



## Weekly Memo

### Events Coming Soon

#### **Working with the Experts (WWE) 2024 Leaders' Event for Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP), Occupational Therapist (OT) and Physical Therapist (PT) District Coordinators**

WWE is pleased to announce the 2024 Leaders' Event for SLP, OT and PT District Coordinators, which will be on **April 4 and 5, 2024**, at the Safety Harbor Resort and Spa in Safety Harbor, Florida. Advisory Council meetings will be held on the morning of **April 4, 2024**. The main session will begin at 1 p.m. EDT with Florida Department of Education (FDOE) Update and Coordinator Workgroups. On **April 5, 2024**, Jose L. Martin, attorney at law, will present on professional collaborative practices and legal issues. Registration for the event will be open from **February 1 to 26, 2024**, on the [WWE website](#). Please note that no late registrations will be accepted. When registration opens, there will be two parts to complete as follows:

- Register to attend the event on the WWE website, which includes taking a pretest.
- Reserve a sleeping room via the link on the WWE website for individuals who are 50 or greater miles from Safety Harbor.

There will be a maximum of two rooms per district. If the SLP and OT/PT coordinator is a combined position, one room is provided. WWE is only responsible for reservations made through the WWE website. An agenda will be provided on the WWE website and professional continuing education units will be available.

#### **Obtaining No-Cost Accessible Digital Books for Eligible Florida K-12 Students Webinar**

Join this webinar to learn about which students in your district are eligible for no-cost digital books from Bookshare and Learning Ally. Information will be shared regarding who can determine which students are eligible for Bookshare and Learning Ally, which formats are available, and what to do if the needed book is not currently available on the platform. Bookshare and Learning Ally staff will share updates as well as features that allow staff to manage access and create reading lists for students. This webinar will be held on **February 8, 2024**, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. EST. To learn more and register, go to the [FIMC-VI Obtaining Digital Text web page](#). For questions, contact Liz Anderson at [eanderson@fimcvi.org](mailto:eanderson@fimcvi.org).

#### **Project 10 Transition Education Network (Project 10) Winter Institutes**

Registration is now open for the annual Project 10 Winter Institutes, which will be facilitated virtually from **February 26 to 29, 2024**. The Winter Institutes will include an Opening Session for all statewide secondary transition stakeholders and will feature a variety of speakers and presentation styles. Separate size-alike breakout sessions targeted for secondary transition school

and district educators and administrators will feature information sharing, collaboration and problem solving on a variety of secondary transition-related topics. Registration is required and details are as follows:

- Project 10 Winter Institutes Opening Session (virtual)—
  - **February 26, 2024**
  - From 9 a.m. to noon EST
  - [Winter Institutes Registration: Opening Session](#)
- Project 10 Winter Institutes District Size-Alike Sessions (virtual)—
  - **February 26, 2024**, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. EST (very large districts)
  - **February 27, 2024**, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. EST (large districts)
  - **February 28, 2024**, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. EST (medium districts)
  - **February 29, 2024**, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. EST (small districts)
  - Registration information and links will be provided to school district transition contacts by Project 10 Regional Transition Representatives

### **2024 Prekindergarten (Pre-K) Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Contacts' Conference**

Technical Assistance and Training System (TATS), a discretionary project of Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services, is pleased to announce the 2024 Pre-K ESE Contacts' Conference, "Pathways for Success in Early Childhood," which will focus on high-quality, evidence-based practices for each and every child. The conference is scheduled for **February 27 and 28, 2023**, at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista South, Kissimmee. The target audience for this conference will be district Pre-K ESE contacts. To register, go to the [2024 Pre-K Contacts' Conference Registration web page](#). For questions, contact your TATS regional facilitator at the [TATS Regions Map web page](#).

### **Exceptional Student Education Prekindergarten (Pre-K) Regional Data Sessions**

TATS is excited to host Regional Data Sessions pertaining to the Child Outcome Summary process, which supports the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report Federal Part B Indicator 7. Sessions will focus on Child Outcome Measurement System data submitted for the 2022-2023 school year. The location, dates and times for the offered sessions are as follows:

- North East Florida Educational Consortium, **March 5, 2024**, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. ET
- Polk County, The Jim Miles Professional Development Center, **March 6, 2024**, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. ET
- Charlotte County, Murdock County Office, **March 7, 2024**, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. ET
- Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, Inc., **April 2, 2024**, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. ET

To register, district Pre-K contacts can go to the [2024 Regional Data Meeting Registration web page](#). For questions, contact your TATS regional facilitator through the [TATS Regions Map web page](#).

## **Action Items**

### **Florida Instructional Materials Center for the Visually Impaired (FIMC-VI) Annual Census Reminder**

The FIMC-VI Annual Census will be open through **February 3, 2024**, for authorized district personnel (typically teachers of the visually impaired) to update all student records and add new

students. Staff may watch the recorded webinar, [2023-24 FIMC-VI Info and Updates Part 2](#), which addresses the steps for completing the FIMC-VI Annual Census. The Annual Census allows the State of Florida to calculate the number of legally blind students registered in school districts and receive funding from the Act to Promote the Education of the Blind. The Act to Promote the Education of the Blind authorizes an annual appropriation for the American Printing House for the Blind to produce and distribute educational materials adapted for students who are legally blind and enrolled in formal educational programs below the college level. The production and distribution of accessible instructional materials are done at no cost to the districts where students are registered. For more information about student eligibility, registration requirements, or the online process contact Liz Anderson at [eanderson@fimcvi.org](mailto:eanderson@fimcvi.org) or Kathee Cagle at [kcagle@fimcvi.org](mailto:kcagle@fimcvi.org), or visit the [FIMC-VI website](#).

### **District Certification for 2022-23 School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting (SESIR), Discipline Referral Action Data and Verification of Compliance with Policy Prohibiting Bullying and Harassment Required by Section 1006.147, Florida Statutes (F.S.)**

The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the [District Certification for 2022-23 School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting \(SESIR\), Discipline Referral Action Data and Verification of Compliance with Policy Prohibiting Bullying and Harassment Required by Section 1006.147, F.S.](#), and attachment A, [District Certification for 2022-23 School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting \(SESIR\), Discipline Referral Action Data and Verification of Compliance with Policy Prohibiting Bullying and Harassment](#). The district certification must be submitted by **February 9, 2024**, per the instructions in the memo.

### **Call for District Reviewers for 2023-2024 Instructional Materials Adoption**

The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the [Call for District Reviewers for 2023-2024 Instructional Materials Adoption](#), and attachment A, [Affidavit of District Instructional Materials Reviewers \(Reviewer\)](#). The district review period will be from **February 2 to 23, 2024**.

## Informational Items

### **Learning Ally Audiobooks Wants to Help Your Students Build a Love for Reading**

Our human-read audiobooks can support student exposure to grade-level books and new vocabulary without the struggle of decoding. The Learning Ally Great Reading Games competition is a fantastic way to keep building student resilience through reading while gaining points. Access the [Florida Educator Guide](#) for competition details. Also, take a look at the [Florida Learning Ally February Newsletter](#) for announcements and suggested readings. For questions and concerns, contact the Learning Ally state contract managers, Dr. Martaluz Pozo at [mpoz@learningally.org](mailto:mpoz@learningally.org) and Simone Smith at [ssmith@learningally.org](mailto:ssmith@learningally.org).

### **Updates for the Florida Educational Leadership Examination (FELE)**

The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding [updates for the FELE](#).

### **Special Ed Connection**

If you think a midyear evaluation is necessary, share with parents the latest data about their child and details about special education.

***Alice Schmitges***  
***Bureau Chief***