

# TBI Newsletter

CBIRT.org

Oregon TBI Team

August 2016

## Welcome Back!

Fall is in the air and school is right around the corner. We are working away on getting ready for the 2016/17 school year. The training schedule is currently in progress. We will update you as we have more opportunities to share.

## New Link to Log Your Data

Logging your data is very important. It allows us to keep track of what is happening in each region so that we have more accurate information to report back to the Oregon Department of Education. If you have any questions about when and what to log please contact your liaison. Here is the new data log link: <https://goo.gl/forms/kXW7q2CptDt4Oj8I3>

## Introducing Webinars

We are excited to introduce a new training opportunity through online webinars. Each month we will have an expert speak about an important TBI issue. Topics include TBI and the law, 504s, TBI and families, assessment, and others. Please watch for upcoming announcements and registration. For each webinar we will provide a link to the registration page in this newsletter and also on our website at cbirt.org. Once we receive your registration, you will be emailed login information. Our first webinar will feature David Kracke with a presentation on TBI and the Law on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 3 PM to 4 PM. To register please click on the following link: <https://goo.gl/forms/jjooxn7mw5FaW1HA2>

## New and Returning Members

If you would like to be part of the TBI Team, we'd love to have you. You will need permission from your supervisor and all new and returning members will be asked to complete new or returning member training. Please complete the following registration if you would to be part of the TBI Team.

New Member Registration: <https://goo.gl/forms/fEfUOFC6ubIcukBf1>

Returning Member Registration: <https://goo.gl/forms/Q8NqWUHbhcIriW4z2>

## New Member Training/Returning Member Refresher Course

All new and returning members are strongly encouraged to take the new member training course on November 18<sup>th</sup> in Eugene from 10 AM to 3 PM. If you interested and able to attend please register at the following link: <https://goo.gl/forms/roOWIvwoBu7NFStm1>

### Contact the TBI Team:

Melissa McCart

541-346-0597

[mccart@uoregon.edu](mailto:mccart@uoregon.edu)

### Oregon TBI Team

Center for Brain Injury  
Research and Training

University of

Oregon

1600 Millrace Drive,

Suite 202

Eugene, OR 97403

## *New Resources*

The team at the Center on Brain Injury Research and Training (CBIRT) has continued to put together new resources and to post them on the CBIRT website for public use. Please take a few minutes to review the following new resources.

### *Assessment:*

These pages will provide information about the importance of assessments for students with TBI, what these assessment strategies can measure, the names of commonly used tests in schools, and the importance of implementing ongoing progress monitoring.

<http://cbirt.org/resources/educators/assessment/>

### *Eligibility:*

Like other students with disabilities, students with TBI need to be accurately identified so they can be appropriately served by educators who are knowledgeable about the challenges they experience and who can implement effective instructional and behavioral strategies. Correct identification not only benefits the student in the classroom, but opens the door to other services the student might not have access to under a different eligibility category.

<http://cbirt.org/resources/educators/eligibility/>

### *Legal News:*

This section of the site is home to an ongoing blog written by David Kracke, an attorney with Nichols and Associates in Portland, OR. David has a broad range of experience working with TBI-related laws in Oregon and is a board member for the Oregon Concussion Awareness and Management Program (OCAMP).

<http://cbirt.org/ocamp/legal-news/>

### *Classroom Routines:*

Students with brain injury often struggle with memory impairment, organization and focusing attention. Varying routines can create enough stress for a student with a brain injury that they cannot focus on the material they are to be learning. Try to create routines consistent enough to permit brain injured students to learn.

<http://cbirt.org/resources/educators/tidbits/Oct14/>

## Individual Education Plans for TBI versus Learning Disability

Individual Education Plans also known as IEPs are important for teams and students to meet the unique needs of a student with disabilities. When writing IEP goals for a student with brain injury and executive function problems, the goals can be quite different than goals for a student with a learning disability. Students with TBI often demonstrate wide variability in skills and abilities over time. In contrast, students with learning disabilities tend to have life-long patterns of learning that are fairly stable. Students with TBI tend to need a wider variety of supports as their abilities change. These changes occur for two primary reasons. First, as the student is healing after the injury, there may be dramatic increases in some abilities. However, the student's abilities may appear to decline in comparison with other students because she is unable to organize increasingly complex materials or solve abstract problems in the same way her peers can.

Examine information about the student's physical, social and cognitive abilities when determining eligibility for special education under the category of traumatic brain injury. It is also helpful to examine the student's performance before and after the injury in these and other areas. This examination helps the team determine the effects of the injury that might need to be addressed. If behaviors are a concern it is important that the team conducts a functional behavioral analysis (FBA) and creates a behavior plan to assist the student with social skills and appropriate behaviors. An FBA can then guide the behavioral goals on the student's IEP.

A student with TBI has a history of performance at a higher level. A student with a learning disability has had challenges since birth.

- When evaluating for a TBI, compare differences in pre-injury performance to the student's performance after the injury.

See more at: <http://cbirt.org/tbi-education/assessment-eligibility/tbi-or-ld/#sthash.U5PzWzSX.dpuf>

## THE TBI TEAM WORKGROUP MEMBERS

**Melissa McCart:** TBI Team Coordinator

**Kari Baybado:** Region 1, Eastern Oregon

**Sue Hayes:** Region 2, Central Oregon

**Evelyn Henderson:** Region 3, Southern Oregon

**Vicki Jones:** Region 4N, Linn, Benton, & Lincoln counties

**Amanda Ford:** Region 4S, Southern Oregon Coast (Coos & Curry counties)

**Robin Simmons:** Region 5, Willamette (Yamhill, Polk, Marion counties)

**Karen Menne:** Region 6, Clackamas (Multnomah, Clackamas, Hood River, Wasco counties)

**Wendy Friedman:** Region 7, Lane

**Cathy Jensen:** Region 8, Northwestern Oregon (Clatsop, Columbia, Washington, & Tillamook)

<p><b>Brain 101</b>  <a href="http://brain101.orcasinc.com">http://brain101.orcasinc.com</a></p>	<p>The Oregon Center for Applied Science, with funding from the National Institutes of Health, created an evidence-based interactive website for school-wide concussion management. When a concussion happens to one of your students, it's critical that the entire school community — staff, students and their parents — knows how to respond in ways that ensure the student's best chance of recovery.</p>
<p><b>BrainLine</b>  <a href="http://www.brainline.org">http://www.brainline.org</a>  <a href="http://www.brainlinekids.org">http://www.brainlinekids.org</a></p>	<p>BrainLine is an extensive and easy to navigate site for preventing, treating, and living with TBI. Funded by the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center, the site offers basic information about TBI and the brain, as well as webcasts, "ask an expert", and specialized sections for TBI survivors, friends, family, and professionals. The BrainLine Kids area is devoted to helping kids with TBI.</p>
<p><b>Center on Brain Injury Research and Training</b>  <a href="http://www.cbirt.org">www.cbirt.org</a></p>	<p>CBIRT conducts research and training to improve the lives of children and adults with traumatic brain injury (TBI). Information, tools, publications and training are available at the CBIRT website.</p>
<p><b>Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)</b>  <a href="http://cdc.gov/traumaticbraininjury/">http://cdc.gov/traumaticbraininjury/</a></p>	<p>The Center on Disease Control and Prevention conducts research and offers programs, such as the "Heads Up" initiative, that "work to prevent TBI and help people better recognize, respond, and recover if a TBI occurs."</p>
<p><b>Colorado TBI Resource Network</b>  <a href="http://cokidswithbraininjury.com">http://cokidswithbraininjury.com</a></p>	<p>The Colorado Traumatic Brain Injury Resource Network website was designed through funding from the Colorado TBI Trust Fund to help school professionals help students with TBI. The site serves as a tool for educators, school administrators, school psychologists, related service professionals, and families.</p>
<p><b>Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center</b>  <a href="http://www.dvbic.org">www.dvbic.org</a></p>	<p>The Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center, a part of the U.S. military health system, plays an important role in "maintaining unit readiness, improving the health and safety of service members and veterans, and ensuring optimal outcomes for individuals with TBI and their families."</p>
<p><b>Lash &amp; Associates Publishing</b>  <a href="http://www.lapublishing.net">www.lapublishing.net</a></p>	<p>Lash &amp; Associates is an excellent resource for all aspects of TBI. They offer books, tool kits and other resources to help treat and live with brain injury in children, adults, and veterans.</p>
<p><b>Project LEARNet</b>  <a href="http://www.projectlearn.net">www.projectlearn.net</a></p>	<p>LEARNet is a resource for teachers, clinicians, parents, and students that is provided by the Brain Injury Association of New York State. LEARNet aims to provide "anytime access" to TBI consulting services to all schools and families without the costs of a TBI specialist. The site offers video clips and information on specific problems for students with TBI.</p>