John Wyvill at NCDHH at 402-471-3065 (office) or 402-817-7421 (VP).

### **Call for Presentations**

NDE Annual Transition Conference: *Dream It, Plan It, Do It!* - February 18-19, 2020

The Nebraska Department of Education is seeking proposals for sessions at the 2020 conference to be held at the Younes Center in Kearney. Proposals can be submitted at the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/y2kpgd5a> Please submit your offer to present by **5:00 pm, November 29, 2019.**

### **Age Appropriate Transition Assessment**

When monitoring transition age student files, the following question is asked: *Is there evidence that the measurable postsecondary goal(s) were based on age appropriate transition assessment?* Be sure this is evident in your student's IEP. Also, you may check out and use Transition Assessment Tools from your ESU.

Thanks for all you do. Enjoy your weekend,

*Steve and Amy*