Weekly Memo

Rule Activity

Notices of Rule Development
To view available drafts and submit comments for the following rules, go to the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) State Board Rules Under Review web page:
- Rule 6A-1.09422, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Statewide, Standardized Assessment Program Requirements
- Rule 6A-6.03028, F.A.C., Provision of Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) and Development of Individual Educational Plans for Students with Disabilities

Upcoming Events

Exceptional Student Education Policies and Procedures (ESE P&P) Technical Assistance
The Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS) is pleased to offer technical assistance for local educational agencies (LEAs) to submit their ESE P&P in the General Supervision Website. There are two opportunities to attend, May 8, 2024, at 1 p.m. EDT, and May 9, 2024, at 11 a.m. EDT. To register for one of these technical assistance sessions, go to ESE P&P Technical Assistance Registration. For questions, contact Samantha Donnell, BEESS, at Samantha.Donnell@fldoe.org.

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, 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 or 386-329-3894.

**Positions Available with the Florida Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (FLPBIS) Project**

FLPBIS, a discretionary project of BEESS, is seeking three human services practitioners. To view the job description and apply go to the Work at USF Central Human Resources web page. Click on the link labeled “Access Careers@USF” to view the current job openings. Once the new page opens, use the search box to search “Human Services Practitioner." Look for “Human Services Practitioners – FLPBIS,” and click on the arrow to open the job description. To apply, select “Apply for Job” in the upper-right-hand corner. For more information about these positions, see the attached document or contact Donald Kincaid at kincaid@usf.edu.

- Filename: FLPBIS Position Announcement

**Action Items**

**Para to Teacher Support Program for Special Education**

Does your school have paraprofessionals who would make great special education teachers? The Para-to-Teacher Support Program is holding a virtual question-and-answer session on May 16, 2024, at 6 p.m. EDT. Program Director Dr. Keri Fogle will discuss funding opportunities for paraprofessionals who already hold at least an associate degree, the equivalent number of college credit hours or a bachelor’s degree in a noneducation field. The Para-to-Teacher Support Program is a state-funded grant program that has supported more than 200 paraprofessionals in earning their degrees to become special education teachers throughout Florida. For further information, requirements and colleges and universities where paraprofessionals can receive financial support while earning their initial certification in special education, go to the Para to Teacher Tuition Support for Exceptional Student Educators web site. To request the Zoom link for the virtual session, email paratoteach@uwf.edu.
Section (s.) 39.4023, Florida Statutes (F.S.), Placement and education transitions; transition plans
The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding s. 39.4023, F.S., Placement and education transitions; transition plans.

Revisions to Rule 6A-6.0212, F.A.C., Performance-Based Exit Option Model and State of Florida High School Performance-Based Diploma
The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the revisions to Rule 6A-6.0212, F.A.C., Performance-Based Exit Option Model and State of Florida High School Performance-Based Diploma.

Informational Items

Special Ed Connection®
BEESS provides all LEAs with access to Special Ed Connection® at www.specialedconnection.com 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 RTI 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.

Learning Ally Florida Newsletter
Learning Ally can support your student summer reading, which is just around the corner. Check out our monthly Learning Ally Florida Newsletter to see this month’s three book recommendations and upcoming professional learning opportunities. Also, please use the link in the newsletter for our annual survey to tell us about your experience with Learning Ally.

Spotlight on LEA Staff

New Special Education Director for the Scholars Academy
Congratulations to Nikki Callaghan as the new special education director for the Scholars Academy. Ms. Callaghan’s passion for education and commitment will undoubtedly lead to transformative initiatives and improved outcomes for all students at the Scholars Academy.
Tip of the Week

Work with Parents to Offer Consistent Interventions During Long Breaks

For some students with severe behaviors, consistency is key. If a student's behaviors deteriorate after long breaks, assess whether it would be appropriate for the parents to implement positive interventions at home while school is out. (Special Ed Connection®)

Alice Schmitges
Bureau Chief

For more information, contact
850-245-0475
Human Services Practitioners (3)
Florida Positive Behavioral Interventions & Support (FL PBIS)
Child & Family Studies | USF College of Behavioral & Community Sciences

Position Description

These positions are funded by FL PBIS and the Center for PBIS. Responsibilities include:

- Providing on-site and phone consultation related to behavior support. Work collaboratively with school district staff (as well as families and outside agency representatives) to build their capacity for using positive, effective approaches to behavioral intervention. Provide technical and problem solving assistance to district staff in accordance with written action plans at the school, classroom, targeted group or individual student levels.

- Delivering in-service training to educators, families, and service providers. Provide awareness presentations; topic focused-workshops, and comprehensive community-based training for educators, family members, and other support providers. Assist district personnel in designing and implementing training activities focused on positive behavior support.

- Assist with new activities identified by district personnel or State funding source. Maintaining documentation of technical assistance and evaluating outcomes. Maintain documentation of technical assistance activities and progress on district action plan objectives. Conduct assessments of participant satisfaction and other outcomes for training activities. Assist in project evaluation and synthesizing impact data.

- Generating curriculum materials and other products for dissemination. Participate in the development of project materials to include curriculum materials, case studies, and other products. Respond to request to disseminate project materials and other information (e.g., reference lists, articles, manuals); and participate in professional presentations, conferences, and publications.

- Performs other duties as assigned.

Minimum Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree or Master's degree level in Education, Special Education, Psychology, Social Work, or other field appropriate to the program content.

- Bachelor's degree candidates must have at least two years of applicable experience. The Master's degree may substitute for the required experience.

Preferred Qualifications

- Master's or doctoral degree in Psychology, Special Education, School Psychology or related field.

- At least five years’ experience working in school settings and/or in positive behavior support or a related field.

- Experience as a consultant/collaborator with district and school personnel.