AT Workshops 2011-2012

Date	Topic/Description
8-22-11	**Assessing Student's Needs for Assistive Technology (ASNAT)** This session will familiarize you with the process of Assessing Student's Needs for Assistive Technology (ASNAT). The ASNAT is a process that takes the IEP team from consideration, to assessment to trials and implementation. Addressing the issues of documentation, funding, and trials, as well as exploring the skill areas that are supported by AT. This workshop will provide resources on assistive technology (low to high tech) that can help your students function more independently.
9-15-11	**Phonemic Assessment for Non-Verbal and/or Students with Cognitive Disabilities** Assessing the phonemic awareness of students who are non-verbal or who have cognitive disabilities can be difficult. This session will help you to understand how to assess one of the building blocks for developing readers - phonemic discrimination (hearing the difference between sounds or phonemes). This session will help teachers identify key literacy development stages and assess students (even those with severe physical & speech impairments) for phonemic and literacy development using the adapted phonemic assessment.
10-4-11	**Lights! Camera! Action! Video Modeling** Video modeling is being used to teach many skills and behaviors by watching video demonstrations and then imitating the behavior modeled. It is being used to teach social skills, communication, cognitive skills, self care and vocational skills. Not only is the video modeling an important tool for teaching a student, it is a valuable assessment and progress report tool as well as a valuable tool for self improvement and staff training.
11-17-11	**Boardmaker (beginner)** This session will provide a hands-on lab experience in using the software, Boardmaker, to create communication displays, labels, games, classroom materials and schedules. The program allows you to make professional looking communication displays or schedules in minutes. Classroom materials, interventions techniques to incorporate the communication symbols into literacy, play and social skill activities will be shared.
11-22-11	**Writing Supports for Students with Learning Disabilities in Middle/High School** This session will look at the two aspects of writing, the motor component and the composing component. Often students are able to tell verbally what they want to write, yet their written work is much less detailed and can be difficult to read while other students have difficulty composing or organizing what they want to write. Exploring assistive technology tools from pencil grips to complex computer programs, and using the writing continuum will help the participant understand the depth and breadth of tools that can support these students.
2-9-12	**Writing for Emergent Readers** This workshop will explore and provide hands on time with several easy to use computer programs that are for teacher and student use to facilitate engaging curriculum based literacy and writing activities. These programs allow the teacher to make modified activities for their students to use both on and off the computer. For students that cannot read and write independently, the use of picture based activities allows them to both read and write.

2-21-12	**Boardmaker (advanced)** This workshop will provide a review in the hands-on lab using the software, Boardmaker, to create communication displays, labels, games, classroom materials and schedules. Instruction will focus on how to insert digital pictures, how to make your own library, time saving techniques, manipulation of pictures and making your own symbols to meet specific student needs.
TBA	**i-Pod/iPad** This workshop will investigate the use of mobile computing devices within the special education classroom. Apple's iPod Touch and iPad are opening new opportunities for access to personal apps (applications) for communication, access to news, e-texts, and support of the curriculum. This workshop will provide an opportunity for exploration of educational and communication applications for the iPod Touch, iPad and SmartPen.
TBA	**SMART Board for Special Education** Learn, understand and integrate the SMART Board interactive whiteboard into your curriculum. By the end of the session, you will be comfortable with the SMART Board interactive whiteboard and Notebook Software, and know how to use them in your work. Specific emphasis on using the SMART Board in the special education classroom will help special education teachers and others who support them to see the features and characteristics of the SMART Board that can support their students.
TBA	**Communication/Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)** This workshop is designed for special educators and speech and language pathologists working with students who would benefit from augmentative and alternative communication (AAC). It will address the functional communication and academic needs of verbal and non verbal students and provide useful resources for consideration of AAC solutions. Web-based resources will be highlighted and participants will be provided access to an AAC Wiki designed by the presenter.
9-21-11	AT Network (Topics to be determined by the group)
11-16-11	AT Network
1-26-12	AT Network
3-23-12	AT Network
5-24-12	AT Network

CESA 6
SMART THINKING.