

Arizona Special Education Report

(Published by MediaNet Solutions, Inc., the providers of the e-IEP PRO)

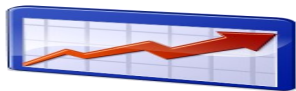
Volume 11, Issue 7

November 30, 2015

2015 Marked By a Strong Increase In e-IEP PRO Adoption by Arizona LEAs

In 2015, given the strength of its performance and compatibility with state standards and reporting requirements, a significant number of Local Education Agencies (LEAs) in Arizona have adopted the e-IEP PRO including some of Arizona's largest and most influential LEAs in the state that include: Basis Schools; Gilbert USD (5th largest in AZ); Peoria USD - (7th largest in AZ); Vail USD, and over 20 additional Arizona LEAs.

These LEAs moving to the e-IEP PRO join the over 360 Arizona LEAs statewide currently using the e-IEP PRO to manage their special education student data and programs. Currently, approximately 70% of Arizona's special education students are managed within the e-IEP PRO and more and more LEAs are making the switch



to the e-IEP PRO each school year making the e-IEP PRO Arizona's Special Education Management Software solution.

Some of the key reasons that Arizona LEAs are selecting the e-IEP PRO are due to the following distinct advantages offered by the software and its support team that include:

- The e-IEP PRO is the only special education software certified by the Arizona Department of Education for reporting special education data to the state (e.g., SAIS/AzEDS);
- The e-IEP PRO fully integrates with all leading Student Information Systems including the statewide Student Information System;
- The e-IEP PRO allows electronically transfer-

ring student records including METs, IEPs, PWNs, Meeting Notices, signature pages, etc. amongst other LEAs using the software;

- The e-IEP PRO is supported by a local (Phoenix-based) user support and training team (all e-IEP PRO staff live in the Phoenix-metro area);
- The e-IEP PRO includes PCG-approved, fully integrated electronic signature features for IEP Progress Reporting;
- The e-IEP PRO provides a Compliance Alert feature that allows administrator users to automatically notify staff through the software of problems/issues in their documentation, etc.;
- The e-IEP PRO includes a General Education

Teacher portal that allows general education teachers electronic access to a student's current IEP Information Sheet (i.e., IEP goals, accommodations, etc.);

- The e-IEP PRO supports multi-user data entry where more than one user can simultaneously update a student's IEP, MET, etc. without any data loss or document lock-outs.

MediaNet Solutions, Inc. (MSI), the providers of the e-IEP PRO, has been in business since 1998 and has been supporting the e-IEP PRO with LEAs in Arizona since 2001 and maintains a 98% retention rate. MSI offices are located in Phoenix.

Learn More

To learn more about the e-IEP PRO, please point your browser to: <http://www.e-ieppro.com>.

OSERS Provides Guidance on Using Terms Dyslexia, Dyscalculia and Dysgraphia

On October 23, 2015, the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) released a letter giving guidance on the use of or reference to dyslexia, dyscalculia, and dysgraphia in special education evaluations.

The purpose of the OSERS letter was to, "...clarify that there is nothing in the IDEA that would prohibit the use of the terms dyslexia, dyscalculia, and dysgraphia in IDEA evaluation, eligibility determinations, or IEP documents."

Per 20 U.S.C. §1401(30) and 34 CFR §300.8(c)(10), dyslexia, dyscalculia, and dysgraphia fall under the SLD eligibility.

Dyslexia is a chronic neurological disorder causing inability or great difficulty in learning to read or spell, despite normal intelligence. Dysgraphia is a learning disability that affects writing and dyscalculia is a wide range of lifelong learning disabilities involving math. There is no single type of math disability.

All of these learning disabilities are treatable with early intervention.

Interventions, such as RTI, can be used to support students with suspected dyslexia, dyscalculia, or dysgraphia at first, but if response to those is minimal at best, then they must be referred for an evaluation to determine if they are eligible for special education and related services. The letter goes on to remind LEAs that in addition, "...a parent may request an initial evaluation at any time to

determine if a child is a child with a disability under IDEA (34 CFR §300.301(b)), and the use of MTSS, such as RTI, may not be used to delay or deny a full and individual evaluation under 34 CFR §§300.304-300.311 of a child suspected of having a disability."

The letter can be viewed in at: <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/speced/guid/idea/memosdcltrs/guidance-on-dyslexia-10-2015.pdf>.



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"Each year, the list of districts opting for the e-IEP PRO program grows. The three areas in which I feel this company excels in comparison to its competitors are:

- (a) responsiveness to customer's needs,*
- (b) overall product design, and*
- (c) utility of the product for special education directors. These areas of support are valued by directors of special education who can attest to the demonstrated performance of this product."*

Maria Bercin-Rascon
Director of Special Ed.
Casa Grande ESD

See us on the web at
www.e-ieppro.com

"Our decision to choose MediaNet Solutions, Inc. as our special data management system was a well thought out decision. Five years later, that decision proved to be an excellent choice for our staff and students alike. Enhancements to the software continue to meet special education's ever changing needs ... Cave Creek looks forward to growing with MediaNet Solutions, Inc."

Janet Holt
President, Arizona CASE
(2013-14)
Director Special Education
Cave Creek USD

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e-IEP PRO Integrates with Statewide Student Information System

In its continuous efforts to provide Arizona LEAs leading-edge features, the e-IEP PRO support team has recently partnered with several LEAs in Arizona to integrate the student data between their newly procured Statewide Student Information System (SSIS) and the e-IEP PRO. These data integration efforts have resulted in fully automated student data synchronization between the Statewide SIS and the e-IEP PRO.

In addition to the data integration features available to LEAs that utilize the new SSIS, similar e-IEP PRO data integration features are available for districts that utilize other leading Student Information Systems. Distinct advantages being realized by LEAs that utilize the e-IEP PRO's

advanced student data integration features include:

- Significantly reduces staff time requirements by eliminating redundant data-entry requirements;
- Substantially increases the data accuracy of special education data and special education documentation;
- Maximizes DSC revenues by facilitating a higher match rate between the district's SPED students and those matched as Medicaid eligible;
- Improves accuracy of the e-IEP PRO's Special Education SAIS, AzEDS and Census reports;

- Reduces staff time requirements by eliminating (or minimizing) the manual data collection and reporting of SPED SAIS/AzEDS data;
- Creates a fully integrated student data management configuration.

Along with these leading-edge data integration features, the e-IEP PRO is also (a) the only Special Education Management software to receive certification from ADE for AzEDS data reporting, and (b) to offer LEAs the ability to electronically transfer data records with over 360 Arizona LEAs statewide, making the e-IEP PRO the strongest special education data management solution available in Arizona.

e-IEP PRO Certified and Set for AzEDS Special Education Data Reporting

In early 2015, the e-IEP PRO technical team worked with the ADE AzEDS Team to update the e-IEP PRO to include the required Arizona Education Data Standard (AzEDS) reporting capabilities specific to special education data reporting. AzEDS is Arizona's new education data system that is planned to replace the current SAIS state reporting system.

After successfully completing the thorough AzEDS certification process in early 2015, ADE informed e-IEP PRO that it had successfully completed the certification with ADE for AzEDS reporting. ADE extended a

"heart felt" congratulations to Jeff Kline, President of MediaNet Solutions, Inc. and the e-IEP PRO support team for being only one of two vendors to complete this crucial step within the timeline recommended by ADE. And, the e-IEP PRO obtained a further distinction as being the only special education management system to achieve AzEDS certification with ADE.

"As a leader in Special Education Management software solutions in Arizona, we are excited to partner with ADE on their industry-leading AzEDS project," said MediaNet/e-IEP PRO's President Jeff Kline. "Effective data management is

such an important part of providing quality education services to the children of Arizona and we are excited to be on the leading edge of working with ADE and Arizona LEAs to make this happen."

Since receiving this certification, the e-IEP PRO technical team has been working collaboratively with ADE and one of Arizona's largest LEAs to pilot test the e-IEP PRO's AzEDS reporting features as well as assist LEAs in preparing to go "live" with these new e-IEP PRO features.

For more information on AzEDS, point your browser to: <http://www.azed.gov/aelas/azed/>.

e-IEP PRO Introduces New IEP Information Sheet Portal

The e-IEP PRO has recently been upgraded to include a new IEP Information Sheet Portal that significantly improves the ease for general education (and other stakeholders) to access special education student IEP Information Sheets (IEP accommodations, goals, etc.). Specifically, this upgrade includes the following significant improvements:

(1) A single login allows teachers to access all of their students' IEP Information Sheets;

(2) The login process is simple, only requiring teachers to enter their name and simple login credentials;

(3) Once accessed, all active students who have current IEPs are displayed in a single screen where teachers can easily select, view and/or print student IEP Information Sheets.

This new on-line portal eliminates the need for special education teachers and/or special education administrators to provide

general education teachers printed copies of the IEP Information Sheet (IIS) and/or upload electronic copies of the IEP IIS into the district's SIS.

An electronic log report of all staff who have accessed these sheets (by student and date/time) is available to Administrator users within the e-IEP PRO.

See the e-IEP PRO User Support page and the e-Training Module for more information on how to access and use the IIS portal.