



Welcome to the Newsletter for NCKSEC. This newsletter will feature student achievements, teacher achievements and news you can use to help improve student outcomes, add instructional strategies to your toolbox, and keep informed of happenings across the cooperative.

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## **Coach, Consult, Collaborate**

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### **Teacher Tidbits**

**Classroom Strategies, Tips and Tools for Dyslexia** (adapted from International Dyslexia Association: *Dyslexia In The Classroom: What Every Teacher Needs to Know*. 2017)

<b>Accommodations Involving Materials</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clarify or simplify written directions—underline or highlight significant parts of the directions or rewrite the direction.</li><li>• Present a small amount of work—tear pages from workbooks and materials to present smaller assignments when students might exhibit anxiety about a large amount of work.</li><li>• Block out extraneous stimuli—cover distracting visuals on a page with a blank sheet of paper, use line markers or windows for reading and displaying math problems. Use larger font size and increase spacing to help separate sections.</li><li>• Highlight essential information</li><li>• Use a placeholder in consumable material—make a diagonal cut across the lower right-hand corner of pages completed. The next page assignment can be readily located.</li><li>• Provide additional practice activities—recommended practice exercises include instructional games, peer teaching activities, self-correcting materials, computer software programs and additional worksheets.</li><li>• Provide a glossary in content areas</li><li>• Develop reading guides—a reading guide helps the reader understand the main ideas and sort out the numerous details related to the main ideas. A reading guide can be developed paragraph-by-paragraph, page-by-page, or section-by section.</li><li>• Use an audio recording device—directions, stories, specific lessons can be recorded. Also to improve reading skills by listening to content being read to them as they follow along silently.</li><li>• Use of assistive technology—tablets, e-readers/dictionaries/spellers, text to speech, audio books.</li></ul>

### **Accommodations Involving Interactive Instruction**

- Use explicit teaching procedures—include explicit teaching steps in lessons (i.e., present and advanced organizer, demonstrate the skill, provide guided practice, offer corrective feedback, set up independent practice, monitor practice, and review)
- Repeat directions—ask students to repeat in their own words; break down directions into steps; simplify by presenting one portion at a time and write it on a chalkboard as stating it orally; ensure students can read and comprehend the directions in written form.
- Maintain daily routines
- Provide a copy of lesson notes
- Provide a graphic organizer—fill in during lesson presentation
- Use step-by-step instruction—present new or difficult information in small sequential steps.
- Simultaneously combine verbal and visual information
- Write key points or words on the board
- Use balanced presentations and activities—balance between oral presentations with visual and participatory activities; balance between large group, small group, and individual activities.
- Use mnemonic instruction—help students remember key information or steps in a learning strategy.
- Emphasize daily review

### **Accommodations Involving Student Performance**

- Change response mode—students with fine motor difficulty change the mode to underlining, selecting from multiple choice, sorting or marking. Students can be given extra space for writing allowed to respond on individual whiteboards.
- Provide an outline of the lesson—shows students the organization of the material.
- Encourage use of graphic organizers—puts material into visual format
- Place students close to the teacher
- Encourage use of assignment books or calendars
- Have student turn lined paper vertically for math
- Use cues to denote important items—use asterisks or bullets
- Design hierarchical worksheets—arrange from easiest to hardest to encourage early success.
- Allow use of instructional aids—letter and number strips, number lines, counters, calculators and other assistive technology
- Display work samples
- Use peer-mediated learning—study buddies, elbow partners
- Use flexible work times—additional time to complete
- Provide additional practice
- Use assignment substitutions or adjustments—oral vs written format for tests

## *Student Showcase*

### *Aaron McClurg*

Aaron McClurg is a sophomore at Logan High School. He is one happy guy and brings joy to our school in many ways. He recently took on the job of crossing guard at school during the morning drop-off. He not only looks out for the safety of others, but is a wonderful greeter as kids, parents, and staff come to school.

Aaron's other contributions to our school are; monthly bulletin boards in the high school, awareness and kindness posters, student aid in the preschool, work study in the lunchroom and at the Assisted Living. Aaron communicates with the Proloquo2go app and enjoys articles from the News To You website and listening to stories on Tumblebooks. He also loves music, dancing, basketball, the Larks Special Olympics team and helping others. He loves watching music videos on youtube, cooking, and playing video games.

Aaron dreams about moving to Hays and living with his sister, going to movies, working as a janitor, and coaching basketball. (submitted by Mrs. Jean Kiser, teacher)



**CONGRATULATIONS, AARON MCCLURG, FOR BEING NCKSEC STUDENT  
SHOWCASE IN DECEMBER 2018!**



WHEN WE REMEMBER A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS, IT IS NOT THE PRESENTS THAT MADE IT SPECIAL, BUT THE LAUGHTER, THE FEELING OF LOVE, AND THE TOGETHERNESS OF FRIENDS AND FAMILY THAT MADE THAT CHRISTMAS SPECIAL. (CATHERINE PULSIFER)



### Contact Us

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### CALENDAR REMINDERS:

**CHRISTMAS BREAK—NCKSEC OFFICE  
WILL BE CLOSED DEC. 24-JAN.1**

#### SAVE THE DATE!

**PLC MEETINGS IN JANUARY:**

**SCHOOL PSYCH—JAN. 16**

**INTERRELATED—JAN. 22 IN SMITH  
CENTER**

**JAN. 23 IN ALMENA**

**JAN. 24 IN PLAINVILLE**

**GIFTED—JAN. 23**

**SLP—JAN. 25**

**EC—JAN. 25**

**CONSULTANTS—JAN. 30**

**MANDT TRAINING—FEB. 13-14**

**NEXT NEWSLETTER COMING IN  
MARCH**

