



## Weekly Memo

### Action Items

#### Gifted Education Week in Florida

The Florida Department of Education's (FDOE) has issued the following memorandum regarding Gifted Education Week in Florida, which is **November 1-7, 2020**. The memorandum may be viewed at <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9007/dps-2020-131.pdf>.

#### Webinar for Emotional or Behavioral Disabilities Contacts

The Multiagency Network for Students with Emotional/Behavioral Disabilities (SEDNET) Administration is able to cover the cost for any emotional or behavioral disabilities contacts who would like to attend a three-hour live webinar with Jessica Minahan and Dr. Stuart Ablon, "Skill Building to Reduce Anxiety and Challenging Behavior in Students during Challenging Times." This live session is being offered by Chesapeake Beach Professional Seminars on **November 16, 2020**, starting at noon. If you are interested in attending, contact Taylor Grimm at [tgrimm@usf.edu](mailto:tgrimm@usf.edu) by **November 2, 2020**, and provide your full name, email address and telephone number. For more information, see the attached document.

- Filename: Webinar Opportunity EBD Contacts 11.16

#### Florida Deaf/Hard of Hearing (D/HH) District Contacts' Virtual Meeting—Fall 2020

The FDOE Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services will host a meeting for district contacts responsible for the programs for students who are D/HH on **November 4, 2020**. It is recommended that the district contact person for the D/HH program attend this meeting to discuss current statuses and initiatives specific to your district's students who are D/HH. We know there is value in face-to-face collaboration and networking. It is our hope that we will be able to come together in the spring of 2021 for an in-person meeting where we will dig into current data trends for students who are D/HH in the state of Florida. For more information and to register for this event, go to <https://fsdbk12.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwrd-2tpjwGdUUGjHUHtAkGZdnQLND3Krn>. For questions, contact Jennifer Coburn at [Jennifer.Coburn@fldoe.org](mailto:Jennifer.Coburn@fldoe.org) or Carmelina Hollingsworth at [c.hollingsworth@rmtcdhh.org](mailto:c.hollingsworth@rmtcdhh.org).

#### Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Deaf Education Information Sessions

Please join us at any of our three upcoming (virtual) information sessions where Dr. Caroline Guardino will answer all of your questions about our new Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Deaf Education. This certificate program was designed specifically for those currently holding a bachelor's degree and working with or aspiring to work with students who are deaf or hard of

hearing. The program is 15 credit hours, completely online, exclusive undergraduate tuition rates and we offer rolling admission, which means you can start at any time and complete the program at your own pace. More information regarding this opportunity will be available on **November 4, 11 and 18, 2020**, from 6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. EST via Zoom. To join the webinar, go to <https://unf.zoom.us/j/91803117619>. No pre-event registration or RSVP is required. If you need accommodation, contact Dr. Caroline Guardino at [caroline.guardino@unf.edu](mailto:caroline.guardino@unf.edu) at least five days prior to the event date. To learn more about the Post-Bac Certificate in Deaf Education, go to [https://www.unf.edu/coehs/edie/deaf/Deaf\\_Education\\_Certificate.aspx](https://www.unf.edu/coehs/edie/deaf/Deaf_Education_Certificate.aspx). To share that you will be attending, go to [https://m.facebook.com/events/348801756344213/?event\\_time\\_id=348801763010879&\\_rdr](https://m.facebook.com/events/348801756344213/?event_time_id=348801763010879&_rdr). To explore other upcoming events, go to [https://www.unf.edu/coehs/future\\_students/Events.aspx](https://www.unf.edu/coehs/future_students/Events.aspx).

### **Holocaust Education Week 2020**

The FDOE has issued the following memorandum regarding Holocaust Education Week 2020, which will be **November 9-13, 2020**. The memorandum may be viewed at <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-8999/dps-2020-115.pdf> (Memo) and <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9000/dps-2020-115a.pdf> (Attachment A).

### **Request to Extend Waiver for Exceeding 1% Participation Cap for Alternate Assessment – Opportunity for Comment**

The FDOE has issued the following memorandum regarding the request to extend waiver for exceeding 1% participation cap for alternate assessment – opportunity for comment. Comments may be submitted until **November 16, 2020**, per the instructions in the memo. The memorandum may be viewed at <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9004/dps-2020-135.pdf>.

### **Identifying 2020-21 Alternative Schools for School Accountability**

The FDOE has issued the following memorandum regarding identifying 2020-21 alternative schools for school accountability. Requests for changes to the Master School Identification file information are reviewed on a biweekly basis by the FDOE, and applications for requesting changes should be submitted prior to **November 16, 2020**, per the instructions in the memo. The memorandum may be viewed at <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9001/dps-2020-120.pdf> (Memo), <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9002/dps-2020-120a.pdf> (Attachment A) and <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9003/dps-2020-120b.pdf> (Attachment B).

### **Florida Educators of Students who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing (FEDHH) Annual Conference**

The 2020 FEDHH Conference is going virtual and will be on **November 16-20, 2020**, in the evening hours. FEDHH is an association of educators who work with students who are DHH in Florida. The association promotes professional growth, close cooperation and effective communication among members. Additionally, it provides a forum for the exchange of current information, teaching strategies and legislative content in relation to the education of students who are DHH. The annual conference is one of the very few opportunities specific to the education of students who are DHH, so join us. This unique opportunity serves to meet the needs of individual teacher professional development whether they are in a classroom or in an itinerant service delivery model. Due to the uniqueness of this year, the FEDHH board has decided to offer this conference at no cost. To register, go to the 2020 FEDHH Conference website at <https://www.fedhh.org/2020-fedhh-conference>. For questions, contact Randi Mitchell at [fedhhpresident@gmail.com](mailto:fedhhpresident@gmail.com).

### **National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest**

The FDOE has issued the following memorandum regarding National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest. The memorandum may be viewed at <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9006/dps-2020-128.pdf>.

***Judith White***  
***Bureau Chief***



**Chesapeake Beach**  
PROFESSIONAL SEMINARS LLC



*Skill Building to Reduce Anxiety and Challenging Behavior  
in Students during Challenging Times  
Live Webinar*



*Jessica Minahan, MEd, BCBA*



*Stuart Ablon, Ph.D*

*An asynchronous option is available. The recording of this live event will be available for a limited time". Recording available on Nov. 17, 2020.*

*When: November 16, 2020, 12PM-3:15PM Eastern Standard Time*

**Description:**

We find ourselves in a particularly stressful time in history. During a pandemic that profoundly impacts everyday life, the level of anxiety in children and teens' has increased and the possibility of subsequent trauma has become greater. Without intervention, these students are at risk for poor performance, diminished learning, and social/behavior problems in school. Understanding the role anxiety plays in a student's behavior is crucial and using preventive, trauma-sensitive strategies are key to successful intervention. Effective behavior interventions for these students must avoid the reward and punishment-based consequences from traditional behavior plans and focus instead on the use of preventive strategies that explicitly teach skills like problem-solving, flexibility, frustration tolerance, self-monitoring, and alternative responses.

Dr. Stuart Ablon and Jessica Minahan will combine their expertise in the areas to help participants learn the best ways to build skills in students 1) Through naturalistic opportunities to problem solve and 2) By using an analytic and prescriptive skill-building technique.

Through the use of case studies, humorous stories, and examples of common challenging situations, participants will learn easy to implement preventive tools, strategies, and interventions for reducing anxiety, increasing self-regulation, flexibility, accurate thinking, and self-monitoring in students.

**Learning Objectives:**

**Participants will be able to:**

- A. Identify why some common teacher practices and interventions may not always work for students with trauma histories and anxiety-related behavior
- B. Identify common underdeveloped skills that contribute to the behavior challenges of many students with social/emotional needs.
- C. Enumerate strategies for reducing negative/unproductive thinking in students

**Bios:**

**Jessica Minahan, MEd, BCBA**, is a licensed and board-certified behavior analyst, special educator, as well as a consultant to schools internationally ([www.jessicaminahan.com](http://www.jessicaminahan.com)). Jessica has over seventeen years of experience supporting students who exhibit challenging behavior in urban public school systems. She is the co-author of *The Behavior Code: A Practical Guide to Understanding and Teaching the Most Challenging Students* (Harvard Education Press, 2012) and author of *The Behavior Code Companion: Strategies, Tools, and Interventions for Supporting Students with Anxiety-Related or Oppositional Behaviors* (Harvard Education Press, 2014).

**J. Stuart Ablon, Ph.D.**, is the Director of Think:Kids in the Department of Psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital. He is also Associate Professor and the Thomas G. Stemberg Endowed Chair in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Ablon is author of the books *Changeable: The Surprising Science Behind Helping Anyone Change*, *Treating Explosive Kids: The Collaborative Problem Solving Approach*, and *The School Discipline Fix*. One of the world's top-rated keynote speakers, Dr. Ablon trains parents, educators, and clinicians, and helps organizations throughout the world implement the Collaborative Problem Solving approach.