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Dear Students and Parents:

We are excited to announce that The Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind will resume the USB Short Term Programs for the 2010-2011 school year. Short Term Programs (STPs) are open to all students grades 3-12 (including post high), who are legally blind, mainstreamed for the majority of their regular education classes, can benefit from a workshop setting, and are independent in their self-care needs.

For those of you new to the STP, our program provides implicit instruction in areas of the Expanded Core Curriculum, based on the knowledge and skills needed by students with visual impairments due to their unique disability-specific needs. Students with visual impairments need the Expanded Core Curriculum in addition to the core academic curriculum of general education. The areas of the ECC include compensatory skills, technology and visual efficiency skills, social skills, daily living skills/independent living, recreation and leisure, orientation and mobility, self-determination, and career preparation (many websites offer additional information regarding the Expanded Core Curriculum).

This year USB will be hosting four STP sessions - 2 will be hosted at the USDB Ogden Campus and two will be hosted at the USDB Salt Lake Campus. Session dates are as follows:

Session I: October 22-23 (USDB Salt Lake Campus)

- **Adventures in Travel**
 - Opportunities to discover new places using mobility skills and a variety of mobility modes
 - Focus: Orientation and Mobility Skills, daily living skills

Session II: January 28-29 (USDB Ogden Campus)

- **The World at Your Fingertips!**
 - Notetakers, Scientific Notebook, Braille Music, Low Vision Tools
 - Focus: Technology

Session III: February 11-12 (USDB Ogden Campus)

- **Winter Wonderland**
 - Discovering outdoor adventures
 - Focus: Recreation and Leisure

Session IV: March 18-19 (USDB Salt Lake Campus)

- **All the World is a Theater**

- Acting, singing and dancing with a performance on Saturday for families.
- Focus: Self-determination, sensory efficiency skills, recreation and leisure, independent living skills, social interaction

Please note that there is a small registration fee required for the Short Term Programs - \$30 for all sessions. Financial scholarships are available for qualified students (see attached registration form for additional details). Meals will be provided and dormitory accommodations are available at the Ogden Campus; however, the SLC programs do not have dormitory facilities. As a result, we will house the students at campus in carpeted classrooms – in other words, air mattresses will be provided – and students will be “camping in” – so to speak. It will actually be fun! Please note that shower facilities are not available. Chaperones will be provided.

Registration packets are attached and must be submitted to USDB no later than October 15th, the address and FAX number is listed on the registration form. If you have any questions, please contact Susan Westergard at 801-629-4718 or susanw@usdb.org for the Ogden STPs; and Marshal Givens at 801-464-2047 for the STPs at Salt Lake Campus

Please accept this as a personal invitation for your son or daughter to attend these valuable ECC opportunities. We have long identified the need for these Short Term Programs to better prepare your son or daughter for their future! Come, learn, and enjoy – we are eager to have you back!

Carolyn Lasater

Carolyn Lasater
Director, USDB
Educational Services for the Blind
Region I

Melanie Austin

Melanie Austin
Director, USDB
Educational Services for the Blind
Region II