



State Board of Education Approves New Handbook Resource for Dyslexia

On March 26, 2018, the State Board of Education approved the Arizona Department of Education's (ADE)'s [Dyslexia Handbook](#), a technical assistance document to support families and teachers in educating students with dyslexia.

The newly approved Handbook includes: (1) guidelines for teachers and parents to identify dyslexia; (2) a description of educational strategies that have been shown to improve the academic performance of pupils with dyslexia; and (3) a description of resources and services that are available to pupils with dyslexia and to teachers and parents of pupils with dyslexia.

While dyslexia is not itself an eligibility category under the IDEA, and while not every child with dyslexia will qualify for an IEP, the IDEA regulations specifically reference "dyslexia" as a disorder which *may* result in special education eligibility under the disability category of "specific learning disability." 34 C.F.R. § 300.8(c)(10). Accordingly, if a disability is suspected as a result of a student's dyslexia, the school must conduct an evaluation to determine whether the student qualifies as a child with a disability in need of special education.

The newly published Dyslexia Handbook supplements [prior technical assistance](#) issued by ADE last fall, and provides additional tools and resources to schools in meeting the educational needs of students with dyslexia within their student populations.

Upcoming Speaking Engagements

We are pleased to note that Osborn Maledon's education law team continues to be recognized both locally and nationally for our experience in education law. Upcoming seminars in which OM lawyers will be presenting on education law issues include:

On **April 22-25, 2018**, David Garner has been invited to San Antonio, Texas to speak at [LRP's National Institute](#)—the premier national conference for special

Education Law

For questions regarding this new resource, or regarding special education law matters generally, please contact:

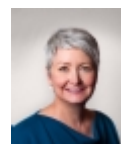


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Whether it is reviewing your discrimination and Title IX policies, handling an OCR complaint, providing training for teachers and staff, or providing legal advice as issues arise during the school day, Osborn Maledon's Education Law team is here to help. For more information, please contact:



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education practitioners. Dave has been invited to provide two separate seminars at the conference: 1) training on, and answers to, the most common questions about independent educational evaluations (IEEs), and 2) navigating the challenging waters of discipline involving special education students. For more on Dave's presentations at the LRP Institute, click [here](#). And if you are planning to attend the conference, please let Dave know so he can connect with you!



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On **April 4-7, 2018**, David Garner has been invited to train other school lawyers and the national [Council of School Attorneys \(COSA\) Law Seminar](#) in Dallas, Texas, on advising school clients regarding the ins and outs of independent educational evaluations under the IDEA. For more on Dave's presentations at the COSA School Law Seminar, click [here](#).



On **April 19, 2018**, Lynne Adams will be presenting on sexual harassment issues at the [Alliance for Public Charter School Attorneys' Conference](#) (an affiliate of the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools) in Atlanta, Georgia. This conference is only for attorneys who represent public charter schools routinely, and the participants tackle tough legal questions, unpack emerging trends and threats to the charter movement, and collaborate with new and returning colleagues in the charter community.

On **May 3, 2018**, Lynne Adams and David Garner will be presenting at the Arizona Charter Schools Association Legal Week. Dave and Lynne will provide training on several hot topics affecting charter schools, including: (1) enrollment practices and procedures, (2) responding to public records requests, and (3) what every (non-special education) teacher needs to know about special education. We hope you are planning to join us!



In **June**, Nate Arrowsmith has been invited to speak at the [National Charter Schools Conference](#) in Austin, Texas on transgender issues. If you are attending the Conference, look for Nate!

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