

Montana Autism Education Project: Doug Doty

TRAININGS

PECS Level 2 Training had a good turnout 38/40. PECS Level 1 had 28/40. We will likely not do a PECS Level 1 in Billings in 2020 unless you have a large number of people to attend (30+)

STARS training is next week. Registration has remained full and we will likely bring STARS back to next year. We are also looking at bringing STARS Links* training for transition-age students in this spring.

One training I want to bring to Billings is the [iPad Boot Camp](#). It had rave reviews and she is a very good trainer.

Other spring trainings have not yet been planned. If you have specific trainings you want this spring or fall, please let me know. MAEP dollars are also available to support CSPD training.

New Autism Criteria

I have had only three questions on the criteria. Two answers were already in the guide and the other was a request for an example of make-believe play.

Online Training - OPI Renewal Units No Longer Available

Early in the summer we had an unusual number of learners from Billings requesting OPI renewal units for completing all 117 hours of the online training. Upon examination, some learners were claiming to have completed all 117 training hours and 50+ courses in as few as six to twelve training days. What I discovered was that the content provider (Relias) had changed the online videos so that they could be fast-forwarded through to the quizzes, something that was not possible when we purchased access to the training. They will not change that back.

This information was shared with OPI Licensure and the Superintendent's office. No action was taken against the learners with claimed to have completed a very large number of training hours in a very short time and they were awarded OPI renewal units.

If you have staff who are/have used the Relias Online Training renewal units for a step increase or other purpose, they were given an official transcript. That transcript can be reviewed to determine the start and end date of their training and how many courses were "completed" in each calendar day.

Links Training

This two-day workshop provides participants with information on how to implement evidence-based practices for secondary students using the Links Curriculum (Arick, Hoffman and Magee-Arick, 2012). Participants will learn to use a process for assessing and teaching functional routines that has been documented in the research. Extensive information will be given on selecting and individualizing routines and teaching specific skills to support success during routines.

Participants will learn how to use the evidence-based strategies of discrete trial training, use of visual supports and the use of modeling strategies to teach critical skills necessary to support success during daily functional and academic routines. Presenters will identify specific skills to teach using a research-based assessment system and will then demonstrate how to teach these skills using the most appropriate instructional strategy. The Links Curriculum includes extensive data collection systems and participants will learn to collect and use data for instructional decision making, tracking student progress and writing IEP Goals. Video examples and video practice activities will be incorporated into the workshop. An on-line computerized system will be demonstrated with hands-on practice by the participants.

Available spring dates for Billings are (Billings would get first choice for Monday/Tuesday or Wednesday/Thursday as we would do Bozeman in the same week.)

February 24-27

March 9-12

March 29-April 2

April 13-16