



Welcome to
Early Childhood Investigations

OPERATING STANDARDS

For High Quality Inclusive Child Care



Bob Siegel

National Director of Children's Services

Easter Seals

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www.EarlyChildhoodWebinars.org

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Welcome!

Today's Presenter



Bob Siegel
National Director
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Easter Seals



OPERATING STANDARDS

for
**HIGH QUALITY
INCLUSIVE CHILD CARE**



OPERATING STANDARDS

- What is inclusion
- The history of inclusionary practices in the ECE field...what have we been doing and why
- Today's parents



Poll Question #1

What is the biggest obstacle to a center operating an inclusive program?



Tools from the past

- Rights and responsibilities
- The ADA
- Importance of Partnerships
- Focused on the child and the classroom



Poll Question #2

What does **FLK** stand for?



Our project: The Operating Standards

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- Completed and published in 2007
 - Informed by the field
 - Essential collaborations with NAEYC, NACCRRA, and others
 - Not the final word



What Directors Really Need

- What to do
- How to do it
- Moving towards the goal



SURVEY SAYS

- OPERATIONS
- PARENT COMMUNICATIONS
- TEACHER/THERAPIST INTEGRATION
- STAFF TRAINING and RESOURCES



Poll Question #3

What is the accurate percentage of ECE classrooms in the United States that are inclusive



OPERATIONS

- How many of “*those kids*” is OK?
- Assessment & Planning, IEP’s and all!
- The challenge of ratios and group sizes; “let’s throw some money at the problem”.
- Be a resource to others



PARENT COMMUNICATIONS

- Formal, ongoing, consistent communication
- Communicate the benefits of inclusion
- Training and support for parental advocacy



TEACHER/THERAPIST INTEGRATION

-
- Seriously, what does this mean?
 - Education vs. Medical model
 - Turf issues
 - What Easter Seals learned



More on integration

- Therapy in the classroom
- Planning and communication
- Education and Therapy goals, oh my!
 - IEP/IFSP's
 - Lesson plans
 - Development goals
- Have a follow-up protocol



STAFF TRAINING and RESOURCES

-
- Staff orientation must include learning the aspects of an inclusive program
 - Know and use appropriate external resources in the community
 - Annual “Inclusion” training will be given to all therapists and teachers



THE STANDARDS THEMSELVES

- There are 19 separate standards
- They are not pass/fail, but are ordinal with four ascending levels of compliance for each standard
- This is simply a roadmap for every center director to use as she sees fit



AND MORE...

-
- “But Bob, there’s no magic here”
 - It’s not about making magic. It is about
 - Doing the right thing
 - Providing access for all children
 - Serving families
 - Complying with the law
 - Early care and education for all children



“The Implementation Guide: Operating Standards for High Quality Inclusive Child Care”

- A printed book that will serve as your guide to operating an inclusive program at your school or center
- Two Parts
 - *The Operating Standards-all 19 of them, each with the four levels
 - * A Self-Assessment Tool for your center to see where you are now, and where you can go



The Operating Standards Course

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- digitally speaking..... and available:
 - Through naccrra's website at:
<http://naccrra.smarthorizons.org/child-care-providers.html> OR
 - On a CD you can order from Easter Seals (info at end)



Almost, THE END

- Questions
- Comments
- Concerns
- Bob Siegel
bsiegel@easterseals.com



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Questions



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Dr. Timothy Shanahan, Professor,

Date: February 9, 2011 2 PM, EST

The Influences Changing Instruction in the Prekindergarten Classroom

Susan Gunnewig

Date: February 16, 2011 2 PM EST

Online Learning for Early Childhood? How young children learn online

Sarah Sprinkel

Date: February 23, 2011 2:00 PM

Door Prizes



Thanks for Coming

