



## BUREAU OF EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION

AUGUST 6, 2021

### Weekly Memo

#### Action Items

#### Exceptional Student Education (ESE) and Student Support Services (SSS) Directors' Calls and Meetings

The Bureau of Exceptional Student Education (BESE) announces the following upcoming dates for the Chief's Chat with Directors; directors' calls; topical calls; the New Director's Academy, which will be at the Florida Department of Education (FDOE); and the Administrators' Management Meeting (AMM):

- **August 20, 2021**—Chief's Chat with Directors
- **September 14, 2021**—Combined Directors' and Topical Call
- **October 5-6, 2021**—New Director's Academy (at FDOE)
- **November 9, 2021**—Combined Directors' and Topical Call
- **December 14-16, 2021**—AMM

For questions, contact BESE or SSS at [BESESupport@fldoe.org](mailto:BESESupport@fldoe.org).

#### Resource Materials and Technology Center for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing (RMTCD/HH)—Escape Room for New Website

RMTCD/HH has a new website. In order for users to become more familiar with it, we have created a fun activity that will immerse participants in the content and resources available on the website. Join us for an interactive escape room. Can you solve all the puzzles and earn RMTCD/HH victory points? You may even earn a badge to brag to your friends that you are a part of the amazing RMTCD/HH professional learning community! This escape room challenge will be on **August 10, 2021**, at 2 p.m. EDT For more information and to register, go to [https://fsdbk12.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAuc--sqDovGdVWzcglyk\\_XLMV2ZBeoM-R](https://fsdbk12.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAuc--sqDovGdVWzcglyk_XLMV2ZBeoM-R). 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) or 800-356-6731.

#### Florida Diagnostic & Learning Resources System (FDLRS) Parent Webinar Series

The FDLRS Administration Project, in collaboration with BESE, is excited to share the 2021-2022 calendar for Fridays with FDLRS Parent Webinars. Beginning on **August 20, 2021**, and continuing through May 13, 2021, these monthly webinars are designed for parents or individuals working with parents and families of students with disabilities. Topics include ESE and quality individual educational plans (IEPs), least restrictive environment, homework completion, writing at home, sensory processing for parents, and a family guide for at-home learning. These webinars are available at no cost and are presented in a family-friendly way and recorded with closed

captioning available. For additional information and to register, see the attached document or go to <https://www.fdlrs.org/free-parent-webinars-fridays-fdlrs>. For questions, contact the FDLRS Administration Project at 386-312-2265.

- Filename: Fridays with FDLRS Parent Webinars

### **Update of District Primary Accountability Coordinator and Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) Accountability Coordinator Information**

The FDOE has issued the following memorandum regarding the update of district primary accountability coordinator and DJJ accountability coordinator information. After reviewing the list of coordinators, confirmation must be submitted by **August 27, 2021**, per the instructions in the memo. To view the memorandum, go to <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9221/dps-2021-102.pdf> (Memo), <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9222/dps-2021-102a.pdf> (Attachment A) and <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9223/dps-2021-102b.pdf> (Attachment B).

### **Passport to Learning**

All Florida educators and therapists are encouraged to join the Problem Solving/Response to Intervention Technology Project, in collaboration with the Assistive Technology Industry Association, the Access Project, the Florida Instructional Materials Center for the Visually Impaired, and RMTC-D/HH, on a journey to increase your knowledge and skills in the areas of assistive technology, accessible educational materials and universal design for learning. Destinations are set to begin on **August 30, 2021**. Each destination includes two highly qualified travel guides to coach, mentor and empower the travelers' new learning community. This adventure will span three months and strengthen your practice to make an impact on student achievement. For more information, see the attached document.

- Filename: 2021 Passport to Learning

### **RMTC-D/HH—Working with the Experts: Emotional Safety Skills Implementation in Deaf Education**

RMTC-D/HH is offering an interactive professional learning activity that will include instruction and practice with assessment and goal development for interventions related to emotional safety skills. Participants will complete an assessment on at least two students using the tools provided in the workshop, develop goals and objectives for an IEP or individual family support plan based on data collected in the assessment for at least two students, and implement the four-step method for incorporating emotional safety skills into the academic curriculum based on the IEP and task analysis. This professional learning opportunity will be on **September 1, 15 and 29, 2021**, from 2:30 to 4 p.m. EDT, and participants are expected to attend all three sessions. For more information and to register, go to <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=nozl6lfab&oeidk=a07ei8m5y5r8fde80aa>. 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) or 800-356-6731.

### **Technological Tools Survey – 2020-2021 Fiscal Year**

The FDOE has issued the following memorandum regarding the Technological Tools Survey – 2020-2021 Fiscal Year. The survey must be submitted by **September 1, 2021**, per the instructions in the memo. To view the memorandum, go to <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9220/dps-2021-107.pdf>.

## **RMTC-D/HH—Foundational Auditory Training for Children Who Are D/HH: Using the Central Institute for the Deaf (CID) Speech Perception Instructional Curriculum and Evaluation (SPICE) Curriculum**

This intermediate-level course is designed to teach speech-language pathologists and teachers of the D/HH techniques for capitalizing on auditory information made available to children with a cochlear implant or hearing aid. This course features an overview of the CID SPICE, 2nd Edition, auditory training curriculum for children ages 2 years and older. Topics include strategies for speech perception and auditory development and methods to improve perception from detection through comprehension of connected speech. The workshop includes video demonstrations and interactive activities. This course will be on **September 3, 2021**, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EDT. For more information and to register, go to <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=nozl6lfab&oeidk=a07ei8lqm235bc239bf>. 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) or 800-356-6731.

## **Facilitated Individual Educational Plan (FIEP) Process Professional Development**

BESE, in collaboration with FDLRS, is providing districts with opportunities for training in the FIEP process. Districts may secure an individualized training for staff by contacting their local FDLRS Associate Center at <https://www.fdlrs.org/find-a-center>. For districts to have a few key staff members participate in advance, Virtual Full FIEP Training for Educators will be on available on **September 13-17, 2021** (participants must attend all days). To register for this training, go to <https://www.fdlrs.org/about/educators/upcoming-courses>. For additional information, see the attached document.

- FIEP Training Offerings

## **RMTC-D/HH—Real World Auditory Learning for Children Who Are D/HH: Using the CID SPICE for Life Curriculum**

This intermediate-level course is designed to teach speech-language pathologists and teachers of the D/HH techniques to help children with hearing loss listen in everyday situations. Participants will learn an overview of skills including improving auditory memory, listening with technology, conversing, listening in noise, localizing sounds and more from the CID SPICE for Life auditory learning curriculum. Content is supported with video demonstrations, interactive activities for children ages 5-12 and data collection methods. This course will be on **September 17, 2021**, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EDT. For more information and to register, go to <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=nozl6lfab&oeidk=a07eiax7kfw999f3ea4>. 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) or 800-356-6731.

## **Informational Items**

### **BESE Welcomes New Staff Member**

The Instructional Support Services unit is pleased to welcome Patricia Bodiford in the role of program specialist IV in the eligibility areas of intellectual disability (InD) and traumatic brain injury. She comes to BESE with over 17 years of experience in ESE, specifically in the varying exceptionalities-InD program. Patricia was honored as the 2019 Teacher of the Year for Wakulla High School and has worked in the Wakulla County School District as a one-to-one

paraprofessional, an ESE self-contained high school teacher, a hospital and homebound teacher, a Florida Standards Alternate Assessment administrator, and then as the ESE department team leader for Wakulla High School. She has also worked with nonprofit agencies such as Special Olympics, as the fundraising and finance chair and games director, and Ability 1st, as the high school high tech coordinator for Wakulla County. Patricia can be contacted at [Patricia.Bodiford@fldoe.org](mailto:Patricia.Bodiford@fldoe.org).

### **2021-2022 School Year Information**

The FDOE has issued the following memorandum regarding 2021-2022 school year information. To view the memorandum, go to <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9229/dps-2021-67.pdf> (Memo) and <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9230/dps-2021-67a.pdf> (Attachment A).

### **School District Actions as a Result of Legislation Enacted in 2021**

The FDOE has issued the following memorandum regarding school district actions as a result of legislation enacted in 2021. To view the memorandum, go to <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9225/dps-2021-121.pdf> (Memo) and <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9226/dps-2021-121a.pdf> (Attachment A).

### **New Responsibilities and Considerations for School Districts as a Result of House Bill 173**

The FDOE has issued the following memorandum regarding the new responsibilities and considerations for school districts as a result of House Bill 173. To view the memorandum, go to <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9224/dps-2021-91.pdf>.

### **Modifications to Provisions Related to School Safety as a Result of Senate Bill 590**

The FDOE has issued the following memorandum regarding modifications to provisions related to school safety as a result of Senate Bill 590. To view the memorandum, go to <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9227/dps-2021-86.pdf>.

### **Learning Ally's New Web-Based Reading App**

Learning Ally teachers and students are currently using our new web-based Reading App. There is no need to download the Reading App on a school device when you can open a browser tab. To begin reading, go to <https://read.learningally.org/> and type in your user name and password. For questions, contact Kelly Bovard at [kbovard@learningally.org](mailto:kbovard@learningally.org).

### **Hope Scholarship Transfer Procedures**

The FDOE has issued the following memorandum regarding Hope Scholarship transfer procedures. To view the memorandum, go to <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9228/dps-2021-130.pdf>.

**Victoria Gaitanis**  
**Bureau Chief**



For more information, contact  
850-245-0475



The FDLRS Network receives its priorities from the Bureau of Exceptional Student Education (BESE) and works in collaboration with districts and families to best provide quality programs and services at the local level in an effort to reach the indicators in BESE Strategic Plan supporting the success of ALL learners.

FDLRS also supports Florida's Goals of: Higher Student Achievement, Skilled Workforce and Economic Development, Seamless Articulation and Maximum Access and Quality Efficient Services.

#### **FDLRS ADMINISTRATION:**

Support Personnel:  
Wendy Beasley

Coordinators: Sara Gaines,  
Beth Moore, Susan Saunders and  
Kim Seth

Administrator: Mary Ann Ahearn

#### **WEBSITES:**

[www.fdlrs.org](http://www.fdlrs.org)  
[www.fl-pda.org](http://www.fl-pda.org)

## ***Fridays with FDLRS*** A Parent Webinar Series

The FDLRS Administration Project and Associate Centers Network are proud to offer a **series of parent webinars** to take place virtually over the 2021-2022 school year.

<b>Aug. 20<sup>th</sup></b>	Understanding Exceptional Student Education
<b>Sept. 17<sup>th</sup></b>	The Benefits of Least Restrictive Environment
<b>Oct. 15<sup>th</sup></b>	Strategies to Support Homework Completion
<b>Nov. 19<sup>th</sup></b>	Understanding Quality Individual Educational Plans
<b>Dec. 17<sup>th</sup></b>	Family Guide for at Home Learning
<b>Jan. 21<sup>st</sup></b>	Smart Artificial Intelligence (AI) Devices at Home
<b>Feb. 18<sup>th</sup></b>	Supporting Writing at Home
<b>Mar. 18<sup>th</sup></b>	Including Children in Storytime
<b>April 15<sup>th</sup></b>	Sensory Processing for Parents
<b>May 13<sup>th</sup></b>	Summer Activities & Resources for Parents & Families

These topics have been selected in response to requests for information, needs assessment results and priority areas identified from the ESE Parent Survey conducted by the Bureau of Exceptional Student Education (BESE).

The **90-minute webinars** are conducted during lunch hours, from **11:30AM – 1:00PM EST** on a designated Friday for parents/family/professionals. All sessions will be recorded and posted on the [www.fdlrs.org](http://www.fdlrs.org) website for access at your convenience at a later date.

These webinars are **free of charge and open to all parents/families/professionals working with children with disabilities or those with unique learning needs**. We ask that you register at least 2 weeks prior to the event. The URL will be sent to you in an email the day prior to the webinar.

Registration for all webinars is located at:  
**[fdlrs.org/free-parent-webinars-fridays-fdlrs](http://fdlrs.org/free-parent-webinars-fridays-fdlrs)**

You may register for one or all the webinars at your earliest convenience.

We look forward to “seeing” you soon! If you have any questions please email [ahearnm@nefec.org](mailto:ahearnm@nefec.org) or call 386-312-2265.



# **Fridays with FDLRS** 2021-2022 Webinar Descriptions



<b>August 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Understanding Exceptional Student Education (ESE)</b>	ESE language is often confusing and referred to by many as alphabet soup. This webinar will clearly explain the meanings of those pesky acronyms and help you to better understand such things as the ESE eligibility process, categories, and supports, including scholarships. There will also be time for you to ask clarifying questions.
<b>September 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>The Benefits of Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)</b>	Educating students in the LRE has been required by federal law since 1975 based on the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Learn what the research says about the positive outcomes of educating children in the LRE. You will find that LRE benefits both disabled and nondisabled students by providing opportunities to learn and work together and that LRE provides social and academic experiences that could have a positive impact that lasts a lifetime.
<b>October 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Strategies to Support Homework Completion</b>	Homework time does not have to be stressful when you know the strategies and tips to make efficient use of the time and energy spent by you and your child. Join us to learn ways to organize and facilitate your child's learning, using strategies that work for any subject area.
<b>November 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Understanding Quality Individual Educational Plans (IEPs)</b>	Quality IEPs are developed to best meet the individualized needs of students with disabilities, while ensuring compliance with federal and state laws. Join in on this webinar to learn the various components required to make certain your child's IEP meets the requirements to be considered a quality IEP.
<b>December 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Family Guide for at Home Learning</b>	The <i>Family Guide for at Home Learning</i> , which will be discussed on this webinar, was developed by the CEEDAR Center to provide practical strategies to help children of all ages who may be struggling to complete various reading, math, and/or behavioral tasks at home.
<b>January 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Smart AI Devices at Home</b>	Smart speakers are becoming a staple in our homes. Did you know they could do so much more than telling you the news and turning on lights? Join us for this session and learn how these devices can support executive functioning, memory, and learning.
<b>February 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Supporting Writing at Home</b>	Are you looking for ideas on how to help your child become a better writer? Join us to learn about strategies that can be implemented to support the development of writing skills at home. We will share ideas for all ages including early childhood to high school.
<b>March 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Including Children in Storytime</b>	Reading to your child is not only enjoyable; but it is also an important activity that builds and enhances literacy skills. On this webinar, you will learn creative ways to make story time more interactive and fun.
<b>April 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sensory Processing for Parents</b>	On this webinar you will learn different ways children react to sensory stimuli and how you can support the needs of those who seem to be hypersensitive, with an elevated sensitivity, or hyposensitive, with a lower than normal sensitivity.
<b>May 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Summer Activities and Resources for Parents and Families</b>	This final session will review with parents available state and federal resources that are free and just a click away. A comprehensive resource database will be discussed, and parents will be given an opportunity to ask for resources in specific areas.

**Now Booking!**  
August 16th - 27th

# Passport to Learning

## Calling all Travelers!

Embark on a 3 month journey to increase your knowledge and skills in the areas of AT-AEM-UDL. Each travel package includes two highly qualified travel guides to coach/mentor and empower the travelers' new learning community. As you gather souvenirs along the way you will strengthen your practice and impact student achievement.

- High-quality Content (CEUs & Certificates Included)
- Designed for Effectiveness
- Leveraging And Recognizing Expertise
- Coaching and Mentoring



Travel Packages are set to embark **August 30, 2021:**

- Assistive Technology Assessment
- Grade Level Standards
- Technology for Physical Access
- Augmentative and Alternative Communications
- Sensory - Technology for Vision & Hearing

**Are you ready for travel?**

**New Travelers**

[Apply for a Passport to Learning](#)

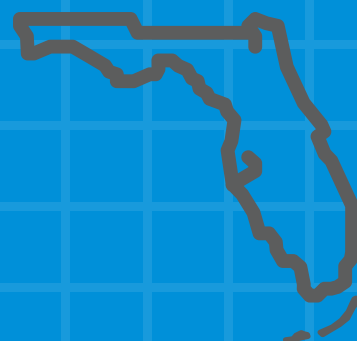
**Returning Travelers**

[Traveler Login](#)





# FIEP TRAINING OPTIONS FLORIDA



When relationships between parents and schools are strained, facilitated individual education plan (FIEP) meetings may be beneficial in helping to restore communication and collaboration. FIEP meetings are a process through which trained facilitators help promote effective communication and assist an IEP team in developing an IEP based on the student's needs. As a trained facilitator, you will learn how to promote effective communication, keep members of the IEP team focused on the appropriate development of the IEP while working through conflicts that arise, and ensuring the participation of each IEP team member. Through FIEP training, individuals representing the district are given the tools needed to facilitate successful IEP meetings.

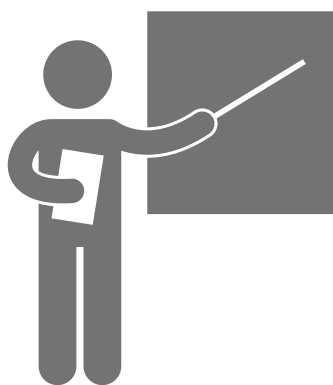
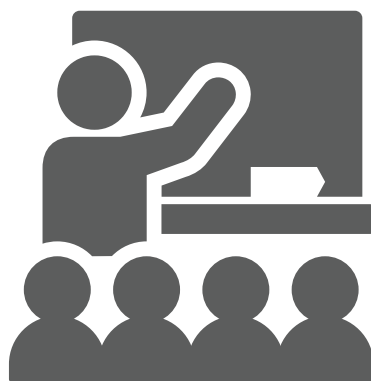
## FIEP Overviews

1

Overviews can be done virtually or in-person by a certified FDLRS trainer. Overview types include:

- Parent overviews
- Teacher overviews
- Administration overviews
- No cost if using local FDLRS or held virtually

\*These overviews do not certify any individuals in the FIEP process.



## FIEP Face-to-Face State Trained

2

## FIEP Face-to-Face Local Area Trained

FIEP 2-day face-to-face training lead by certified local FDLRS trainers.

- 2-day full face-to-face learning
- For all educators who facilitate IEP meetings
- Recommended for practitioners
- The only cost is for FIEP manuals
- Target audience - LEA representative, ESE Teachers, School Administrators

FIEP 2-day face-to-face training lead by certified State Lead Coaches.

- 2-day full face-to-face learning
- For all educators who facilitate IEP meetings
- Recommended for practitioners
- The only cost is for FIEP manuals and travel expenses for trainers
- Target audience - LEA representative, ESE Teachers, School Administrators

3



4

## FIEP Virtual

A virtual approach to the FIEP full training.

- 5-day course with synchronous and asynchronous components
- 5 independent online modules
- 6 live zoom sessions
- Completed by certified state trainers
- For all educators who facilitate IEP meetings
- Recommended for Administrators, ESE Directors
- Cost includes access to Learning Management System (LMS) and manual \$75/person and \$48/person if you already have the 3rd edition manuals.

## Contact Information

For more information about training models for your group contact:

Samantha Jaksec

[samantha.jaksec@hcps.net](mailto:samantha.jaksec@hcps.net)

813-837-7777

Henry Schmitges

[schmitgesh@duvalschools.org](mailto:schmitgesh@duvalschools.org)

904-348-7623

