Weekly Memo

Events Coming Soon

2024 Florida State University (FSU) Summer Training Institute on Autism
Registration is open for the virtual 2024 FSU Summer Training Institute on Autism, which will be on June 18-20, 2024. This summer institute is being offered in collaboration with FSU Autism Institute, FSU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities, Autism Navigator, LLC, and the Partnership for Effective Programs for Students with Autism. Registration is at no cost, but you must register for each day you want to attend. To register, go to the 2024 Summer Training Institute on Autism: Advances in Evidence-Based Practice for Autism Spectrum Disorder web page. For more information, see the attached document.

• Filename: 2024 FSU CARD Summer Institute

Job Vacancies

Positions Available in the Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS)
Student Support Services, within BEESS, is looking to fill the following positions:

• **School Counseling Consultant** – Position #37167 – The school counseling consultant provides guidance, support, training and technical assistance (face to face, phone and written) to Florida school district personnel focused on the implementation of effective instruction and intervention processes and practices; strategies for providing school-based mental health prevention and intervention services; and elementary school progression, statewide assessment requirements, acceleration programs and student educational records.

• **Media Publishing Specialist** – Position #36216 – Performs administrative duties for the Student Support Services Project. These duties include, but are not limited to, assisting in the interpretation of internal and external policies and procedures, which are required for the daily operation of the project. This information is provided to the program director and fellow workers verbally, in writing or via email. Such information also serves as liaison with other internal/external agencies, including the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) and school districts in Florida. The media publishing specialist also provides administrative support to the project’s professional staff by conducting research, preparing reports, handling information requests, answering the telephone and assisting with editing documents.
• **Program Specialist-Grant Specialist** – Youth Mental Health Awareness Training Program in Student Support Services – Position #37215 – The grant specialist supports state and federal programs and strategic improvement initiatives through grant management processes. Grant management processes include implementing new grant application procedures, reviewing grant applications, monitoring awarded grants, and reporting data from grant programs. The grant specialist must interact professionally with all stakeholders while demonstrating, modeling and reinforcing the FDOE’s fundamental values of quality, fairness, cooperation, respect, commitment, excellence, honesty and teamwork. More information on these positions and how to apply is on the [Student Support Services Project’s home page](#).

**Positions Available in the Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS)**

**Panhandle Area Educational Consortium (PAEC) Associate Center**
FDLRS PAEC, an Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)-funded state project, is seeking specialists for the areas of human resource development and/or technology. FDLRS PAEC serves the districts of Bay, Calhoun, Franklin, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty, Walton and Washington. The application deadline is **June 17, 2024**, or until filled. To view the full job description and apply, go to [https://www.paec.org/site/teach_nwfl/paec_jobs/](https://www.paec.org/site/teach_nwfl/paec_jobs/). For questions, contact Toyka Holden at Toyka.Holden@paec.org.

**Position Available in the Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS) Island Coast Associate Center**
FDLRS Island Coast, an IDEA-funded state project, is seeking a technology specialist. FDLRS Island Coast serves both Lee and Collier Counties. The full job description can be viewed at [Specialist, Exceptional Student Education (FDLRS Assistive Technology)](#). All applicants must apply on the [School District of Lee County’s website](#), to be considered for the position. The application is open until filled. For questions, contact Dr. Deidre Phillips at [deidremp@leeschools.net](mailto:deidremp@leeschools.net) or 239-337-8127.

**Position Available with the Institute for Small and Rural Districts (ISRD)**
ISRD, an IDEA-funded state project, is seeking a coordinator for the PAEC Region. This position will serve Calhoun, FAMU Lab School, FL Department of Corrections, Franklin, FSU Lab School, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Liberty, Madison, Tallahassee Collegiate Academy, Taylor, Wakulla, Walton and Washington counties. The position is supported by the Putnam County School District. To view the job description and apply, go to [Putnam County School District Employment](#), scroll down to “Search Current Job Openings,” click on “Click to view current job openings,” then click it again, and select “Coordinator, Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Special Projects, ISRD.” For job details (“View Details of Highlighted Position”) and to apply (“Apply for Selected Position(s)”), choose the appropriate button in the upper-right-hand corner. The application deadline is until filled. If you have questions pertaining to the job description, contact Chastity Lee at [leec@nefec.org](mailto:leec@nefec.org) or 386-329-3894.

**Florida Inclusion Network (FIN) Facilitator Position Available: Region 6**
FIN is a discretionary project funded by the FDOE, Division of K-12 Public Schools, BEESS, through federal assistance under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part B. The FIN facilitator provides services in one of seven geographical regions to districts and schools in the development and implementation of innovative, research-based instructional methodologies and support models for the education of students with disabilities in general education environments.
The FIN facilitator guides and assists schools and districts in analyzing State Performance Plan Indicator 5 educational environment data, student performance data and best practice indicators in identifying needs to develop short- and long-term improvement efforts to increase educational outcomes for students with disabilities. To apply, go to the Florida State University’s Office of Human Resources careers web page. Then select View Current Opportunities, search for “FIN,” and select the posting “Assistant in Research 12 Month Salaried - REMOTE (Florida Inclusion Network at Learning Systems Institute).” This is a full-time 40-hour-per-week position, and the job number is 57844. For questions, contact JaSheena Ekhator or Kelly Claude, executive co-directors, at LSI-FinAdmin@fsu.edu. To learn more about FIN, go to the FIN website.

Action Items

2023-2024 ESE Parent Survey
Each year, the FDOE surveys parents of students with an individual educational plan to determine how well districts and schools are partnering with parents and promoting parent involvement in their student’s education. All states must collect these data for reporting on their State Performance Plan, as required under the IDEA. Additionally, survey results will be used to help schools and districts improve services and outcomes for students with disabilities.

We would like to spotlight and congratulate the following four districts this week by size that have, thus far, shown to have the highest response rate for the 2023-2024 ESE Parent Survey:

- Hillsborough (very large)
- Pasco (large)
- Columbia (medium)
- Dixie (small)

The survey will be open through June 30, 2024. For more information about the 2023-2024 ESE Parent Survey, go to the FDOE ESE Parent Survey web page. For questions, contact Patricia Bodiford, senior educational program director, Instructional Support Services, at Patricia.Bodiford@fldoe.org or 850-245-0475.

Annual District Online Guidance Report
The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the Annual District Online Guidance Report. This report must be completed and submitted to the FDOE prior to June 30, 2024, per the instructions in the memo.
Amended State Board of Education Rules Regarding ESE Eligibility and Assessments for Students Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (DHH) or Students with Visual Impairments (VIs)

The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding amended State Board of Education Rules regarding ESE eligibility and assessments for students who are DHH or students with VIs.

Juvenile Justice Education—Florida Scholars Academy

Governor DeSantis approved House Bill (HB) 1425 and Senate Bill (SB) 7004, which made changes to several Florida Statutes to revise provisions relating to juvenile justice education. Specific to education, these bills include changes that are necessary for the operation of the, created in section (s.) 985.619, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and for educating youth under the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). DJJ’s Florida Scholars Academy will operate as one local educational agency overseeing many individual residential commitment programs throughout the state beginning July 1, 2024. The school districts in which the DJJ residential commitment programs are located will no longer be responsible for the educational services of those programs. School districts will continue to be responsible for the educational services for DJJ detention, prevention and day treatment programs pursuant to ss. 1003.51 and 1003.52, F.S., and for students in city and county jail facilities pursuant to s. 951.176, F.S.

LRP DirectSTEP® Courses

The Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services is pleased to offer districts access to a variety of LRP DirectSTEP® Courses regarding Exceptional Student Education compliance requirements. Access to LRP Direct Step Courses is provided to further strengthen the quality and variety of services available to eligible students with disabilities in the state of Florida. Please plan to utilize this resource throughout your district by integrating it into your professional learning program. You are encouraged to forward the attached documents to staff within your district. If you have any questions or concerns, contact your bureau-assigned dispute resolution liaison.

- Filename: FDOE LRP Instructions
- Filename: DirectSTEP LRP Courses Available 2024

Special Ed Connection®

BEESS provides all LEAs with access to Special Ed Connection® at no cost. Special Ed Connection® is your one-stop-shop for:

- Best practices to meet legal and regulatory mandates;
- Helping you tackle everyday compliance issues;
- Ready-to-use charts, checklists and professional development tools to guide and train staff;
- Case-based insights to help staff avoid missteps that lead to litigation; and
- Insights from special education, Section 504 and response-to-intervention experts.

If you need your login information or would like to schedule a webinar for your staff contact the Special Ed Connection® Help Desk/Training Team at specialedconnection@lrp.com.

Information on HB 5101, Education, and SB 7002, Deregulation of Public Schools for Teacher Apprenticeship Programs

The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding information on HB 5101, Education, and SB 7002, Deregulation of Public Schools for Teacher Apprenticeship Programs.
Educator Certification Legislative Updates
The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding educator certification legislative updates.

Amendments to Rule 6A-1.09401, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Student Performance Standards, and Rule 6A-1.09412, F.A.C., Course Requirements - Grades K-12 Basic and Adult Secondary Programs
The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding amendments to Rule 6A-1.09401, F.A.C., Student Performance Standards, and Rule 6A-1.09412, F.A.C., Course Requirements - Grades K-12 Basic and Adult Secondary Programs.

Tip of the Week
Keep Communication Log for Paraprofessionals Handy
Some paraprofessionals often move between classrooms and environments. Have teachers create a communication log. Keep it on a clipboard near their desks for paraprofessionals to record the day's activities and share how they can provide support. Paras can check off things they accomplished and add important notes. (Special Ed Connection®)

Alice Schmitges
Bureau Chief

For more information, contact
850-245-0475
Registration is OPEN for the 2024 FSU Summer Training Institute on Autism

Register now for the 2024 FSU Summer Training Institute on Autism coming to you via Zoom, June 18-20, 2024. We have an exciting lineup of speakers and topics. Registration is FREE, but you must register for each day that you want to attend.

The 2024 Summer Training Institute on Autism is a collaboration between FSU Autism Institute, FSU CARD, Autism Navigator, LLC and the Partnership for Effective Programs for Students with Autism (PEPSA).

Click here for more information and to register:

https://autismnavigator.com/2024-summer-training-institute-on-autism/

OT & APA (for Florida licenses) and ASHA CEUs available for up to 15 hours (1.5 ASHA CEUs) for all 3 days (5 hours each day). 15 hours of In-service Credits available if approved by your district.
Instructions for accessing LRP trainings

Instructions for self-registration on the FDOE DirectSTEP® eLearning platform:

1. Go to HTTP://FLDOE2022-DS.LRP.COM.
2. Read the “Is This Your First Time Here?” section located on the right side of the screen.
3. Click the “Create new account” button.
4. Create a username (Recommended format: John Sample = jsample).
5. Create a password (Recommended format : J#sample1). Please write down your username and password and keep it somewhere secure for future reference. This information will NOT be emailed to you after you register.
6. Enter your email address, first and last name.
7. Enter the letters/numbers pictured in the reCAPTCHA image. *If your web browser does not display a reCAPTCHA image, try a different web browser or contact your IT department.
8. Click the “Create my new account” button.
9. You will receive a confirmation e-mail with a link to the website.

Instructions for taking a DirectSTEP® eLearning course:

1. Log in to HTTP://FLDOE2022-DS.LRP.COM using the username and password you created.
2. Select the course you have been assigned to complete.
3. Click the course link again (next to the icon of a gold box.)
4. Click the “Enter” button to begin taking the course.
5. You can use the arrow icons to move through the slides in the lower left hand corner of the slide player.
6. When you reach the Final Assessment, you will need to click the “submit” button after you select an answer. You will be directed to a new window which will inform you whether or not you answered each question correctly. You will need to score an 80% or higher to pass.
7. When you have completed the assessment, it is important that you click the “Exit Activity” link in the upper right hand corner of your screen to get credit for completing the course and to record your grade.
8. Your “Course Completion Certificate” link will now be active. If you are required to print a Completion Certificate, you may do so from this page.
DirectSTEP® LRP COURSES

330000 - Identifying Disabilities to Determine IDEA Eligibility
330001 - Child Find: Understanding IDEA Provisions and Responsibilities
330003 - Postsecondary Transition: IDEA Requirements for Processes, Procedures and Implementation
330005 - Required Components For Compliant IEPs
330006 - Least Restrictive Environment: What Teachers Need to Know
330007 - Independent Educational Evaluations: Responsibilities and Procedures
330009 - Guidelines for IEP Team Composition
330012 - Conducting Compliant IEP Team Meetings
330013 - Evaluations and Reevaluations – Purposes, Standards and Procedures
330016 - Legal Requirements and Practical Tips to Develop Measurable Annual IEP Goals
330018 - Legal Requirements and Best Practices for Prior Written Notice
330020 - Practical Strategies and IDEA Requirements for Developing IEPs
330023 - When to Review and How to Revise IEPs to Stay Compliant
330026 - IEP Implementation Strategies to Be IDEA Compliant
330030 - Requirements and Strategies to Facilitate Parental Participation in IEPs
330036 - Discipline and Placement Changes for Students With Disabilities Who Exhibit Violent Behavior
330038 - Developing and Implementing Functional Behavior Assessments and Behavioral Intervention Plans
330046 - Eligibility and Development of a Student’s Extended School Year Services
330047 - Early Intervention Services: Facilitating Transition From IDEA Part C to Part B
330058 - Meeting IDEA Requirements When Serving Students with Specific Learning Disabilities
330060 - Using a Trauma-Informed Approach to Develop More Effective IEPs
330061 - Legal Requirements & Practical Considerations for Identifying & Evaluating Specific Learning Disabilities
330062 - Evaluation, Eligibility, and IEP Development for Students with Autism
330065 - Collecting and Using Data to Improve IEPs, BIPs, and Section 504 Plans
330066 - Students with Autism and One-to-One Aides; Best Practices for Educators
330069 - Dispute Resolution and Available Remedies Under the IDEA
330074 - Exiting Students from Special Education: Graduation, Aging-out, Ineligibility, and Revocation of Consent
330078 - IEP, 504 and MDR Meetings: Guidance for Staff Who Are New to Special Education
330080 - Communicating with Parents: Tips and Strategies for Teachers
330088 - Predetermination in the IEP Process: What it is and How to Avoid it
330090 - Serving Parentally Placed Private School Students with Disabilities: Understanding Your District's IDEA Obligations