

Vision Conference Agenda & Registration

NYS SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

VISION CONFERENCE; Meeting the Unique Needs of Blind and Visually Impaired Students

November 17, 2014



**This is a FREE conference.
Space is limited so
register early!**

**Registration due by:
November 3, 2014**

- 8:30-9:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 9:00-9:15 Welcome Remarks from NYSSB Superintendent Barbara Lemen
- 9:15-10:30 Session 1—All Participants
- 10:30-11:00 Tour of Educational Program
- 11:00-12:00 Lunch on your own*
- 12:00-12:45 Session 2
- 12:45-1:00 Break
- 1:00-1:45 Session 3
- 1:45-2:00 Break
- 2:00-2:45 Session 4
- 2:45-3:15 Tour of Residential Program
- 3:15-3:30 Conclusion & Closing Remarks

***Lunch:** We have several restaurants within a five minute drive of our school including: Arby's, Burger King, Dunkin' Donuts, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Long John Silver, McDonald's, Peking Chinese Buffet, Pizza Hut Lunch Buffet, Subway, Taco Bell, Tim Horton's & Wendy's.

REGISTRATION FORM

(ONE PER PERSON-FORM MAY BE COPIED)

RSVP to Bethany Burgess, LMSW no later than Monday, November 3, 2014.

By phone 585-343-5384 x214 , fax 585-344-7026, e-mail bethany.burgess@nysed.gov or mail response to: NYSSB, 2A Richmond Ave., Batavia, NY 14020.

____ Yes, I will attend the Conference

Session Choices: Please rate your choices for each session, 1 indicating your first choice and 4 your last choice. Space is limited therefore, if your first choice is full, you will be scheduled for your next available session choice.

Session 2: ___A ___B ___C ___D

Session 3: ___A ___B ___C ___D

Session 4: ___A ___B ___C ___D

Accommodations Needed? _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

District/Organization Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

____ No, I cannot attend, but please send me training material and more information on your programs.



NYSSB

2A Richmond Ave.
Batavia, NY 14020

Fall 2014 Vision Conference Session Descriptions

9:15-10:30 Session 1

“Meeting the Unique Needs of Blind & Visually Impaired Students Having Autism Spectrum Disorder”

Presenter: Deanna LoVerde, School Psychologist

Educational programs for students having Autism often rely heavily on visual strategies. Students who are dually diagnosed with Autism and VI (ASDVI) require specialized strategies that modify best practices in order to compensate for the student’s lack of vision. This presentation will discuss how to combine and adapt best practice to meet the unique needs of these students.

12:00-12:45 Session 2

A. An Introduction to Visual Impairments

Presenters: Michelle Campbell, TVI & Amy Fisher, TVI, O&M

Visual impairment refers to having a chronic visual deficit that impairs everyday functioning and is not correctable by ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses. Visual impairment can be mild or moderate but also includes total blindness or functional blindness when no useful vision remains. This session will offer an overview of what legal blindness means, various vision diagnoses occurring in children and how they affect how children see in their environment.

B. Perspectives on Feeding Success in Visually Impaired Students

Presenters: Theresa Ash, Speech Language Pathologist & Stefanie Tubin, Dietitian

Feeding issues are common with VI students. This segment will discuss the unique factors involved in promoting mealtime success. Treatment approaches will be explored and brief case studies will be presented.

C. Apple Technology & Accessibility with VI Students

Presenter: Linda Wiecek, Vision Rehabilitation Teacher, Outreach Education, Olmsted Center for Sight

An overview of Apple Technology and accessibility for students with VI.

D. Best Practices for Enhancing Outcomes for Learners with Combined Hearing & Vision Loss

Presenter: Susanne Morrow, Deaf Blind Collaborative

Learners who are deaf-blind access their world differently from their typically developing peers. This session will offer best practices that have resulted in significant gains for students with dual sensory loss in educational and therapeutic activities; appropriate hand use, developing rapport, providing access to language, creating access to the environment and trans-disciplinary teaming.

1:00-1:45 Session 3

A. Physical Activity for Students Having Visual Impairments

Presenters: Brendan Brady & Kurt Diesfeld,

Adapted Physical Education Teachers

Well planned physical activities maximize our students’ abilities and improve their quality of life. This presentation demonstrates effective strategies to ensure appropriate physical activity with instructional emphasis on spatial awareness, movement concepts, skill themes and coordination.

B. Let’s Move: Orientation & Mobility for Pre-K to 21

Presenters: Amy Fisher, TVI, O&M & Joanna Farrell, TVI, O&M

A brief overview of Orientation and Mobility across various educational settings. Hands on activities and games that promote Orientation and Mobility concept development.

C. Assistive Technology & Braille

Presenters: Jamie Wallace, TVI & John Steiner, COTA

Learn about changes happening in the Braille Code and what technology is currently being used for VI students in schools.

D. Visual Impairments & Implications in Education

Presenters: Michelle Campbell, TVI & Renee D’Angelo, TVI

Children with visual impairments have unique needs that affect how they learn, and in some cases impede their access to learning as compared to their peers. This session will provide guidelines for offering supplemental instruction, adapted materials, and environmental modifications that may increase educational access.

2:00-2:45 Session 4

A. “You Said What?”, Sign Language & Communication Skills for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Presenters: Cindy Bovier, Audiologist & Theresa Ash, Speech-Language Pathologist
Optimizing auditory function for students having VI is critical. This presentation will highlight the importance of maximizing the hearing modality and the acoustics of the classroom/learning environment. It will also discuss how sign language can be effectively utilized to support communication skill development.

B. Resource Center/Engage NY

Presenter: Lisa DeSantis

Lisa will guide participants through the inner workings of the NYS Resource Center, its forms, Registration Process and Engage NY.

C. Transition to Work

Presenters: Katie Christie, NYSCB & Joli Morgan, Olmsted Center.

Learn about transition services and eligibility for supported employment funding through the NYS Commission for the Blind with discussion about typical transition process including program options through the Olmsted Center.

D. A Review of Ocular Anatomy

Presenter: Dr. Katherine White, OD, Managing Director of Low Vision Services at ABVI

This presentation will review ocular anatomy with optional dissection of a cow eye.