



Early Childhood Newsletter

October 2025

WELCOME!

As we reflect back on the first month of school, there are lots of areas to be proud of and many ways that we want to keep growing and expanding our programming for the students we work with.

Our newsletters aim at providing you with upcoming trainings, resources, and ideas. If you have something that you would like shared in a newsletter, please reach out and we would happily include it!

In collaboration,

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4K VIRTUAL CONNECTION CALLS

The next virtual connection call is on October 15th from 3:30-4:30 p.m. on being a playful educator and your role in the play continuum. If you are interested in joining Michelle Powell and Katie Belitz afterwards to discuss what this means more locally, join us right after the virtual connection from 4:30-5:00.



EARLY CHILDHOOD NETWORK

Join us in the afternoons of Wednesday, November 19th, Friday, January 30th, Wednesday, March 18th, and Friday, May 15th for early childhood networking. Topics will include family engagement, behavior as communication, the importance of play, as well as learning from each other! Our hope is that you come back from each session with something to take with you and use with your students right away! Register here!

UPCOMING TRAININGS

Navigating Special Education Resources- 2 session event for families and educators. Session one talks about Birth-3 and pre-school

Supporting Neurodiverse students: Understanding 'Sensory'-Learn more about how the sensory system influences our brain and more effective ways to utilize our favorite sensory tools.

Taking a deep dive into Neurodiversity & Executive Functioning: What's the support?- Learn more about taking a skills based approach to challenging behaviors. Also learn about the ability to organize cognitive processes and support these differences.

Flexibility: It's a Skill & Resilience- Understand how the brain works, identify factors that impact the student's ability to access and use flexibility, and think about strategies for adult behavior change to support a student who might struggle.

Evidence-Based Improvement Strategies in Early Childhood- Each month explore a specific EBIS that is effective with preschoolers, discuss how to implement it with fidelity, and learn how to evaluate its effectiveness.

2025 Wisconsin Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Virtual Conference- The conference will follow a flexible online format on Zoom on Tuesday October 14th, 2025 from 8:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The conference is \$40 for WI-AIMH members and \$75 for non-members. Recordings will be available afterwards to all registrants.

Wisconsin's 4K Leadership Forum- This FREE virtual event will be held on Wednesday October 22nd, 2025. It is a opportunity for 4K educators across the state to collaborate and network around 4 year-old Kindergarten in Wisconsin.

The Language of Behavior Cohort: Practical and Proactive Strategies for Early Learners: This virtual series looks at behavior as a form of communication, social-emotional developmental milestones, and the science of regulation.



UPCOMING TRAININGS PART 2

Statewide Inclusive Early Childhood Paraprofessional Virtual Series: This series is meant to support paraprofessionals working with preschoolers with IEPs. They will learn how to support their students, collaborate with others and increase positive outcomes for their students.

Big Feelings, Bright Futures: Understand, Respond, and Teach Emotional Skills in EC: Join us here at CESA 4 on November 20th to learn about addressing behavior and add some new tools to your 'tool box'.

Early Childhood Indicator 6 & 7 Learning Sessions: Learn about the basics of indicators 6 & 7, the age anchoring and rating process, examine state and local data, learn how to use your data for programming decisions.

EC CCR IEP Cohort: Dig deep into each step of the IEP process and apply the information learned into your own IEPs.

Book Study: From Behaving to Belonging: This five session series will detail how teachers can shift from a 'behavior management' mindset to an approach that supports all students—even the most challenging ones—with kindness, creativity, acceptance, and love.

WECA Conference: October 3rd-4th will be jam-packed with professional development, networking and fun!

Pathways to Quality Conference and Resource Fair: The conferences theme is building bridges: strengthening connections in Early Childhood for a brighter future and will be held at the Hyatt Regency Milwaukee on Saturday, November 15th!

Early Literacy Learning Series: Support & Strategies for Students with Significant Needs: Register now for the 1st session on October 22nd.

Developmentally Appropriate Early Literacy for Young Children with Disabilities: A Community of Practice: Register for the 1st Session on October 28th.

Uncovering the Secrets to Joyful Literacy Cohort: Join the 7-part cohort focused on building joyful future readers. The 1st session is November 3rd.



TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE RESOURCES

Early Education Suspensions Ignore the Science of Traumatic Stress: This article talks about how ACES impact our students and how we have the power to change our response to support their growth.

Revelations in Education: Contains a lot of resources intended to support your instructional practices, behavioral management, and be engaging and informative.

Supporting Mental Wellness: Insights for Educators: Learn about building a connected classroom, creating a safe a classroom environment, creating inclusive classrooms, reframing classroom discipline, and taking care of your own mental wellness.

Regulated and Relational Podcast: Learn about the attachment focused concepts of regulation and relationship and how we can help children build resilience and emotional health, as you are on the go!

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

Pushing In: Enhancing AAC Usage in Self Contained Classrooms is a video that looks at the benefits of using a collaborative model to ensure the best outcomes.

Assistive Technology for Young Children in Special Education: It makes a difference: This article (back from 1998!) discusses how technology can level the playing field for our students.

Transforming Lives with Assistive Technology in Early Childhood Special Education talks about how assistive technology can help equip our students with tools necessary for increased growth and learning.



INDICATOR REMINDERS

All preschoolers with IEPs who entered 5K should have a completed Child outcome exit record along with any preschooler (3, 4, or 5 but not in Kindergarten) that left your district and did not return this fall. Any new preschoolers with IEPs who transferred in may need to have entry records completed. Also check to make sure that the preschool educational environment codes are correct as this may change with placement changes at the beginning of a new year. Please check that all referrals received from county birth to 3 programs are acknowledged in the Indicator 12 Preschool Transitions application. Also, check that all student records in the Indicator 12 Preschool Transition application are closed once the student turned 3.

Resources to Support your Work:

[Indicator 7 The Basics Webinar](#)

[Back to School EC Indicator Checklist](#)

[Indicator 7 Child Outcome DPI Resource Page](#)

[Indicator 6 Preschool Educational Environment Accurate Coding](#)

[Indicator 6 Preschool Educational Environments DPI Resource Page](#)

[Indicator 12 Preschool Transition DPI Resource Page](#)



6 POSITIVE MESSAGES

As the honeymoon phase of back to school routines wears off, it is easy to feel overwhelmed with all the things you are balancing as an educator. [This resource](#) helps provide reminders of ways to keep your messaging to students positive and reflective of the environment you are striving to create. If you want post them in a spot you look each day as a reminder.