

# RESA 8 QUARTERLY NEWS

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## What Does RESA 8 Do?

This is a question that has come up a lot lately, so let me begin by saying RESA 8 and all RESAs across the state are multi-faceted organizations that provide a wealth of cost-effective education services to students, teachers, administrators, county boards of education and community organizations determined by local needs. As a Regional Education Service Agency, we at RESA 8 serve the eight counties located in the Eastern Panhandle of WV. This includes Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Jefferson, Mineral, Morgan and Pendleton. We also support the WV Schools for the Deaf and Blind. We house 14 programs with 158 full-time and more than 280 part-time employees who provide quality shared services for our counties including:

- Public Service Training including CPR/First Aid and firefighter training
- Bus Operator Training for WV school bus drivers
- Audiology services for identified children in our region
- Professional development opportunities for teachers and school administrators
- Regional Academic Fairs in Math, Science, & Social Studies for students
- Special Education support to schools to assist students with exceptionalities
- Head Start classrooms in Berkeley, Morgan and Jefferson counties serving over 400 Pre-K students
- Early Head Start program which provides support and resources to families and over 110 children
- Substitute Teacher Training and Recertification for candidates across our region
- Medicaid billing services for our 8 county school systems
- Graduate level courses offered to teachers and administrators
- AEPA cooperative bulk purchasing which has provided a savings of over \$4,000,000 to counties across the state
- Adolescent Health and School Wellness services
- Technology and WVEIS support across our 8 county region
- Technical support to schools to increase graduation rates and assist with early literacy and math initiatives
- Adult Education programs including TASC preparation, ESL classes and the SPOKES program
- WV Birth to Three services for more than 800 children annually
- Alternative Certification partnerships with all 8 counties

See our Annual Report "At a Glance" on the next page for additional information, and let us know how RESA 8 can serve YOU!

- Frank Aliveto, RESA 8 Interim Executive Director

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## STAY IN TOUCH WITH RESA 8!



RESA 8 is now on Twitter!  
Follow us @RESA\_8



[www.resa8.org](http://www.resa8.org)

# RESA 8 SERVICES “AT A GLANCE”

(DATA FROM SERVICES PROVIDED 7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016)

## RESA 8 2015-2016 Annual Report at a Glance

### EDUCATION

- Pre-K – 12 professional development sessions for 1,153 participants
- Adult Education (AE) professional development for 119 participants
- Substitute teacher training for 225 participants
- Regional academic fairs for 762 participants
- Coordinated free TASC testing for 457 participants
- Provided technical assistance for school improvement to 33 schools
- Provided SPOKES classes for 220 participants
- Provided technical assistance to ABE classes with 1520 participants
- Provided direct services to 619 Expectant mothers and children age 0 – 5 years

### FINANCIAL BENEFIT

- RESA 8 employs 159 full-time personnel with 5.2 positions (not all funded 100%) being paid from the legislative state basic foundation allowance for RESAs. The remaining positions are funded through grants obtained by RESAs.
- Cooperative purchasing cost avoidance of over 441,681.37 for school systems (calendar year 2015)
- Assisted counties with Medicaid billing reimbursement, training, and monitoring, RESA 8 recouped \$1,227,500.00
- Used \$482,408.00 of legislative state basic foundation allowance to leverage over \$6,061,825.00 in federal grant funding
- Provided assessments for 458 DHHR TANF referrals

### HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Audiological services for 545
- Provided public service training classes for 6279 participants
- Provided information to over 1,712 parents of young children
- Follow-up health services to 736 Head Start, Pre-K, and Early Head Start children
- Social services provided to 394 children and families

### TECHNOLOGY

- Responded to 11,556 computer repair and installation work orders
- Maintained and/or replaced Cisco routers in schools and central office facilities
- Provided specific WVEIS user trainings to 324 participants
- Provided Help Desk assistance to 2449 WVEIS users statewide
- Added new web conferencing equipment to RESA 8 conference room
- Provided WVEIS & eWalk training to RESA 8 and the RESA 8 region

This report contains information about some of the activities of RESA 8 during the 2015-2016 school year. Not all services are listed. Additional services as determined appropriate by each local RESA council may be offered. Services may differ within RESA 8 from time to time. Being able to offer the right services at the right time allows RESAs to meet the needs of county schools and school systems as well as support WVDE and WVBE initiatives and goals. A complete Annual Report for each RESA may be found by going to the web site of RESA 8 or hard copies may be obtained by contacting the RESA 8 office.

# ADOLESCENT HEALTH & SCHOOL WELLNESS

LORI LAWSON, COORDINATOR  
304-596-2655 · [llawson@k12.wv.us](mailto:llawson@k12.wv.us)



Morgan County Youth Leadership Academy—Year 1 (Cohort 5) meeting  
with Lori Lawson, RESA 8 Adolescent Health and Regional Wellness  
Coordinator to discuss “Your Digital Footprint & Your Future.”



Lori Lawson, shown above talking to  
students at Capon Bridge Middle School  
in Hampshire County about health and  
wellness issues

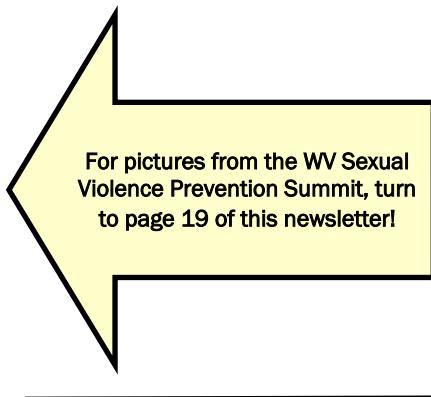
**WV Sexual Violence Prevention Summit**  
**KNOW MORE- DO MORE**  
**PREVENTION**

**West Virginia Sexual Violence Prevention and Training Resource Toolkit: A Guide for Working with School-Aged Children**

**March 9, 2017**  
Holiday Inn  
301 Foxcroft Ave.  
Martinsburg, WV 25401  
7:30am - 8:30am  
Registration/Exhibits

**8:30am- 4:00pm**  
Prevention Summit

Funding and in-kind support for this training have been provided by: The WV Bureau for Public Health, the WV Foundation for Rape Information and Services, the WVDHHR's Office of Maternal, Child and Family Health (OMCFH), RESA 8, RESA 1, RESA 7, The United Way of Central WV, Key Players, and the WV Injury Prevention Program.



## ADOLESCENT WELL-CHILD VISIT

WHY DO I HAVE TO GO TO THE DOCTOR IF I AM NOT SICK?  
ISN'T A PHYSICAL AND A WELL VISIT THE SAME?

Babies are taken to their well-baby visits and young children in for checkups, but what about adolescents? Their brains are still developing, changing and maturing in different ways than their early years in ways that will wire them for their lives. A well-child visit for adolescents will help with preventive care for overall health.... physical and mental. They will receive preventive care, physical and mental health screenings and vaccinations. This care can help reduce the risk of suicide, obesity, substance abuse, risky behaviors, and identify mental health issues.

Check out the difference between an adolescent well-child visit and a sports physical.

### ADOLESCENT WELL-CHILD VISIT

- Personal & family history
- Evaluation for risk factors
- Confidential discussion with your physician
- Immunizations
- Head-to-toe examination & review of health
- Screenings & guidance for overall health
- \$0 - No Co-pay

### SPORTS PHYSICAL

- Personal & family history
- Evaluation for risk factors for sports
- Surface physical exam
- Co-pay charged

Serving Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire  
Hardy, Jefferson, Mineral,  
Morgan, and Pendleton Counties

Regional Education Service Agencies  
**RESA 8**  
A provider for [wvdoe.org](http://wvdoe.org)

**RESA 8**  
Lori Lawson, Adolescent Health Coordinator  
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## ADOLESCENT HEALTH & SCHOOL WELLNESS

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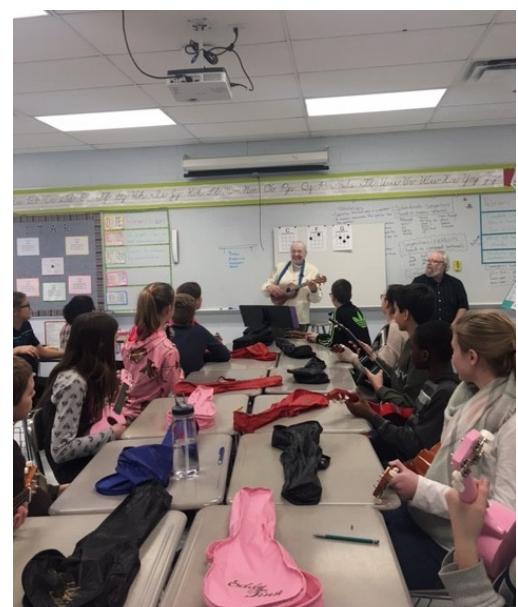
### 40 Developmental Assets at South Middle & Spring Mills Middle Schools!

Asset-building is underway this school year for 7th graders at SMS and 6th graders at SMMS in Berkeley County! The 40 Developmental Assets program is a method of using positive experiences and qualities that help influence the decision-making of adolescents. Developed by Search Institute, this evidence-based approach is widely used and serves as a reliable prevention tool. The assets are common sense types of experiences that help children make positive choices that lead to greater success in life.

South Middle School guests shown below (L-R) were: Dawn Heatwole, RESA 8 Head Start Specialist, discussing ways to overcome obstacles; Gretchen Sprouse, MD, WVU Professor, discussing global medicine and medical mission trips; and Stephen Smoot, Congressman Mooney's Office Representative, discussing politics, congress and government.



Spring Mills Middle School guests shown below (L-R) were: Josh Mills, Martinsburg Fire Fighter/EMT, discussing safety and the importance of developing a safety plan; Shannon Johnson, RESA 8 Personnel Coordinator, discussing goal-setting and planning for the future; and Mary Etta Boesl, RSVP Volunteer, who brought her ukuleles in for students to try out a new skill and spark a positive hobby.





## ADULT EDUCATION/SPOKES

JOHN HOLMES, COORDINATOR  
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## R. E. S. E. T.

Readiness Education for  
Success in Employment & Training

In January of 2016, a new federal policy added requirements for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients in 9 counties throughout West Virginia including Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan counties. SNAP is a federal program that temporarily helps low-income Americans put food on the table. For Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) to continue receiving their SNAP benefits, adults are now required to meet a work or education requirement. The goal of this new federal policy is to provide needed employment and training opportunities for those defined as an ABAWD.

Because the Eastern Panhandle has one of the lowest unemployment rates in West Virginia, this has provided an excellent training ground for a new educational work-related opportunity. Readiness Education for Success in Employment & Training (RESET) is a pilot program developed this past year with partnerships between RESA 8 Adult Education, WorkForce Development Board, and WV Department of Health and Human Resources. Designed as a one-month 80-hour course, RESET offers ABAWD clients assistance as they transition to better employment and/or additional training. A variety of job readiness skills are explored during the program to set a foundation for personal and professional success. The rigors of this course allow students that complete the program to earn 5 credit hours through Blue Ridge Community and Technical College. At the completion of the RESET program, each participant will present their employment portfolio during a mock interview.

A recent RESET graduate shared, "I came out of this class polished and refocused."



Article submitted by:  
Bridget Covell,  
SPOKES Adult Education Instructor





## AUDIOLOGY

D R . M I C H A E L Z A G A R E L L A , A U D , C C C / A  
3 0 4 - 2 6 7 - 3 5 9 5 • m z a g a r e l @ k 1 2 . w v . u s

### Hearing Screening: What is it and Why is it Done in School?

All children in the public schools in WV have their hearing screened before entering the education system. This is typically done before starting kindergarten, and usually one or two times in elementary school. Students are sometimes screened again in middle school and when starting high school. Children who enter the school system at some point after kindergarten should have their hearing screened before starting in school. Students who are home schooled or are in private schools have access to this service, but usually it is not done unless the parents take steps to have it done.

Most education, especially in the lower grades, is presented verbally by the teacher. If a child has difficulty hearing this will cause an obvious interruption in the educational process. Otitis media (fluid in the middle ear) is the most common reason that children are seen by their pediatrician. The younger a child is, the more prone they are to middle ear fluid. This is due primarily to the anatomy of the ear – an adult size head allows fluid to drain out of the middle ear space much easier than an infant size head.

The middle ear is the space between the eardrum and the inner ear (where all of the nerve endings are). If this space fills with fluid, the eardrum is not able to move normally because there is something behind it. When this happens, it is similar to wearing a set of ear plugs – there is a mild hearing loss and everything sounds “muffled”. If bacteria grows in the fluid, it becomes an ear infection and your child may run a fever, have a runny nose and complain of an ear ache. It is important to understand that your child can have fluid in his or her middle ear and not have an ear infection, but they will have a hearing loss.

When parents talk to their children, it is usually one-to-one, face-to-face. A child with fluid in his/her ears may be able to communicate normally in this situation. A school classroom environment is very different. There is background noise – there is distance between the teacher and the students – the teacher is rarely directly facing every student – there may be more than one person talking – there could be foreign accents or speech disorders. The list can go on for situations that make listening difficult. If a child has a mild hearing loss, all of these problems are magnified.

Hearing screening is not intended to find children with hearing loss. It is actually designed to pick out the children whose hearing is normal. A screening test is pass/fail. A few sounds are presented at one level – your child either responds to the sound or he/she does not respond. If your child does not “pass” a hearing screening test it does not mean he/she has a hearing loss. There can be many reasons that a child does not respond to the sounds. If your child does not pass the hearing screening test, they will be referred to the RESA Audiologist where more time can be spent in a sound controlled environment with a person who has experience testing the hearing of children.

Because hearing is so critical to learning, and because hearing loss due to fluid in the ears is so common in children, hearing screening is performed in the schools to be sure that your child is not at any disadvantage in the classroom.



# COOPERATIVE PURCHASING

TERRI STEWART, COORDINATOR  
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RESA 8 is a member of WV AEPA and TIPS, which are purchasing cooperatives that work to substantially save time and money for our counties by eliminating the bidding process when purchases are needed. Participation with the cooperatives currently serves counties, schools, non-profits and religious organizations across our 8 county region. RESA 8 has provided support services throughout the community and state for more than forty years. Since its inception, the delivery of services has resulted in savings that reach into the millions of dollars state-wide.

Participation by non-profit organizations also provides support back to all the RESAs based on a predetermined percentage from allowed earnings due to sales. The chart below shows the money that was provided back to the counties based on TIPS sales in our last fiscal year: July 1, 2015–June 30, 2016.

## TIPS Reimbursement by RESA for FY 16

RESA	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	Total Earned .25%
RESA 1	\$12.49	\$13.86	\$17.17	\$2.36	\$45.88
RESA 2	\$7.83	\$3.40	\$27.61	\$43.77	\$82.61
RESA 3	\$1763.58	\$13.33	\$33.80	\$47.25	\$1857.96
RESA 4	\$79.34	\$18.75	\$30.76	\$16.61	\$145.46
RESA 5	\$32.77	\$4.51	\$26.78	\$3.93	\$67.99
RESA 6	\$3.20	\$6.89	\$5.98	\$55.81	\$71.88
RESA 7	\$850.20	\$45.49	\$110.19	\$52.46	\$1058.34
RESA 8	\$21.02	\$8.33	\$573.20	\$65.14	\$667.69

To learn more about our cooperative purchasing programs, contact Terri Stewart at 304-267-2695 or email her at [thstewar@k12.wv.us](mailto:thstewar@k12.wv.us)



## COUNTY BUS OPERATOR TRAINING

DAVID "JAMIE" WELLER, COORDINATOR  
304-596-2658 · djweller@k12.wv.us

# School Bus Operator Training Remains a Busy Program

The School Bus Operator Training program remains a very busy program at RESA 8. We continue to focus our attention on the quality of our education and the speed at which we can provide it. Counties continue to struggle with having an adequate number of bus operators. This program is working diligently to assist the counties in correcting this problem through effective, efficient, student oriented, and reimbursable training.

The Berkeley County pilot program to streamline training was a tremendous success and is now a standard operating model statewide. Following three classes through the pilot process we found that we had no drop outs once the program was started and 100% of the applicants completed the program successfully.

The next focus of the coordinators is to better educate our instructor/trainers and our evaluators. We have identified that these individuals are extremely qualified to teach the program however many have never been given the tools to be an effective educator. We are currently developing a teaching methodologies course that will be implemented as these instructors and evaluators enter their recertification. We are going to ensure that they have the tools to communicate their information effectively as well as address the issues of the younger generation and the lack of critical thinking skills.

We currently have 22 programs in the region that are in process or finishing up and preparing to test new drivers. There is a vested interest from the state, individual counties, and RESA to produce quality, safe, and educated bus operators.

For more information please visit the RESA 8 website [www.resa8.org](http://www.resa8.org) or contact David J. Weller at 304-596-2658.





## EARLY HEAD START/PRE-K/HEAD START

HEIDI BACH-ARVIN, COORDINATOR  
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### Early Head Start Focuses on Families!

Early Head Start provides services to expectant mothers and infants and toddlers from birth to three years old in Berkeley, Jefferson, and Morgan Counties. The program supports parents as their child's first and best teacher as well as recognizes the importance of the role of families in the lives of children!



A Valentine's Tea Party was held on February 14<sup>th</sup> and was attended by 16 adults and 16 children. The event focused on the importance of positive, nurturing relationships and included information on ten ways to nurture your child. Families shared a family style snack and took family pictures in the booth!



Shown Right: Children and families created one Early Head Start Family flag to represent each family's heritage

### NHSA Delivers Children's Artwork on the Hill



NHSA's Government Affairs Associate, Frank Nolan, delivered Head Start children's artwork to staff in the office of Senator Shelley Moore Capito (WV).

The artwork was sent to NHSA by the RESA 8 Head Start program in Martinsburg, West Virginia.

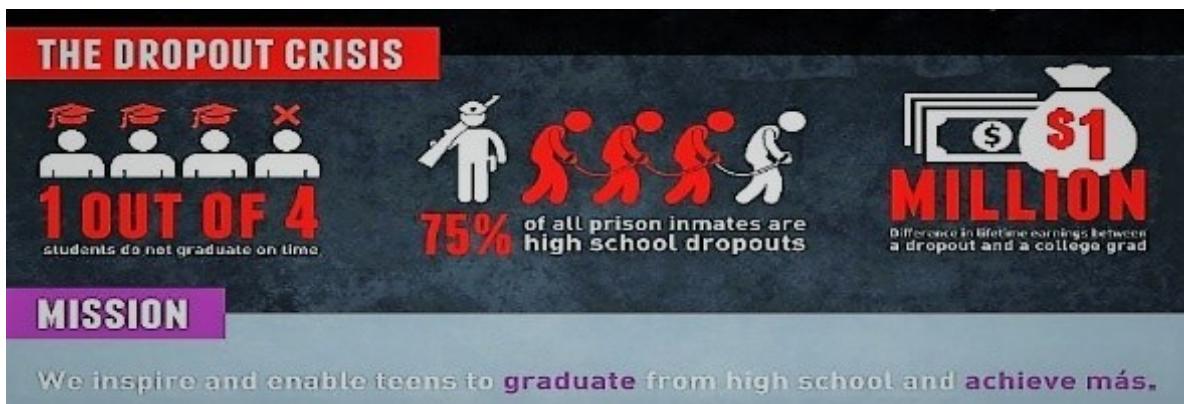


## GRAD 20/20 REGIONAL SCHOOL SUPPORT

ANDREW GUTHRIE, SPECIALIST  
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### How Important is High School Graduation?

The importance of high school graduation for students and for their communities is vital to the health, security and well-being of both. The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that dropouts bring in just \$20,241 annually, which is \$10,000 less than high school graduates are and over \$36,000 less than a person holding a bachelor's degree. Over the course of their lives, a high school dropout will earn on average over a million dollars less than those who graduate. The unemployment rate for dropouts is generally 4 percentage points higher than the national average. A study out of Northeastern University found that high school dropouts cost taxpayers \$292,000 over the course of their lives. Over three of every four incarcerated people are high school dropouts, making this an issue that truly affects every member of the community.



Recognizing the importance of high school graduation, the WVDE started a Graduation 20/20 initiative during the 2015-2016 school year aimed at using a data-driven intervention framework to address issues that have negatively impacted school completion. RESA 8 Grad 20/20 has been working with school graduation leadership teams in Berkeley, Hardy, Hampshire and Mineral counties to address student graduation. The graduation data from year 1 of the initiative is in, and the results demonstrate the hard work and progress the Grad 20/20 high schools in RESA8 have made.

(continued on p. 11)





## GRAD 20/20 REGIONAL SCHOOL SUPPORT

ANDREW GUTHRIE, SPECIALIST  
304-267-3544 · aguthrie@k12.wv.us

The Four-year graduation rate for the collective RESA 8 counties in 2014-2015 was 86.80%. In 2015-2016, high school graduation rates rose to 90.19% for the high schools in the RESA 8 region and to 92.14% for the high schools that are participating in the Grad 20/20 initiative with RESA 8!

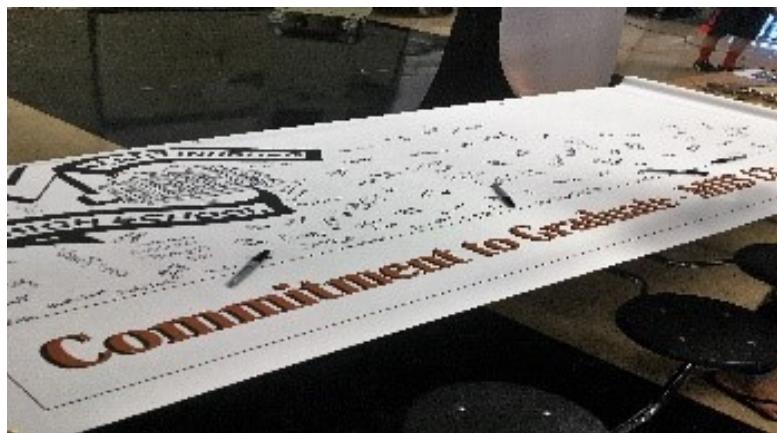
All high schools that have above a 90% graduation rate were invited to a ceremony in Charleston for the success they have had in helping students to reach this important milestone! Those RESA 8 schools recognized at the ceremony included:



- \* Berkeley Springs High School
- \* Frankfort High School
- \* Keyser High School
- \* Martinsburg High School
- \* Musselman High School
- \* Paw Paw High School
- \* Pendleton County Middle/High School
- \* Petersburg High School
- \* Spring Mills High School
- \* Union Educational Complex
- \* Washington High School

The Graduation 20/20 high schools continue to work hard in providing supports and creating an environment in which students will have success in graduating high school and beyond. The schools have been working diligently in planning and carrying out interventions that increase attendance, student engagement, school climate, parent and community involvement, academic supports, and supporting student transition.

The first year of the intervention has proven to be a success and the Grad 20/20 teams deserve applause for all the hard work and success they have had to help our students take steps towards a successful future!





## IT SUPPORT & WVEIS

JILL WOOLCOCK, COORDINATOR  
304-596-2659 · [jwoolcock@k12.wv.us](mailto:jwoolcock@k12.wv.us)

### Jefferson County IT Shares Expertise with RESA 8 IT Specialist



RESA 8 IT Specialist Robin Hart recently met with Jefferson County technicians to learn more about their successful implementation of System Center Configuration Manager.

#### SCCM (System Center Configuration Manager) – **What is it?**

SCCM helps deploy operating systems, software applications and updates, as well as inventory hardware and software. It empowers employees to get to the apps and data they need in real time.

When you use SCCM to manage your environment, a set of rules and policies can be created so users can either choose to subscribe or not. This is one model for accessing school applications and data on the computer. System Center manages the computer and storage as a service to end-users. SCCM's self-service and automation also relieves IT so they may focus on more pressing tasks, while giving end-users control of their applications.

During the two-day training session, Robin communicated the needs and limitations of surrounding counties. With the help of Jefferson County IT, RESA 8 is on track to implement an operating system deployment plan that will be ready for deployment in the Spring of 2017.

If anyone has questions or is interested in implementing this system in their county, please contact Robin at [rmhart@k12.wv.us](mailto:rmhart@k12.wv.us). The initial phase of planning and setup is time-consuming; however, this time and effort will result in savings by having the ability for remote administration and reduced travel time. For more information about the RESA 8 IT Support Program, please contact Jill Woolcock at [jwoolcock@k12.wv.us](mailto:jwoolcock@k12.wv.us).

### RESA 8 Hosts “Everyone Can Code”

Recently, Apple Computer coordinated with RESA 8 to host two sessions on “Everyone Can Code”. This product includes free software applications, books, iTunes U courses and a plethora of resources that are immediately available to schools.

The courses are available for elementary through high school students. We have coding all around us, and the jobs available in the computer science field continue to go unfilled because of unqualified applicants. See more information at <https://code.org>.

For more information on “Everyone Can Code”, on an iPad go to iTunes U, Featured, and search for “Everyone Can Code”.

Questions about the RESA 8 IT Support Program may be directed to Jill Woolcock at [jwoolcock@k12.wv.us](mailto:jwoolcock@k12.wv.us).





## IT SUPPORT & WVEIS

JILL WOOLCOCK, COORDINATOR  
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### RESA 8 Techs Renew Certifications



RESA 8 IT Support Technicians are required to hone their skills periodically to keep their certifications up-to-date. A new Hewlett-Packard certification exam is required prior to May 1, 2017, and some technicians have already completed the exam. This certification enables RESA 8 to provide certified warranty repairs to the eight county region.

The RESA 8 technicians support eight county school systems and the Schools for the Deaf and the Blind. The technicians hold 38 IT certifications from Comptia, Cisco, Microsoft, Apple and other vendors. For more information on the RESA 8 IT Support Program, visit <http://resa8.org>.



## MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT

TERRI STEWART, COORDINATOR  
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### More than \$37,000,000 Disseminated Back to the Region

The provision of RESA 8's support and adjustments to provide exactly what each of our counties needs has resulted in over \$37,007,592.20 being disseminated back to the region since 2010 based on 1099 reports.

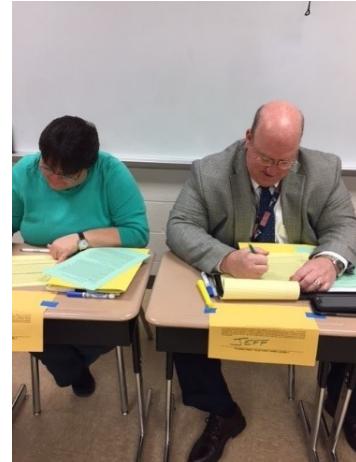
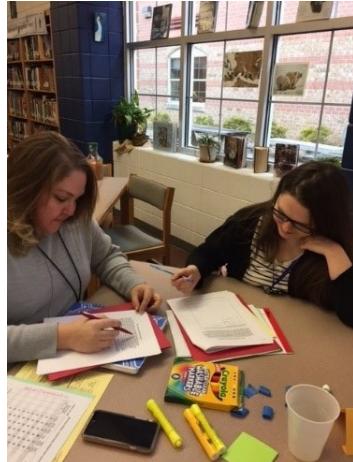
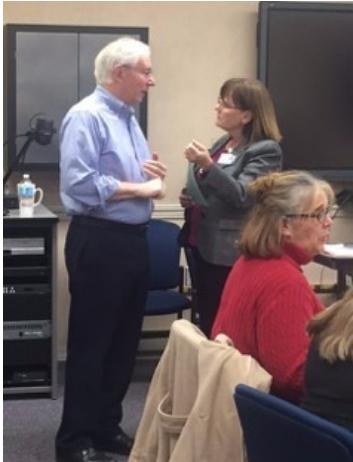
In addition to reviewing, processing, tracking and resubmission of denied claims, to insure maximum reimbursement, the RESA 8 Medicaid Reimbursement Program has brought about the need for additional goals. Goals established by the RESA 8 Medicaid Reimbursement Program, and multiple level program changes, along with daily and ongoing county support has proven necessary and extensive through clarification of Chapter 538. Implementing the need for additional support and maintaining the integrity of the newly developed School Based Medicaid Reimbursement Program led to the necessity for the following:

- Working directly with Molina in re-activation of many termed providers for the counties since the Revalidation Process
- Training on the MMIS Portal for Molina
- Ongoing research of Medicaid eligibility to insure maximum reimbursements
- Reaching out and working directly with WVDE and BMS for additional clarification of the Chapter 538 School Based Health Services
- Continuous training provided in every county in the RESA 8 region on the allowed billable services
- Providing guidance and assistance in the acquisition of National Provider Identifiers for newly hired providers
- Enrolling and/or reenrolling new and existing county providers based on the changed provider requirements in WV
- Yearly collection and updating all enrolled provider licensures upon expiration of previous license



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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## RESA 8 Sponsors Dr. Jerry Valentine

Student engagement can be defined as the extent that students actively participate in their learning. It includes motivation for learning, deeper thinking about content, and transfer of learning to new situations. In West Virginia, as well as other states across the country, Dr. Jerry Valentine's **Instructional Practices Inventory** protocol is used to collect valid and reliable data that reflects how students are engaging in their learning. Data collection is only part of the protocol. This data is then studied by the school faculty and used to create a common language for student engagement throughout the school. Teachers study this data and use it to plan professional learning opportunities, which leads to higher order, deeper thinking learning opportunities for students.

Dr. Valentine visited RESA 8 in December to certify Joyce Ashworth as an IPI Level I Coding trainer and to present a modified Advanced IPI Professional Development Level II Workshop to our counties. Additional IPI Level I Coding sessions were provided to Jefferson County in January and Hampshire County in February. If your county is interested in planning an IPI Level I Coding training, or if you would like to learn more about IPI, contact Joyce Ashworth at [jaashworth@k12.wv.us](mailto:jaashworth@k12.wv.us).



## PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING

DAVID PLUME, COORDINATOR  
304-596-2653 · dplume@k12.wv.us

# Public Service Training Statewide Cooperation

Public Service Training is a statewide effort. The six PST programs annually train more than 45,000 emergency responders in all 55 counties. Statewide consistency in Fire, EMS, and Law Enforcement training is an important goal. Much of the training meets national standards. State legislative rule, and policies set by the State Fire Commission and the WV Office of Emergency Medical Services also require consistency. PST strives to ensure that the training provided in the Eastern Panhandle is the same as in Huntington and the training in the Northern Panhandle is the same as in Bluefield. The PST Coordinators use the same textbooks, lesson plans, skill sheets, and tests.



To extend this consistency the PST program is working on a new statewide database. WVNET in Morgantown is creating the database, which they named 'PSTachio'. RESA 8 took the lead and started using this database in Fiscal Year 2016. Several sets of improvements were made and the other PST programs all started using PSTachio in FY 17. As each program uses the new database additional improvements are being made. The next major step in the process is for each program to feed their data into a single statewide database. Students will be able to access their training records through the internet with a username and password. Currently if students take training from multiple PST programs they must contact each program separately to obtain all of their records. The State Fire Commission and WVU Fire Service Extension have expressed possible interest in also putting their training into PSTachio.



Another new statewide effort is a new Public Service Training website. As with the training records, currently you must visit six different websites to get information about all PST programs. The new website will have a master calendar and class listing showing all training in the state, and each PST program will have a separate page to highlight training on a more localized level. With many regional training weekends and an increase in online training classes there is more interest in emergency services personnel looking for training outside of their home counties. The home page has a map to allow visitors to the website to click on one of the six Public Service Training regions to get information about training in that part

of the state. The site will have contact information for all PST staff in the state, and each page will have a 'Contact Us' feature to allow an email to the PST Coordinators. The websites for the current RESAs that house Public Service Training Programs will direct visitors looking for PST information to the new website.



# SPECIAL EDUCATION

MARY ANNE SULLIVAN-SCOTT, COORDINATOR  
304-596-2654 · mrsulliv@k12.wv.us

The RESA 8 Special Education Department, in response to our annual Needs Assessment and Analysis conducted by our nine fine Special Education Directors, has provided various Professional Learning Opportunities for our districts' staff throughout the region. We have also developed a RESA 8 Special Education Professional Learning Sustainability Plan, of which participants of workshops complete and return to their building Principals. The plan includes how they will share the information and strategies learned with their colleagues and PLCs. This plan follows the Learning School Model of professional development, which empowers teachers and principals to take charge of their own professional learning as members of collaborative learning teams to increase student achievement.

## ANNE BENINGHOF

On October 27, 2016, Anne Beninghof returned to RESA 8 to conduct a Co-Teaching workshop with many new ideas and strategies for our region's co-teaching teams. The following day, Anne presented a workshop on leading and supporting the co-teaching initiative to our region's administrators. Anne then toured a few of our nearby schools to take a look at our co-teaching practices and was impressed by what she observed. On January 4, 2017, Anne conducted a valuable follow-up workshop to our co-teachers to equip them with the skills and strategies to share what they have learned with their PLCs. We are also contracting Anne to conduct 3 webinar workshops for our counties. Below is the schedule of these webinars and their descriptions:

### FEBRUARY 23, 2017 3:30-4:30

#### PRACTICAL PARTICIPATION STRUCTURES

"The person doing the talking is doing the learning" is a commonly heard phrase in education. Research supports this notion – that students must participate in discussion in order to fully understand concepts. But how can you structure this so that all students participate? Join Anne Beninghof, author of *Engage All Students through Differentiation*, to learn a variety of structures that support students who are ELLs, have disabilities, are introverted or struggle in any way.

### MARCH 23, 2017 3:30-4:30

#### ENGAGING ACTIVATORS AND MEMORABLE CLOSURES

Learning experts tell us that the first and last few moments of a lesson are the most critical, especially for struggling students. These are the times to grab students' attention and activate their brains for learning, or review the essential elements one last time. Join Anne Beninghof, author of *Turning Best Practices into Daily Practices*, to learn strategies that will start and end your lessons with a bang.

### APRIL 5, 2017 3:30-4:30

#### MOVEMENT FOR EVERY LESSON

You look out at your class and can see they need to move. But what can you do that is instructionally sound, research-based and simple enough to use on the spot? Join Anne Beninghof, author of *Engage ALL Students through Differentiation*, and learn a dozen easy ways to get students moving, no matter your content or grade level.

## KATHRYN PHILLIPS

On January 27, 2017, Kathryn Phillips returned to RESA 8 to present another of her highly interactive behavior workshops. The main topic of the January 27 workshop is *Working with Students with Challenging Behaviors: Executive Function and Emotional Regulation*.

## BOOK STUDY

Each semester, an online book study opportunity is provided by the RESA 8 Special Education Department in which three hours graduate credits are available via Shepherd University upon successful completion. Our current book is "**Ten Things Every Child with Autism Wishes You Knew**". Many teachers take advantage of this Professional Learning opportunity to enhance their teaching skills and earn graduate credit.

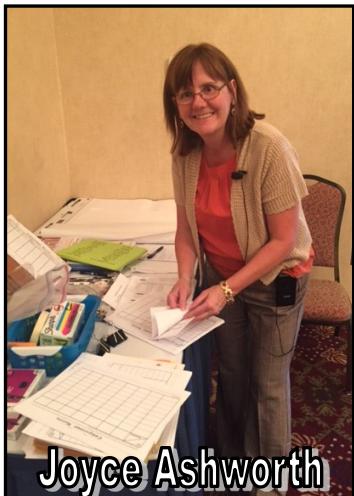


# SUBSTITUTE TEACHER TRAINING

# JOYCE ASHWORTH & SHANNON JOHNSON

304-596-2648 · [jaashworth@k12.wv.us](mailto:jaashworth@k12.wv.us) / 304-596-2663 · [sdjohnson@k12.wv.us](mailto:sdjohnson@k12.wv.us)

## Join us for Substitute Teacher Training at RESA 8!



# Joyce Ashworth



# Our class is the first step to obtaining your initial or renewing your current WV Substitute Teaching Permit!

## Welcome Back!

- Read through the TPT strategies on your blue paper.
  - Put a STAR next to any you think you could easily do.
  - Check the one(s) you think would be challenging

For more information visit [www.resa8.org](http://www.resa8.org)

## **Upcoming Classes:**

April 5-6 , 2017 for new & renewal candidates

**June 14-15, 2017 is a RENEWAL ONLY class**





## WV BIRTH TO THREE

**ELIZABETH LOY, COORDINATOR**  
304-596-2652 · [eloy@k12.wv.us](mailto:eloy@k12.wv.us)

### **West Virginia Birth to Three Provides Early Intervention Services at No Cost to Families**

For more than thirty years, RESA 8 has held the grant for the WV Birth to Three program funded through the WV Department of Health and Human Resources. The continuity of this relationship is a win-win for the children and families, our county school systems and the community at-large. In this part of the state, RESA and Birth to Three are synonymous for one and another and any disruption in that relationship has the potential for causing a disruption in services to children and families.

Families living in the Eastern Panhandle and parts of the Potomac Highland region of West Virginia, who have children under the age of three who are not meeting typical developmental milestones are fortunate that they can receive services, including evaluation and direct one-on-one assistance for their children through the WV Birth to Three program under RESA 8.

During the course of a year, WV Birth to Three touches the lives of 800 plus children in the eight county region covered by RESA 8. RESA 8 has held the grant for the WV Birth to Three program since the inception of the program.

The WV Birth to Three program, under RESA 8, is available to families with children ages 0 – 35 months who are not meeting developmental milestones typical for that child's age, or who are at risk for not meeting developmental milestones. Getting intervention services early in a child's life can help close developmental gaps.

There are five areas of development often tracked as a toddler grows: cognitive (thinking and learning), physical (moving, seeing and hearing), social/emotional (coping, getting along with others), adaptive (doing things for him/herself) and communication (understanding and communicating with others).

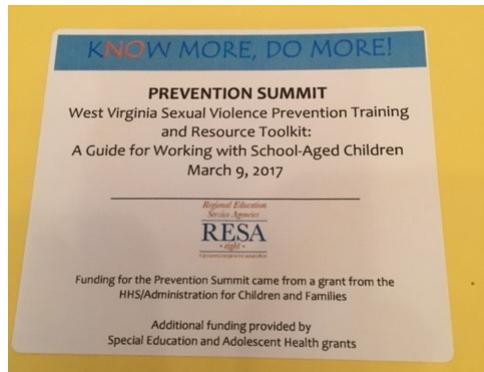
Anyone can refer a child to WV Birth to Three. Parents, grandparents and caregivers can simply call WV Birth at 304-267-3593 or 1-800-367-3728 if they have concerns for a child's development or would like to make a referral. Physicians can also refer children to the program, which is voluntary, and uses a teaching model to help parents work with their young children to meet their family goals.

WV Birth to Three provides all services at no cost to families. There are no financial eligibility or insurance requirements. The program emphasizes parent and family involvement, with services being provided in the child's natural environment, most often the family's home. Christina Hollis, parent of two Birth to Three participants, said, "They were amazing people to work with, and we don't think either of our sons would be where they are today without their help."



*Licensed practitioners use a family-centered teaching approach to help young children reach their developmental goals.*

## RESA 8 NEWS



### KNOW MORE, DO MORE!

The WV Sexual Violence Prevention Summit spearheaded by RESA 8 Regional School Wellness Specialist and Adolescent Health Coordinator, Lori Lawson was a great opportunity for learning in Martinsburg!





**We are here to serve YOU!**



### HAVE YOU BEEN SERVED? SHARE YOUR STORY!

If you have been served by one or more of our RESA 8 programs and would like to share your experience, we would love to hear it! Please email [sdjohanson@k12.wv.us](mailto:sdjohanson@k12.wv.us) with a brief description of how RESA 8 has helped you, your school or your organization, and we just may TWEET your response or include it on our website or in a future newsletter! At the very least, we will share your story with those who provided the service so they know they are appreciated!



### Passing the Torch

RESA 8 will be welcoming a new interim Executive Director on March 20, 2017 when Lynn Aikens joins the staff as our new leader. Mr. Aikens is a retired principal with many years of experience in the education system in both West Virginia and Virginia. We are looking forward to working with Mr. Aikens and sincerely thank Mr. Aliveto for his service and support for RESA 8! We wish him all the best in his true retirement!

# 2016-2017

## RESA 8

### REGIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Berkeley County	Manny Arvon, Superintendent Dr. William Queen, Chairperson
Grant County	Doug Lambert, Superintendent Scott Miley, Board Member Sonya Ertel, Teacher Representative
Hampshire County	Dr. Jeffrey Crook, Superintendent Bonita Wilcox, Board Member
Hardy County	Dr. Matthew Dotson, Superintendent Nancy Hahn, Board Member
Jefferson County	Dr. Bondy Gibson, Superintendent Mark Osbourn, Board Member
Mineral County	Shawn Dilly, Superintendent William Ludwick, Board Member Susan Grady, Curriculum Representative
Morgan County	David Banks, Superintendent David Ambrose, Vice-Chairperson Gene Brock, Principal Representative
Pendleton County	Charles Hedrick, Superintendent Sonny O'Neil, Board Member
Shepherd University, Department of Education	Dr. Elvira Sanatullova-Allison, Department Chair Higher Education Representative
WV Department of Education	Pat Homberg, Executive Director, Office of Special Programs
WV Schools for the Deaf and Blind	Dr. Martin Keller, Superintendent
WV State Board of Education	Barbara Whitecotton WV State Board of Education Member
RESA 8	Frank Aliveto, Interim Executive Director Sherry Barnett, Executive Secretary