

2011



RESOURCES

for Florida's Teachers

This publication is produced through the Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS), Division of Public Schools, Florida Department of Education, and is available online at <http://www.fldoe.org/ease/pub-home.asp>. For information on available resources, contact the BEESS Resource and Information Center (BRIC).

BRIC website: <http://www.fldoe.org/ease/clerhome.asp>

Bureau website: <http://www.fldoe.org/ease>

Email: BRIC@fldoe.org

Telephone: (850) 245-0477

Fax: (850) 245-0987



This booklet describes the Florida Department of Education projects that help schools, families, and communities improve outcomes for students with disabilities and other students who are at risk.

Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD)

The CARDS, located at seven state universities, provide information and consultation to individuals with autism spectrum disorders and related disabilities, their families, and school districts.

University of South Florida (USF) CARD
Phone: (813) 974-2532
Fax: (813) 974-6115
Email: card-usf@fmhi.usf.edu
Website: <http://card-usf.fmhi.usf.edu>

Florida Atlantic University (FAU) CARD
Phone: (561) 297-3052
Fax: (561) 297-2507
Email: jscott@fau.edu
Website: <http://www.coe.fau.edu/card>

University of Miami (UM) CARD
Phone: (305) 284-6563
Fax: (305) 284-6555
Email: malessandri@miami.edu
Website: <http://www.umcard.org>

University of Central Florida (UCF) CARD
Phone: (407) 823-6011
Fax: (407) 823-6012
Email: ucfcard@mail.ucf.edu
Website: <http://www.ucf-card.org>

Florida State University (FSU) CARD
Phone: (850) 644-4367
Fax: (850) 644-3644
Email: janice.overstreet@med.fsu.edu
Website: <http://autism.fsu.edu>

University of Florida (UF) CARD/Jacksonville
Phone: (904) 633-0760
Fax: (904) 633-0751
Email: David.Childers@jax.ufl.edu
Website: <http://www.hscj.ufl.edu/pediatrics/autism>

UF CARD/Gainesville
Phone: (352) 273-0581
Fax: (352) 846-3703
Email: card-info@ufl.edu
Website: <http://card.ufl.edu>

Curriculum Planning and Learning Management System (CPALMS)

CPALMS is an electronic tool created by teachers for teachers. Development of CPALMS is coordinated by the Florida Center for Research in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics at FSU. The website contains the following:

- A resource repository to allow Florida educators to contribute resources such as lesson plans, virtual manipulatives, printable worksheets, assessments, educational software and games, and more. A review process ensures contributions are aligned with the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) prior to posting.
- A web portal that allows educators to create their own profile and use a range of tools for lesson and curriculum planning and professional development. This site enables educators to automatically receive updates about new resources posted that are related to the educator's courses and identified interests.

Website: <http://www.floridastandards.org>



Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Tuition Support

The ESE Tuition Support project provides financial support to paraprofessionals enrolled in special education pre-service training programs, to ESE teachers earning an endorsement in autism, prekindergarten disabilities, or severe/profound disabilities, and speech-language teachers earning a master's degree in speech/language pathology.

The goals of the project include:

- Providing tuition support for paraprofessionals to obtain teacher certification in ESE through the Para-to-Teacher program (UWF)
- Providing tuition support for ESE teachers for Spring 2012 and Summer 2012 semesters to earn an autism or prekindergarten disabilities endorsement through the Tuition Support program (FIU)
- Providing tuition support for bachelor's level speech/language teachers to become speech/language pathologists through the Speech/Language Distance Learning Program and other S/L Master's Degree programs (FSU)

Websites: <http://www.florida-ese.org/asdendorsement>
<http://www.florida-ese.org/prekendorsement>
<http://www.florida-ese.org/paratoteacher>



Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS) Associate Centers

The FDLRS network includes 19 associate centers, 4 specialized centers, and 5 multidisciplinary educational services centers. The centers work to provide the following programs and services for individuals working with exceptional student education (ESE) students, families, and support agencies:

- *Child Find* assists in the location, identification, evaluation, and initiation of appropriate education or other needed services for children and youth, birth through 21 years of age, who have or are at risk of developing disabilities or other special or unique needs and are not enrolled in public school
- *Human Resources Development (HRD)* plans collaboratively with school districts, exceptional student education departments, staff development offices, and other professional development entities to provide information, professional development, and technical assistance and follow-up related to effective instructional strategies and service delivery models for the education of children and youth who are exceptional or have unique needs
- *Parent Services* assists districts and families who have children who are exceptional or have special or unique needs to develop effective partnerships allowing shared responsibility to improve the education of all children and youth
- *Technology* assists and supports district professional staff and families of students with disabilities in the appropriate use of assistive and instructional technology, assistive technology related services, universal design principles, and technology that enhances learning communication

Contact information for local FDLRS centers is available at <http://www.fdlrs.com>.

FDLRS Multidisciplinary Educational Services Centers (MDC)

The five university-based centers provide comprehensive multidisciplinary diagnostic and evaluation services to children who have complex medical, educational, emotional, and/or behavioral problems. MDC staff also provide supportive services to personnel who are serving these individuals within the school system and the professional community. These supportive services include consultation, direct intervention, parent education, and pre-service education and training for educators and other professionals. The focus of the centers is to develop and support programs that link assessments to interventions and result in positive outcomes for students with complex disabilities.

FSU MDC

Phone: (850) 644-9922
Fax: (850) 644-6541
Email: batkeson@fsu.edu
Website: <http://mdc.csw.fsu.edu>

UF MDC

Phone: (352) 334-1713
Fax: (352) 334-1709
Email: mdtp@peds.ufl.edu
Website: <http://www.peds.ufl.edu/mdtp>

UF at Jacksonville MDC

Phone: (904) 633-0770
Fax: (904) 633-0751
Email: Jeannie.bowles@jax.ufl.edu

UM MDC

Phone: (305) 325-1818
Fax: (305) 325-1151
Email: lkatz@miami.edu

USF MDC

Phone: (813) 974-1696
Fax: (813) 974-6115
Email: iovannone@usf.edu

FDLRS Specialized Centers

Florida Instructional Materials Center for the Visually Impaired (FIMC-VI)

FIMC-VI is a statewide resource center designed to assist schools in obtaining specialized materials for students with visual impairments as well as providing professional development to teachers and other professionals who provide services to students who are visually impaired. In addition to housing a professional resource library, they are also the state's Authorized User for the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard (NIMAS).

Phone: (813) 837-7826
Toll-free: (800) 282-9193
Fax: (813) 837-7979
Email: sdalton@fimcvi.org
Website: <http://www.fimcvi.org>

FDLRS Technology State Loan Library (FDLRS-TSLL)

FDLRS-TSLL serves as the statewide center and facility that loans assistive technology (AT) equipment through a short-term loan program. This equipment is loaned to publicly funded school districts including charter schools. Authorized borrowers are designated by their district's director of exceptional student education. Equipment, which includes software, is primarily used for assistive technology trials and assessments. In addition, the project serves as an instructional and assistive technology resource center disseminating information and resources, as requested, from local assistive technology teams, district personnel, and other stakeholders including students, families, and professionals who need to interact, explore, investigate, and research AT options.

Phone: (407) 320-2385
Toll-free: (800) 558-6580
Fax: (407) 320-2378
Email: phyllis_neal-wilson@scps.k12.fl.us
Website: <http://www.fdlrs-tsll.scps.k12.fl.us>

FDLRS Specialized Centers, *continued*

Resource Materials and Technology Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

This statewide center helps teachers of students who are deaf or hard-of-hearing integrate technology into their classroom routine. The center also provides teachers and interpreters with a lending library of captioned or signed videotapes.

Toll-free: (800) 356-6731

Email: ardiss@fsdb.k12.fl.us

Website: <http://rmtc.fsdb.k12.fl.us>

Florida Inclusion Network (FIN)

FIN provides educators, families, and community members with learning opportunities, consultation, and information to help them support the inclusion of students with disabilities in general education settings. The strategies endorsed by FIN are based on validated research and include curriculum adaptations, literacy strategies, positive behavior supports, ideas for differentiating instruction, and suggestions for developing peer support systems.

Phone: (850) 414-7593

Toll-free: (888) 232-0421

Email: cliles@fsu.edu

Website: <http://www.floridainclusionnetwork.com>

Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind (FSDB) Outreach for Visually and Hearing Impaired Services

Outreach Services provides support services to school personnel, parents, and families of children who are deaf or hard-of-hearing or who are blind or visually impaired. Available support services include training, information, referral services, and student assessments.

Email: hollingswoc@fsdb.k12.fl.us

Website: <http://www.fsdb.k12.fl.us/outreach/small-and-rural-district-support>

Learning through Listening Project (LtL)

The purpose of this project is to provide digital audio textbooks and equipment to students who cannot read standard print due to visual, physical, or reading disabilities. The project also facilitates support services and training to administrators, teachers, parents, and students on the use of this technology provided by Learning Alley.

Email: knorkin@learningally.org

Website: <http://www.learningally.org/florida>

Multiagency Network for Students with Emotional/Behavioral Disabilities (SEDNET)

The Multiagency Network for Students with Emotional/Behavioral Disabilities creates and facilitates a network of key stakeholders committed to assisting in the provision of a quality system of care for students with or at-risk of emotional and/or behavioral challenges. In Florida's system of care, 19 regional SEDNET projects work with education, mental health, child welfare, and juvenile justice professionals; along with other agencies and families, to ensure that children with mental, emotional and behavioral problems, and their families, have access to the services and supports they need to succeed.

In order for systems to assist youth with Emotional/Behavioral Disabilities (E/BD) in achieving their greatest social, emotional and educational potential, it is critical for communities and professionals to pursue practice approaches with the strongest evidence base.

Website: <http://www.sednetfl.info>



Partnership for Effective Programs for Students with Autism (PEPSA)

This project is designed to provide training and technical assistance to teachers and school programs that want to provide quality educational programs to students with autism. The project provides regional and statewide professional development activities related to research-based educational practices for professionals working with students with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). The project collaborates with the 7 regional Centers for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) to mentor teachers and schools in developing a plan for implementing innovative and effective practices within education programs for students with ASD. Staff at each center provide support, resources, technical assistance, and training that is specific to the needs identified by the mentored teacher or school.

Applications to be mentored through PEPSA are online at the project's website.

Website: <http://doepartnership.usf.edu>

Positive Behavior Support: Response to Intervention for Behavior Project (PBS:RtIB)

This project is committed to building the capacity of school districts so that they may better assist schools to develop effective discipline, social skills teaching, and behavior support strategies for all students. The statewide Florida Positive Behavior Support Project, Florida Problem-Solving/RtI Project, and the Technology and Learning Connections for Assistive Technology and UDL Team, will work together to support district-wide implementation of an integrated (academic and behavior) data-based problem-solving system supported through technology.

Phone: (813) 974-6440
Email: flpbs@fmhi.usf.edu
Website: <http://flpbs.fmhi.usf.edu>

Problem Solving and Response to Intervention State Project (PS/RtI)

This project facilitates the implementation of the problem-solving and response to intervention (PS-RtI) framework to improve academic and behavior outcomes statewide for at-risk general and special education students, and meets the goals of Florida's Differentiated Accountability Plan. This project results in the high quality implementation of statewide training, technical assistance, and building sustainable capacity for the PS-RtI framework in all sixty-seven Florida school districts, with an emerging research focus on secondary level implementation. Thirty-four elementary pilot schools in seven demonstration districts, established over a three-year period by this project, are maintained in order to serve as resource and technical assistance sites to other districts for the implementation of the PS-RtI framework. The PBS: RtIB Project, PS/RtI Project, and the Technology & Learning Connections for Assistive Technology and UDL Team, will work together to support district-wide implementation of an integrated (academic and behavior) data-based problem-solving system supported through technology.

Phone: (813) 974-9499
Fax: (813) 974-7647
Website: <http://floridarti.usf.edu/index.html>

Professional Development Alternatives (PDA)

The PDA training is designed to provide Florida teachers with opportunities to increase their competencies in the area of exceptional student education. Research, theory, and application are coupled with teacher-focused learning strategies to promote a thorough understanding of exceptional student education.

Phone: (386) 312-2265
Fax: (386) 329-3835
Email: ahearnm@nefec.org
Website: <http://www.pda-ese.org>

Project 10: Transition Education Network

The mission of Project 10 is to assist Florida school districts and relevant stakeholders in building capacity to provide secondary transition services to students with disabilities in order to improve their academic success and post-school outcomes. The project's current focus is on four major initiatives: capacity building, interagency collaboration, transition legislation and policy, and student development and outcomes. These initiatives are advanced through establishing regional transition representatives and providing training and technical assistance, including product development and dissemination, to transition stakeholders in the following areas: assessment and instruction; student-centered planning and self-determination; independent living, including recreation and leisure; postsecondary education and training; and career development and employment.

Phone: (727) 873-4661
Fax: (727) 873-4660
Website: <http://www.project10.info>

Student Support Services Project

The Student Support Services (SSS) Project provides technical assistance, training, resource development, and policy implementation related to school nursing, school social work, school counseling, school psychology, and Medicaid reimbursement services. The project also assists school districts and parents through the provision of information and resources critical to local and state student support services efforts.

Phone: (850) 245-7851
Fax: (850) 245-7849
Email: bhyle@usf.edu
Bettye.Hyle@fldoe.org
Website: <http://sss.usf.edu>

Teaching Resources for Florida Exceptional Student Education

This project develops training, print, and online resources to support the work of teachers educating students with disabilities in Florida's public schools. The project focuses on Next Generation Sunshine State Standards, curriculum, instruction, accommodations, and assessments.

Phone: (850) 921-0687
Fax: (850) 644-4179
Email: mbeech@lsi.fsu.edu
Website: <http://www.cpt.fsu.edu/ese>



VSA Florida/The State Organization on Arts and Disability

VSA focuses on professional development related to building inclusive learning opportunities where every student experiences significant learning in and through the arts. Professional development is offered for teachers through statewide, regional, or local workshops. The project also supports career and transition planning by introducing students and professionals to information about potential careers in the arts. VSA Florida art residency program provides not only positive student outcomes, but demonstrates inclusion strategies, adaptations and modifications to curriculums in the art classroom to both teachers and support staff.

VSA Florida works for teachers and program partners around the state by offering the following:

- *Site specific professional development* in arts, inclusion and education
- *Training on VSA Start with the Arts*—a pre-literacy reading readiness program
- *Artist in Residency Program* for self-contained and inclusive classrooms
- *Training on Express Diversity!*, a disability awareness program
- *Arts for All Equipment Lending Program*—Arts for All art tools are one-of-a-kind products that offer individuals of all abilities an opportunity for creative expression through arts and mobility
- *Technical assistance for hosting performances* by students with disabilities and nationally recognized touring artists with disabilities
- *Technical assistance for teachers* assisting students with submitting work in state and national calls for the arts
- *After-school art classes* for students of all abilities

Phone: (813) 974-0721

Fax: (813) 905-9878

Email: mwinters@usf.edu

Website: <http://www.vsafl.org>

Working with the Experts

Working with the Experts is a program that offers professional development opportunities for school-based, speech-language professionals; occupational and physical therapy professionals; teachers of students with visual impairments; and teachers of students who are deaf or hard-of-hearing. This program is free to all registered participants and provides a way for school-based practitioners to earn continuing education units (CEUs).

Email: OT/PT: msulliva@fqu.edu

Speech/Language: aemery@ufl.edu

Website: <http://www.flwwe.net>





Florida Department of Education
Gerard Robinson, Commissioner

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