Weekly Memo

Professional Learning

Project 10 Transition Education Network (Project 10) Statewide Webinar “Myth-Busting Deferment”

Project 10 will be hosting a statewide webinar for school and district-level transition educators and administrators on the topic of deferment. The purpose of the webinar will be to debunk the most common myths and provide essential information related to deferment of the receipt of the standard diploma for students with disabilities. This webinar is a live rebroadcast of the “Myth-Busting Deferment” webinar presented on January 11, 2024. No registration is required. The webinar will be on May 2, 2024, from 3 to 3:45 p.m. EDT, and can be accessed through the “Myth-Busting Deferment” webinar link. Although intended for district and school-based secondary transition educators, all statewide secondary transition stakeholders are welcome.

Job Vacancies

Position Available in the Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS) Island Coast Associate Center

FDLRS Island Coast, a discretionary project of Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS), 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 or 239-337-8127.

Position Available with the Institute for Small and Rural Districts (ISRD)

ISRD, a discretionary project of BEESS, 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, ESE Special Projects, ISRD.” For job details (“View Details of Highlighted Position”) and to apply (“Apply for Selected..."
Action Items

2023-2024 Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Parent Survey
Each year, the Florida Department of Education (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 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (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 four districts this week that have, thus far, shown to have the highest response rate for the 2023-2024 ESE Parent Survey. Congratulations Hendry, Osceola, Pasco and Washington districts! 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.

Informational Items

2022-23 List of Persistently Low-Performing Schools
The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the 2022-23 list of Persistently Low-Performing Schools, and attachment A, 2022-23 Persistently Low-Performing Schools.

Tip of the Week

Verbally Review Individual Educational Plan (IEP) Team Decisions After Long IEP Meetings
Save some time at the end of a long IEP team meeting to verbally review and affirm the decisions of the IEP team. This will ensure that the parents and school staffers fully understand the provisions of the IEP, even if they lose focus during some discussions. (Special Ed Connection)

Alice Schmitges
Bureau Chief

For more information, contact 850-245-0475