



BUREAU OF EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION

AUGUST 27, 2021

Weekly Memo

Action Items

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Flexibility Waiver – Opportunity for Public Comment

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) has issued the following memorandum regarding the ESSA Flexibility Waiver – Opportunity for Public Comment. Public comments for these waiver requests must be submitted by **September 10, 2021**, per the instructions in the memo. To view the memorandum, go to <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9246/dps-2021-02.pdf>.

Transition to the Child Outcome Summary (COS) Cooperative Technical Assistance Calls

Technical Assistance and Training System (TATS), the Bureau of Exceptional Student Education's (BESE) prekindergarten discretionary project, will be supporting districts with the required transition to the COS by offering monthly cooperative calls. The cooperative calls are available to all districts in need of support with the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report Federal Part B Indicator 7. The next Community of Practice meeting, scheduled for 10 a.m. on **September 29, 2021**, will cover the team process related to the COS exit. Additional meetings will occur on the last Wednesday of each month. Invitations have been sent to district contacts, who may choose to invite others in the district that may benefit from participating. For registration questions, contact Debbi Nicolosi at tats-fiu@ucf.edu.

Prekindergarten COS Train-the-Trainer Sessions

The Prekindergarten COS Train-the-Trainer sessions will be offered by TATS via a one-day Zoom training session. District administrators can select from one of two options for participating staff, **October 13, 2021, or January 18, 2022**; both options are from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. ET. District administrators should include those who are identified as part of the COS process or those that provide prekindergarten professional development. All trainings will be done by TATS to support the transition to the COS, which began on July 1, 2021. The offered training is required by all districts in support of Preschool Child Outcomes - Federal Part B Indicator 7. For districts to register, go to http://ucf.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8Ju5bBwunZJLDkG. For registration questions, contact Debbi Nicolosi at tats-fiu@ucf.edu.

2021 Specific Learning Disabilities (SLD) and Other Health Impairments (OHI) Contacts Statewide Meeting

The Technology and Learning Connections and the Problem Solving/Response to Intervention teams, along with the FDOE, BESE, is hosting the 2021 SLD and OHI contact meeting in Daytona

Beach on **October 22, 2021**. This meeting will be held in conjunction with the kickoff of the annual Florida Council for Exceptional Children Conference. Ms. Patricia Strickland, BESE SLD and OHI program specialist, will present a state of the state. Participants will be provided with information regarding unique accommodations and the myth around assistive technology evaluations, training on the use of uPAR and how to use the data for struggling readers, and an overview will be given to demonstrate best practices when implementing learning design, such as universal design for learning. Just Read, Florida! will also be providing the latest updates pertaining to the B.E.S.T. Standards. Districts will be given time to break into their size-alike groups for an opportunity to collaborate around assistive technology topics within their district. The registration deadline is **September 17, 2021**. To register to attend in person, go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/21SLDOHI>. To register to attend virtually, go to https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEpfuqhrzlvGdW0J3tPBBs-7o13D_d3PS3E. For more information, see the attached flyer.

- Filename: SLD-OHI District Contacts Meeting Oct 2021

Informational Items

Florida Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (FLPBIS) Project Updates

The FLPBIS Project highlights new resources, upcoming meetings and webinars that the project will be hosting throughout the school year. Some of the topics include Increasing Stakeholders in your Tier 1 PBIS, Updates to the FLPBIS Model School Criteria, and Integrating and Aligning Social Emotional Learning with PBIS. For additional new resources from the National TA Center on PBIS, which are hyperlinked, see the attached document. For additional information, go to <http://flpbis.cbcs.usf.edu/>.

- Filename: FLPBIS DC Updates August 2021

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Customer Success Stories Series

Both the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, along with Florida state law, support transition and assisting with preparing students with disabilities for life after high school. One way schools and local VR offices work together to support students is through the collaboration to refer and arrange the provision of pre-employment transition services or pre-ETS. Please be sure to check out the VR Customer Success Stories over the next few weeks and learn how VR has helped support students with their postsecondary goals.

This week meet Jessica Fernandez, who is currently working as a psychiatrist. In May 2018, Jessica Fernandez walked across the stage to accept her diploma from the University of Central Florida (UCF) College of Medicine. Supporting her along the journey to becoming a medical doctor was VR. At three years old, Jessica was diagnosed with spondyloepiphyseal dysplasia, a rare genetic disorder that affects bone growth and results in short stature. She is 4 feet 2 inches tall. Jessica also experiences hip and back pain. She said, "I once met someone who told me that the only true disability is having a bad attitude," and that made her think that, "If you have a good attitude about everything, then you can conquer whatever you set your mind to," and she had set her sights on becoming a medical doctor. Not only did she graduate but other medical students voted her to receive the UCF's College of Medicine Humanitarian Award.



In medical school, other students navigate the hospital and clinics without ever giving it much thought. However, Jessica's hip and back pain can make walking difficult and working with her VR counselor and rehab engineers, she was able to identify accommodations to help her overcome this barrier. VR was able to provide her with an electric wheelchair, vehicle modifications to transport her mobility device and pedal extenders to make driving her vehicle much easier. She now utilizes the electric wheelchair to help navigate hospitals and clinics. Before entering a facility, Jessica researches the layout and routes that she will need to utilize.

She has said that her life experiences bring a unique perspective. Jessica did her medical residency at Nemours/Alfred I. DuPont Hospital for Children, where, having once been a patient there herself, she brought a special sense of understanding to its work with children with movement disorders. At the Coalition for Disability Access in Health Science and Medical Education Symposium, in front of an audience of scholars, national advocates and medical educators, Jessica shared a message of ability, not disability. "Being able-bodied doesn't necessarily make you a better doctor," she said, "Empathy and compassion are just as important as science."

2021-2022 School Year Social Studies Updates

The FDOE has issued the following memorandum regarding the 2021-2022 School Year Social Studies Updates. To view the memorandum, go to <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9257/dps-2021-122.pdf>.

2021-2022 COVID-19 Decision Tree Infographic Available in English and Spanish

The FDOE has issued the following memorandum regarding the 2021-2022 COVID-19 Decision Tree infographic, which is available in English and Spanish. To view the memorandum, go to <https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-9254/dps-2021-138.pdf>.

Victoria Gaitanis
Bureau Chief



SLD/OHI

DISTRICT CONTACTS MEETING

HILTON DAYTONA BEACH

COME JOIN US!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2021

9AM - 4PM EST

TOPICS

FL State of State

**Unique
Accommodations
& AT Evaluation**

B.E.S.T. Standards

uPAR/PAR

**Learning Design
& MTSS**

District Size Alike

**Technology
Exploration
Hands On**

**FLCEC
Reduced
Conference Rate**

Ms. Patricia Strickland, Specific Learning Disabilities (SLD) and Other Health Impairments (OHI) program specialist with the Bureau of Exceptional Student Education, will provide a state of the state presentation. Participants will be provided with information regarding Unique Accommodations and the myth around assistive technology evaluations. Attendees will participate in a training on the use of uPAR and how to use the data for struggling readers. Just Read, Florida! will provide the latest updates pertaining to the B.E.S.T. Standards. An overview will be given to demonstrate best practices when implementing learning design. Finally, districts will be given time to break into their size alike groups for an opportunity to collaborate.



[Register Here to Attend
Virtually by Zoom](#)



**Or Register Here to
Attend In Person**

**Use the QR Code or visit
2021 SLD/OHI District Contact
Meeting Registration Survey**



Back to School 2021-2022

Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful summer!

District Coordinators: Please mark your calendar for our first PBIS District Coordinator (DC) Meeting scheduled on Thursday, September 16, 2021.

For NEW FLPBIS DC's: (and anyone else who wants a refresher): This first meeting will be an orientation to the FLPBIS Project. Information on accessing materials, resources available, and suggestions from veteran DCs will be provided. The FLPBIS DC Orientation will start at 8:00 AM CST/9:00 AM EST.

For ALL FLPBIS DC's (new and returning): The second meeting will be our typical DC meeting on national and FLPBIS updates, changes to project processes and new resources available. The FLPBIS DC Meeting will start at 9:00 AM CST/10:00 AM EST.

Zoom links will be provided a few weeks prior to the meeting, and recorded meetings will be posted on the website: <https://www.livebinders.com/play/play?id=2253248>. All meeting times will be at 9 AM CST/10 AM EST:

- Tuesday, November 9
- Thursday, January 13
- Thursday, May 19

The Model Schools application is open through September 1, 2021. Please don't forget to go into the [online application](#) to recommend eligible schools so that they can complete their applications. Reach out to your PBIS Provider for more information about any of the material shared!

New Chat Schedule

2021-2022 Technical Assistance Chats

Click [here](#) to see the FLPBIS Chat Schedule for the new school year.

Florida PBIS List of Online Events
September 2021 - February 2022

Webinar Topic	Month	Day	Time	Link to Register
Integrating and Aligning Social Emotional Learning with PBIS	Sept	15	2:00pm - 3:00pm CST 3:00pm - 4:00pm EST	Click Here to Register
Model School Criteria Updates	Oct	13	2:00pm - 3:00pm CST 3:00pm - 4:00pm EST	Click Here to Register
Increasing Stakeholders in Your Tier 1 System	Nov	16	2:00pm - 3:00pm CST 3:00pm - 4:00pm EST	Click Here to Register
Integrating Positive Psychology within Your PBIS Framework for Positive Wellbeing	Dec	8	2:00pm - 3:00pm CST 3:00pm - 4:00pm EST	Click Here to Register
Involving Student Voice in your PBIS Framework	Jan	13	2:00pm - 3:00pm CST 3:00pm - 4:00pm EST	Click Here to Register
Guide to Reinforcement Systems	Feb	17	2:00pm - 3:00pm CST 3:00pm - 4:00pm EST	Click Here to Register

Upcoming FLPBIS Technical Assistance Chats

Register for upcoming FLPBIS webinars:

TA Chat [Integrating and Aligning SEL with PBIS](#)

TA Chat [Model School Criteria Updates](#)

TA Chat [Increasing Stakeholders in your Tier 1 System](#)

Upcoming Conference

Virtual PBIS Leadership Forum

October 26, 27, & 28, 2021

[This three-day virtual forum](#) is for school, state, district, and regional Leadership Teams and other professionals to help increase the effectiveness of school environments through PBIS.



New Resources from the National Center on PBIS

Practice Brief

Discussing Race, Racism, and Important Current Events with Students: A Guide with Lesson Plans and Resources

Practice Brief

Enhancing Family-School Collaboration with Diverse Families

Practice Brief

Using a PBIS Framework: Working Smarter, Not Harder in Rural Schools



CENTER ON **PBIS** Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH FLORIDA



Florida's Positive Behavioral Interventions & Support Project



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flpbis.org

