

# Autism Spectrum

Goodhue County  
Education District

May 2015

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## State Community of Practice (CoP) Information ~ Implementation Science

**ACTIVE IMPLEMENTATION** - Over past years the science related to developing and identifying evidence-based programs and practices has improved significantly. However, the science related to implementing these programs, with high fidelity, in real-world settings, has lagged far behind.

Minnesota's Regional Low Incidence Projects are now fully implementing the "Science of Implementation" and have used the process when writing grants and planning for expenditure of the monies.

Implementation Science has four stages:

- Exploration - Assessing the needs, identifying possible programs and practices to meet those needs, assessing the fit and feasibility of implementation, and sustaining the identified programs.
- Installation - Building your capacity, training, coaching and data systems are conceptualized, created, or purchased.
- Initial Implementation - Improvement and problem solving stage.
- Full Implementation - The processes and procedures are in place.

The ASD CoP discussed that there is a strong need to assist teachers with the new ASD License to increase their skills in evaluation, IEP development, and consultation. There is also a need for these teachers to continue developing collabo-

rative relationships with General Educators in relation to tiered behavior supports and to help students with ASD access core curriculum. As such the members of the Autism CoP have the following goals for 2015-2016:

- Goal # 1 ~ Region 10 consultants will provide ASD Licensed teachers with materials/opportunities to increase their knowledge and skills in order to perform their job requirements with fidelity. This goal is thought to be in the Installation Stage of implementation as consultants are building capacity, training and coaching staff, and data systems are being conceptualized, created, or purchased.
- Goal # 2 ~ Region 10 Consultants will create shared learning experiences for General Educators and other Special Educators in order to better understand how learners with ASD can participate successfully in the general education setting with more independence. This will happen through the development of a document of behavioral supports and strategies that address concerns in the general education setting. This goal is thought to be in the Exploration Stage of implementation as needs are assessed, possible programs and practices to meet those needs are identified, and the fit and feasibility of implementing and sustaining the identified programs is assessed.

# Can Co Canines~Assistance Dogs

Can do Canines is a non-profit organization that trains and places five distinct types of assistance dogs with people who have disabilities, free of charge. They train assistance dogs to help with hearing loss, mobility challenges, seizure disorders, type 1 diabetes and childhood autism. This organization is funded entirely through contributions and fundraising events, receiving no funds

from government sources. The Minnesota based organization placed their first assistance dog in 1989 and has since graduated 468 similar assistance dog teams, placed with people living in seven states.

Dogs are raised and partially trained by more than 85 dedicated volunteer Puppy Raisers or in one of four Minnesota-based prisons until they

are 16-18 months old. They are then returned to the facility for final training by professional staff before they are placed with an applicant who is disabled.

Contact information:  
Can Do Canines  
9440 Science Center Dr.  
New Nope, MN 55428  
763-331-3000



[can-do-canines.org](http://can-do-canines.org)



## Autism Licenses for Goodhue County Education District

Goodhue County Education District now has 17 people who have been accepted for eligibility for the new Autism License. One last re-submission will be sent in. As of July 1, 2015 every child who meets criteria for autism in the educational setting, needs to have an ASD licensed person on the

team. The extent of that involvement is yet to be determined.

Here is the breakdown for GCED:

- Cannon Falls - 2
- Goodhue - 2
- Kenyon/Wanamingo - 2
- Red Wing - 6

- Zumbrota/Mazeppa - 3
- STEP - 1
- GCED - 1

CONGRATULATIONS to all of you who worked so hard to meet the requirements for this new license!!

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**Vocabulary Strategies - Not just for Reading and Math**  
 ☆ When teaching social thinking skills consider setting up a word wall with images to  
 ☆ match the emotion, strategy, or skill you are working on. Games using dice i.e  
 ☆ Vocabulary Cubes (devotedtovocabulary.wordpress.com) or I Have, Who Has?  
 ☆ (ihavewhoasgames.com) will help cement the terms you are using and let the students  
 ☆ have some fun.  
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## Congratulations ~ Phil Sievers

***Phil Sievers, surrounded by Minnesota colleagues, was one of five honored at the 20th annual Minnesota AuSM Conference for inspiring and supporting Minnesota's autism community while exceling in the areas of leadership, education, advocacy, volunteerism and community. The autism community is blessed to have such dedicated individuals leading us through this journey.***



### [www.Newsela.com](http://www.Newsela.com)

Newsela is an innovative way to build reading comprehension with nonfiction that's always relevant: daily news. Articles are for grades 3-12 and each one has 5 different lexils to choose from. Articles are aligned with the common core standards, which are clearly

noted. Quizzes are included. Topics available are: war and peace, science, kids, money, law, health, arts and sports. Teachers can assign lessons and students can work at their own pace. Current articles are daily sent to the teacher's email.

### Disability Benefits 101

Two websites that are available to help individuals when looking at benefits planning are [db101.org](http://db101.org) and [workbenefitsyouth.org](http://workbenefitsyouth.org). These help explain Benefits for Young People and offer an opportunity to explore how benefits and a job can work together. See how SSI and MA can help a student with work. There is a school and work estimator and many videos to help in the process of learning about disability benefits.

### Upcoming Events

June 15, 2015 - Playgrounds and Roller Coasters: Brain Research, ACE and Resiliency  
9 - 3 in Owatonna. Register on the Region10 website.

August 3, 2015 - Effective Interventions and Strategies for Improving Executive Functioning Skills  
8:30 - 3:30 in Appleton, WI [www.aepconnections.com](http://www.aepconnections.com) for detailed conference information.

Sept. 1, Sept. 21, Oct. 30, & Nov. 30, 2015 - Webinars -Building Collaborative Partnerships Through Instructional Coaching. Region 10 website for information.

April 24 - 26, 2016 Charting the C's

April 27 - 30, 2016 Annual AuSM Conference

