

GUIDANCE AND PLACEMENT SERVICES DIGEST

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This Digest is used to transmit information pertaining to the four program components of the Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Program: Curriculum; Individual Planning; Responsive Services; and System Support to professional school counselors, placement personnel, career and technical school counselors and administrators at all levels throughout the state.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

FEBRUARY IS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MONTH. Missouri Career Education has information about the importance of career and technical education and links to other information on its website at http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/cte_month.htm

PROGRAM COMPONENTS:

(From time to time, resources that are brought to our attention through ASCA listservs or other means that could be used as part of a guidance program will be listed here. The readers are encouraged to investigate the resources and decide whether or not they are appropriate for their programs. Listing of these resources does not constitute endorsement by either our section or DESE.)

{CURRICULUM}

SAMPLE CURRICULUM LESSONS AVAILABLE!!!

The Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Program Curriculum sample lessons that reflect the newly revised Standards and Grade Level Expectations are available on the Missouri Center for Career Education (MCCE) website at <http://missouricareereducation.org/curr/cmd/guidanceplacementG/lessons/index.php>

{INDIVIDUAL PLANNING}

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE

The Winter/Spring issue of Kuder User News, the quarterly newsletter for those that use, teach, and administer Kuder systems as well as those that are interested in career planning, is now available. To read the Winter/Spring Issue, please follow this link: http://www.kuder.com/news/Vol5_No4/default.html.

B. FREE COLLEGE, CAREER, FINANCIAL AID, AND FINANCIAL LITERACY INFORMATION, TIPS, AND IDEAS AVAILABLE

Mapping Your Future is a national collaborative, public-service project of the financial aid industry – that brings together the expertise of the industry to provide free college, career, financial aid, and financial literacy services for students, families, and schools.

The purpose of their newsletter is to provide counselors with free college, career, financial aid, and financial literacy information, tips, and ideas for their work with middle and high school students and families. Counselors are welcome to share articles with your students, families, and colleagues. Encourage them to get more information by visiting Mapping Your Future at mapping-your-future.org.

Mapping Your Future sends a newsletter each month, with additional issues occasionally to let counselors know about important issues. This newsletter is a project of the Mapping Your Future early awareness team.

Counselors interested in receiving the newsletter can subscribe at mapping-your-future.org/services/awarenessnews.htm.

C. COLLEGE GOAL SUNDAY THIS WEEKEND AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN MISSOURI

Do you have students that might need help completing the FAFSA? On one afternoon each year, College Goal Sunday stages help sessions at different sites across the state of Missouri. Each session features financial aid professionals and hands-on help with the FAFSA form. For more information and to see locations, go to <http://www.collegegoalmissouri.com/>

{RESPONSIVE SERVICES}

CAUSE FOR CONCERN?

New government figures show a surprising increase in youth suicides after a decade of decline, and some mental-health experts think a drop in use of antidepressant drugs may be to blame. The suicide rate climbed 18 percent from 2003 to 2004 for Americans under age 20, from 1,737 deaths to 1,985. Most suicides occurred in older teens, according to the data — the most current to date from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. Inquiries related to Department programs may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Title IX Coordinator, 5th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0480; telephone number 573-751-4212.

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By contrast, the suicide rate among 15- to 19-year-olds fell between 1990 and 2003, from about 11 per 100,000 in 1990 to 7.3 per 100,000 in 2003.

Suicides were the only cause of death that increased for children through age 19 from 2003-04, according to a CDC report released Monday.

As a reminder, Missouri has awarded contracts – on behalf of the Department of Mental Health – to seven agencies that will serve as Regional Resource Centers to provide suicide prevention services across the state.

The Resource Centers will engage community partners to develop and implement local strategies, provide public education and training, offer support for survivors, and promote proven practices to help with preventing suicide within their designated service areas. To obtain more information about these centers, go to:

<http://www.dmh.missouri.gov/cps/issues/suicide/ResourceCenters.htm>

{SYSTEM SUPPORT

A. A RESOURCE TO SHARE WITH TEACHERS.

The U.S. Department of Education is pleased to announce the newly remodeled and updated Federal Resources for Education Excellence (FREE) website. It now provides richer, more expansive resources to teachers and students alike. There are over 1500 resources to take advantage of at FREE, ranging from primary historical documents, lesson plans, science visualizations, math simulations and online challenges, paintings, photos, mapping tools, and more. The web address is: <http://www.free.ed.gov/>

B. SOMETHING TO SHARE WITH YOUR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

The Missouri Police Chiefs Charitable Foundation (MPCCF) and the Missouri School Resource Officers Association (MSROA) are sponsoring the Missouri School Resource Officers Conference June 25-28 2007 at Tan Tar A. The registration deadline is June 15 2007. For program and registration information, go to <http://msroa.missouri.org/2007conf.htm>

CONFERENCES/ WORKSHOPS OF NOTE:

A. MISSOURI SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION (MSCA) SPRING CONFERENCE will be held on Friday March 2, 2007 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City. Trish Madsen of Kansas City will be introducing “STEP-UP” a female bullying prevention program. Much of what Ms. Madsen will address can also be utilized in situations with boys. A registration form is available by going to <http://schoolweb.missouri.edu/msca/> and clicking on the January Newsletter link.

B. PATHWAYS TO STUDENT SUCCESS CONFERENCE will be held March 4-6, 2007 at Tan Tar A. Complete conference details are available at: <http://dese.mo.gov/divteachqual/leadership/>

C. NEW-THE ANNUAL MISSOURI ACT STATE CONFERENCE will be held with a Pre-Conference on **Wednesday March 14, 2007**, and the regular conference on **Thursday, March 15, 2007**, at the **Holiday Inn Select, Columbia, MO**. For more details on the conference and access to an online registration form, go to <http://www.act.org/midwest/pdf/mo07.pdf>

D. NEW-SPRING TRAINING INSTITUTE will be held **May 16-18, 2007 at Tan Tar A**. This conference, sponsored by the Missouri Department of Mental Health, gives attendees the opportunity to learn more about mental health issues that confront Missourians of all ages. For more information about this, go to <http://www.dmh.missouri.gov/cps/springtraining/springtraining.htm>

E. THE AMERICAN SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION (ASCA) CONFERENCE WILL be **June 23-26, 2007 at the Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center**. For more information, go to: <http://www.schoolcounselor.org/content.asp?pl=325&sl=129&contentid=182>

F. MILITARY CHILD EDUCATION COALITION (MCEC) CONFERENCE will be **July 11-13, 2007 with a pre-conference July 10-11 at the Westin Crown Center in Kansas City**. For more information and a registration form, go to: <http://www.militarychild.org/KansasCity.asp>

G. ANNUAL CHARACTER EDUCATION CONFERENCE will be held **July 19-20, 2007, in St. Louis**. Information is available at <http://www.characterplus.org/>

H. 2007 MISSOURI ACTE SUMMER CONFERENCE AND CAREER AND TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS WILL be held **July 23-July 26, 2007 in Springfield**. Watch for further information.

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