

Getting Personal With ... Gary

Gary Woodard serves as the Low Incidence Facilitator for Region 10 within Minnesota, and he advises SpEd Forms staff on the development of RtI tools.

This summer, Gary and his wife are in Utah, where they serve as full-time daycare providers for their three grandchildren, including a seven-month old.

"I now have deep feelings and renewed respect to accompany the words of support I once gave child care providers," says Gary. "This ain't easy!"

From the FAQ Files Instructional Days

Summer is the perfect time to enter instructional days for next school year. An increasing number of aggregate reports use the instructional days calendar to verify and calculate results. Administrators can enter instructional days in Admin Reporting under "GenEd Forms."

SpEd Forms

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The Monthly Minute

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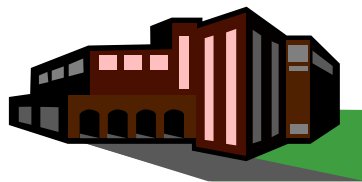


SpEd Forms Calendar

July 17 Preview of changes for annual update sent via customer service email.

July 31 Final list of changes for annual update sent via customer service email.

August 7 Annual update installed.



Focus on ... Goodhue County Education District



Cheryl (Cherie) Johnson is the Director of the Goodhue County Education District which serves close to 900 students in five districts: Cannon Falls, Goodhue, Kenyon Wanamingo, Red Wing and Zumbrota Mazeppa. Four of the districts (all but Red Wing) have been using SpEd Forms since 1996. And Red Wing plans to begin implementing SpEd Forms this Fall.

According to Johnson, by far the best feature of SpEd Forms is the ability to easily transfer student information when students move to a new district. But in her role as Director, she also really likes the Workload Analysis program.

“It’s a big time saver for me,” says Johnson.

Asked about how the State government shutdown is affecting her district, Johnson said it impacts her district in at least two ways.

“On the financial side, if the shutdown continues, we will have to ask our member districts to fund our programs. Since we are an education district, we will not receive direct funding. But we also face programmatic challenges. Staff completing licensure who did not receive their license by June 30th will not be able to teach in the classroom when the school year starts if they can’t get licensed.”

Despite these concerns, Johnson and her team are looking ahead to the 2011-12 school year. Right now, they are focusing on Response to Intervention and gearing up for the PLC meetings that will be held throughout all five districts.

Johnson is also planning to take a little time off the second week of August to go salmon fishing in Alaska with her husband and two boys.

In the News 2011 Annual Update

The annual update includes a set of Restrictive Procedures forms reviewed by the leadership committee, including:

- Revised Behavior Intervention Plan
- Restrictive Procedures Plan
- Restrictive Procedures Physical Holding
- Restrictive Procedures Seclusion
- Staff Debriefing
- Building Oversight Committee Review

To review these forms, please ask Kelli for access to the development/preview server.

Did You Know?

Blue Mounds State Park, 20 miles south of Jasper, is home to a herd of over 100 bison. The “mound” is a Sioux Quartzite cliff of up to 100 feet high. Although pinkish in color, it was said to have appeared bluish in the distance to early settlers.