

A View of ASD and Education: Now and the Future

IACC Services Subcommittee Workshop
November 8, 2010
Bill East, NASDSE

Items for Discussion

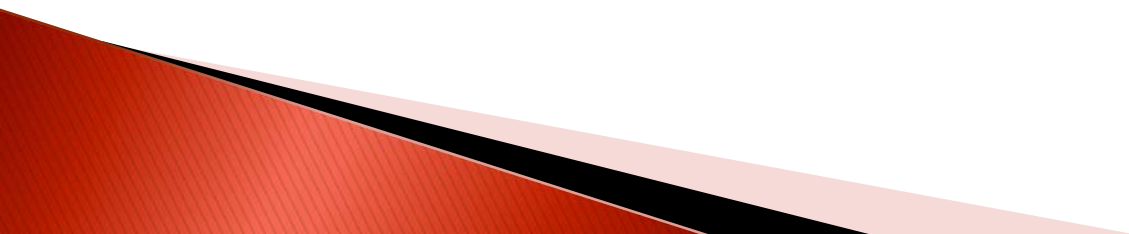
A View from Today - 2010

1. Impact of the economy
2. Research and Practice
3. Causes of Autism debate
4. Autism - separate or part of special education
5. Service provider preparation
6. Impact of Technology

A Vision of 2020



ASD in 2010: A View of Today



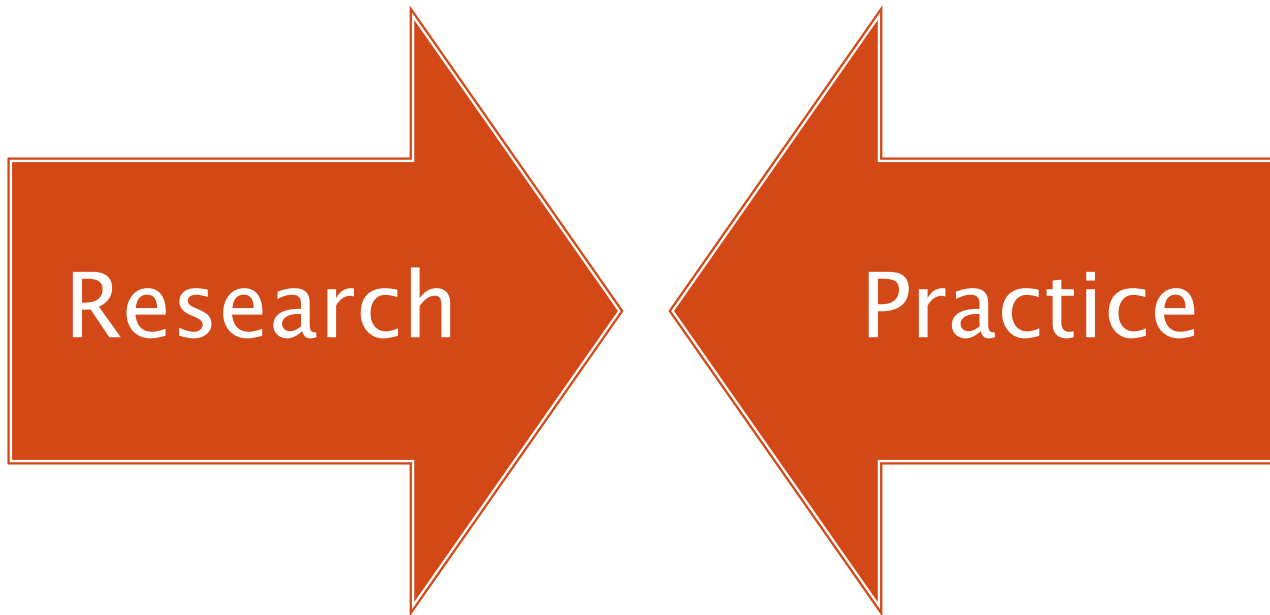
1. Impact of the Economy

IDEA is an entitlement.

- ▶ Not subject to economic ups and downs
- ▶ Not limited by numbers of students on the Spectrum

2. Research and Practice

Don't let the pursuit of perfection
get in the way of the good.



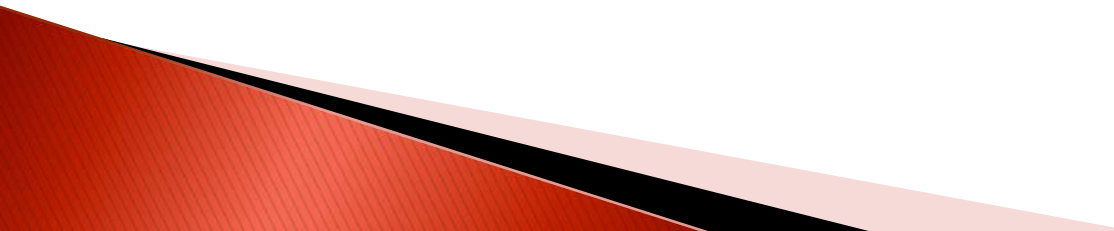
Researchers ...

Give us your best, but

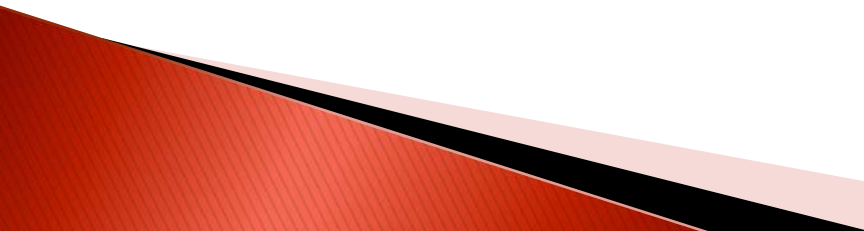
- ▶ in a format we can understand and use
- ▶ do research in real-life situations
- ▶ give due weight to parent and service provider experience

Service Providers ...

Give us your best, but

- ▶ use the researched-based and evidenced-based information available
 - ▶ give implementation fidelity a chance before changing
 - ▶ give parent experiences due weight
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What Service Providers Need

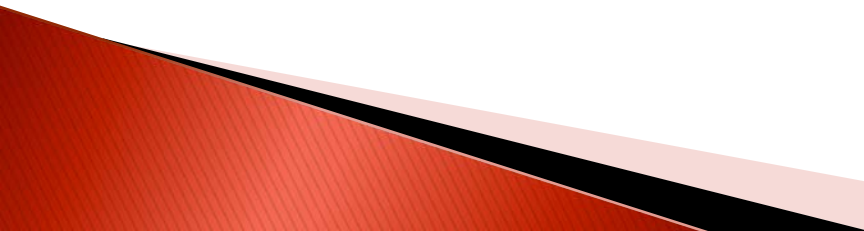
- ▶ Parental participation in implementation
 - ▶ Preparation and on-going support
 - ▶ Community of Practice with involved stakeholders
 - ▶ Peer interaction, support and coaching
 - ▶ Research in usable formats
 - ▶ Lifespan view/focus
 - ▶ Responsible/realistic policy
 - ▶ Paperwork focused on implementation & services
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What Service Providers Need (2)

- ▶ Adequate resources
 - ▶ Program fidelity with flexibility
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3. Causes of Autism Debate

School Personnel Response to Causes of Autism Discussion

- ▶ Not much relevance to schools
 - ▶ “We have a child in our school on the Spectrum. He/she must progress toward expected outcomes. “
 - ▶ “What knowledge, training and support do we need to help this child and family? “
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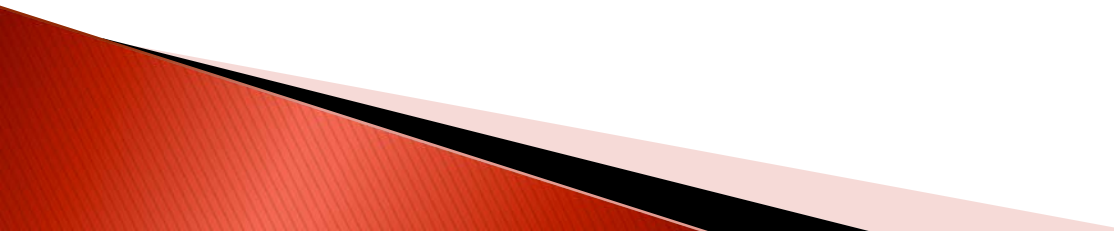
4. Autism – Separate or Part of Special Education

Separate Initiatives Limits Our Influence.

- ▶ College initiative for individuals with intellectual disabilities is good, but ...
- ▶ Separate funding by state legislatures for Autism is good, but ...

We are better together.

NASDSE's Work:

- ▶ IDEA Partnership's National Autism Community of Practice
 - ▶ Personnel Improvement Center
 - ▶ National disability/education coalitions focused on policy and appropriations
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IDEA Partnership Supports ASD

National Autism Community of Practice (CoP) involving Stakeholders from 16 states with 11 practice groups

- ▶ State teams meet and plan work
- ▶ Partners write dialogue guides and develop resource collections (launched on website in March and had 19,000 downloads in April)
- ▶ www.LearningPort.us launched this year with well over 800 entries of researched/evidenced – based programs/modules for teacher use. Collection includes resources for ASD (e.g. OCALI materials)

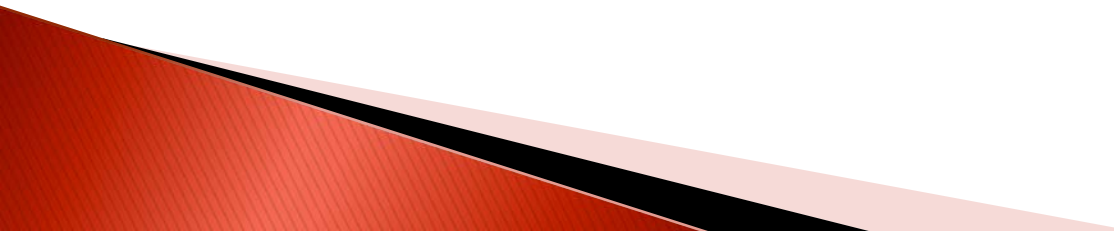
IDEA Partnership Supports ASD (2)

- ▶ www.LearningPort.us launched this year with well over 800 entries of researched/evidenced – based programs for teacher use. Collection includes resources for ASD (e.g. OCALI materials)
- ▶ www.ideapartnership.org

Personnel Improvement Center Supports ASD

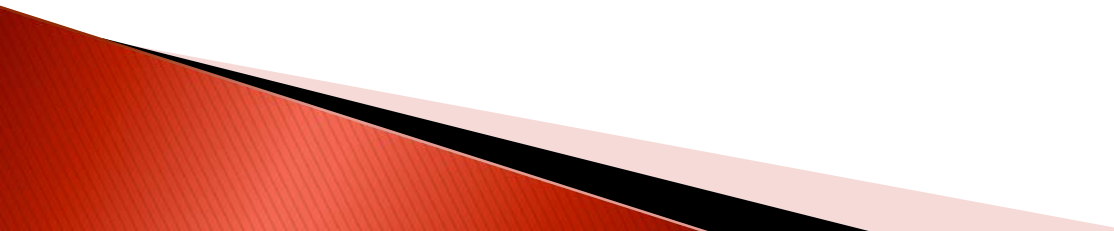
- ▶ Helps states with recruitment and retention of teachers and related services personnel
- ▶ Maintains data base of preparation programs
- ▶ Developing e-mentoring program
- ▶ www.personnelcenter.org

Government Relations Work

- ▶ Policy work for NASDSE and through coalitions (monitoring bills/suggesting language)
 - ▶ Supporting appropriations bills
 - ▶ Attendance at IACC meetings
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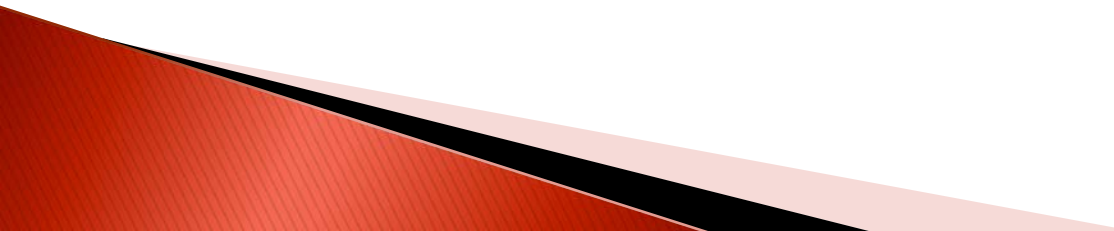
5. Service Provider Preparation

What is Appropriate Preparation?

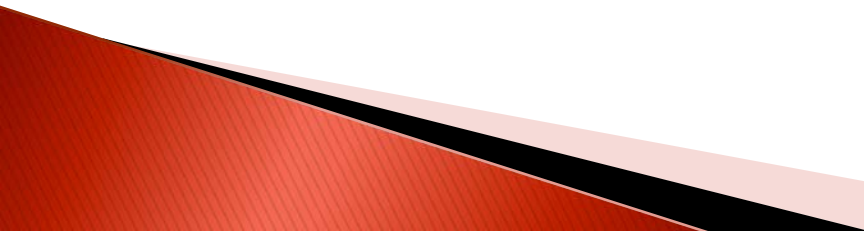
- ▶ College preparation with license
 - ▶ Organizational preparation with license/certificate
 - ▶ Experience-based preparation with certificate
 - ▶ Vendor-based preparation with certificate
 - ▶ Other?
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6. Impact of Technology

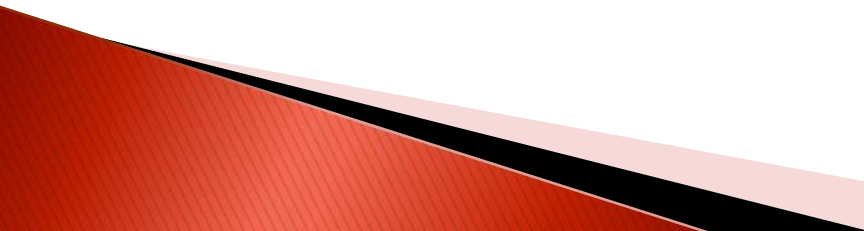
Technology and ASD

- ▶ Robotics (e.g. Bandit the Robot as seen on NBC series)
 - ▶ Bio-sensors that can detect how a child is feeling (Vanderbilt University)
 - ▶ Avatars used in virtual teacher preparation (University of Central Florida; TeachMe – Teaching in a mixed reality environment)
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A Vision of 2020

- ❑ All people with ASD will have the services and supports they need and desire throughout their lifespan, helping them reach their fullest potential. (IACC Services Subcommittee)
 - ❑ All stakeholders helping people on the Spectrum will be prepared and supported
 - ❑ All ASD stakeholders will participate in a national, state or local Community of Practice
 - ❑ Major advances will be made in understanding the causes of Autism
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A Vision of 2020 (2)

- ▶ Advances in technology will enable communication beyond current expectations
 - ▶ Schools will be “learning hubs” available to all
 - ▶ The numbers/percentages of people with ASD will have decreased significantly
 - ▶ People with ASD will be everywhere in society, but we want notice
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