

**Regional Education Service Center**  
**Southwest Mississippi Education Consortium (SMEC)**  
**Spring & Summer 2017 Schedule**  
<http://smec.msresaservices.com/>

| DATE               | TOPIC/DESCRIPTION   | LOCATION                  |
|--------------------|---|---------------------------|
| February 8-9, 2017 | <p><b>Regional Literacy Training for K-3 Teachers (LETRS) – Phase 2</b><br/> MDE has contracted with Cambium Education to deliver the Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) training to teachers who serve Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. This training focuses on instructional approaches that address core components of reading instruction. Additionally, this training addresses reasons why many students have reading difficulties and offer case studies to model effective instruction. The training will be offered in two phases. Each phase will consist of a hybrid model of online and face-to-face sessions that allows for self-paced learning of content. For each phase teachers must complete an online component prior to attending face-to-face training.</p> <p><b>To attend Phase 2 of the LETRS training, you must first complete Phase 1. All participants are to complete the 15-20 hour online coursework PRIOR to the training. EVERY attendee, whether receiving credit or not, is to present a copy of the final exam report for Modules 4-6 when they sign in on Day 1.</b></p> | Universities Center       |
| February 9, 2017   | <p><b>Regional District Test Coordinator Training Winter 2017</b><br/> The training that will be hosted by the office of Student Assessment (OSA) in February 2017 will provide District Test Coordinators with pertinent information for the Spring 2017 test administration to include ACT, ELPT, MKAs<sup>2</sup>, MAP, MAP-A, SATP2, MST2, and Test Security. This training will provide guidance regarding changes and updates from the various testing vendors. Each DTC should attend 1 one day training that is both date and location savvy lasting from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Each district may bring up to two (2) personnel for this training, which does not have to be your technology coordinator. <b>Technology Coordinators will have a separate training, more details to follow from OSA.</b> The Regional DTC Training will consist of five (5) breakout sessions having each presenter rotate to each group in one (1) hour sessions. This training will conclude with a whole body presentation conducted by Test Security.</p>   | Brandon Municipal Complex |
| February 10, 2017  | <p><b>MTSS and Child Find-- A Match Made in Paradise</b><br/> This session provides an overview of how a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) and the Child Find process work together to ensure ALL children receive appropriate interventions and identify those who may need special education and related services.</p> <p>Targeted Participants: Psychometrists, School Psychologists, MET Chairpersons, Speech Pathologists, SPED Directors, Administrators, and any other school staff interested in the Child Find process or involved with MET Teams or Teachers Support Teams.</p>  | Universities Center       |
| February 21, 2017  | <p><b>I Have an Issue! What are My Options?</b><br/> The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) encourages parents and local educational agencies (LEAs) to work collaboratively, in the best interests of children, to resolve the disagreements that may occur when working to provide a positive educational experience for all children, including children with disabilities. To this end, the IDEA and its implementing regulations and Mississippi Special Education Rule 74.19, provide specific options for resolving disputes between parents and achieving better outcomes for children with disabilities. The presenter will discuss common parental concerns and issues as well as those specific options for resolving disputes. This one-day session is specifically designed for administrators, special education directors, special education and general education teachers, and service providers.</p>   | Universities Center       |

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| February 23-24, 2017 | <p><b>Pre-K LETRS</b><br/> The MDE, Office of elementary Education and Reading, is offering training for per-k staff on improving learning outcomes for young children. This two-day training will explain how per-kindergarten students learn the early literacy and language skills shown in research to be critical for later success.<br/> Eligible participants for this training include pre-k staff participating in an Early Learning Collaborative state-funded pre-k program as well as preschool teachers special education preschool teachers, and related service providers who primarily serve preschool children at public schools. There is a limit of 50 participants per training, but districts and early learning collaborative are not assigned to a Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA). Registration will be on a first-come-first-serve basis. This is a repeat of Pre-K LETRS and Early Childhood LETRS training. Participants who attended one of these trainings in the past should not register for this training.</p>   | Eagle Ridge Conference Center |
| February 27-28, 2017 | <p><b>Regional Literacy Training for K-3 Teachers (LETRS) – Phase 2</b><br/> MDE has contracted with Cambium Education to deliver the Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) training to teachers who serve Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. This training focuses on instructional approaches that address core components of reading instruction. Additionally, this training addresses reasons why many students have reading difficulties and offer case studies to model effective instruction. The training will be offered in two phases. Each phase will consist of a hybrid model of online and face-to-face sessions that allows for self-paced learning of content. For each phase teachers must complete an online component prior to attending face-to-face training.</p> <p><b>To attend Phase 2 of the LETRS training, you must first complete Phase 1. All participants are to complete the 15-20 hour online coursework PRIOR to the training. EVERY attendee, whether receiving credit or not, is to present a copy of the final exam report for Modules 4-6 when they sign in on Day 1.</b></p> | Eagle Ridge Conference Center |
| March 1, 2017        | <p><b>Leveling the Playing Field: Assistive Technology for Students with a Wide Range of Learning Difficulties</b><br/> Most educators think assistive technology only applies to students who need intensive supports, such as communication devices. But assistive technology can level the playing field for students with a wide range of learning difficulties. In this practical presentation, we will highlight numerous innovative assistive technology solutions for students who need support in organization, literacy/reading, writing, note-taking, time management, and more! Many of these tools are free or low cost and can be used with iPad, Chromebooks, smart phones, and Google. Bring your own technology and follow along as we demonstrate how these tools can help ALL students succeed. (Participants may bring iPad, Smart Phones, Laptops, Chrome Books, or any technology they are currently using with students.)</p> <p>Targeted Participants: Special Educators, General Educators, Special Education Directors, Case Managers, Speech Pathologists, Assistive Technology Coordinators.</p>                                    | Universities Center           |

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| March 2, 2017   | <p><b>Developing Meaningful Standards-Based IEPs and Transition Plans for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities</b></p> <p>This is a full-day training to support teachers who instruct students with significant cognitive disabilities. This professional development will focus on providing special educators with the knowledge, strategies, and resources necessary to develop meaningful, realistic IEPs and post-secondary Transition Plans for students with significant cognitive disabilities receiving instruction on the Mississippi Alternate Academic Achievement Standard. Participants will receive practical ideas for IEP and Transition Plan development through engaging discussions and real-life examples.</p>  | Universities Center |
| March 7, 2017   | <p><b>Procedural Safeguards</b></p> <p>The MDE, Office of Special Education, Division of Instructional Support is offering a one-day workshop on Procedural Safeguards: An Integral Part of IDEA. The presenter will provide up-to-date information on policies and procedures related to IDEA's procedural safeguards provisions and how they are designed to protect the rights of parents and their child with a disability, as well as give families and LEAs a mechanism for resolving disputes. The trainer will specifically focus on prior written notices to parents; independent education evaluations; Informed Consent; revocation of services; and dispute resolution options. This session is specifically designed for Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, Principals, Assistant Principals, Special Education Directors and Teachers, Regular Education Teachers, Positive Behavior Specialist, Counselors, Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team Members, Vocational Education Special Pops Teachers, Transition Coordinators, and Para-professions.</p>   | Universities Center |
| April 5-6, 2017 | <p><b>Regional Literacy Training for K-3 Teachers (LETRS) - Phase 2</b></p> <p>MDE has contracted with Cambium Education to deliver the Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) training to teachers who serve Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. This training focuses on instructional approaches that address core components of reading instruction. Additionally, this training addresses reasons why many students have reading difficulties and offer case studies to model effective instruction. The training will be offered in two phases. Each phase will consist of a hybrid model of online and face-to-face sessions that allows for self-paced learning of content. For each phase teachers must complete an online component prior to attending face-to-face training.</p> <p><b>To attend Phase 2 of the LETRS training, you must first complete Phase 1. All participants are to complete the 15-20 hour online coursework PRIOR to the training. EVERY attendee, whether receiving credit or not, is to present a copy of the final exam report for Modules 4-6 when they sign in on Day 1.</b></p> | Universities Center |

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Jackson State University School of Lifelong Learning  
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