



[BEESS Weekly Memo](#)



Action Items

Florida Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE) Awards

On behalf of the Florida CASE Board, we are pleased to announce that nominations are open for the Annual CASE Awards. This is a wonderful opportunity to honor exemplary leaders in the field of special education. The deadline to submit nominations is **April 13, 2026**. See the attached nomination application.

- Filename: 2026 Florida CASE Award Nominee

Florida Advanced Courses and Tests (FACT): U.S. History Pilot Program

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) has issued a memorandum regarding [FACT: U.S. History Pilot Program](#); and attachment A, [FACT: U.S. History Pilot Program Application](#).

Applications must be submitted by **May 11, 2026**, per the instructions in the memo. See the memo for more information.

Informational Items

Clarification for Local Educational Agencies (LEAs): Child Find for Parentally Placed Private School Students with Disabilities

FDOE has posted clarification for LEAs regarding child find for parentally placed private school students with disabilities. LEAs that require private schools to adopt or implement intervention systems (such as Response to Intervention or Multi-Tiered Systems of Support) before evaluating a parentally placed private school student for a disability are out of compliance with both federal and state laws related to students with disabilities. To view the clarification for LEAs, go to [Technical Assistance Papers and Memos](#).

The 2025-26 Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Parent Survey is Open

The 2025-26 ESE Parent Survey is active and will remain open throughout the 2025-26 school year. Submissions are processed in real time and results can be viewed through the [Florida Department of Education \(FDOE\) Parent Survey](#) dashboard. We invite all parents and guardians

to share their feedback and help shape the future of the ESE program. Parents should complete the [electronic ESE Parent Survey](#), which is available in 10 languages, or the paper-based ESE Parent Survey, whichever is most convenient for them. Note that the paper-based version of the 2025-26 ESE Parent Survey is attached and the Spanish and Haitian Creole versions can be found at [ESE Parent Survey](#).

The survey is open to parents of children with an individual educational plan (IEP) receiving ESE services from preschool to grade 12 (excluding gifted services). Students with disabilities ages 18 and up are also encouraged to participate. Quick and easy to complete, the ESE Parent Survey helps ensure districts meet their 2025-26 target response rates. See the attached ESE Parent Survey flyers (including Spanish and Haitian Creole) and share them in your schools, with teachers and during IEP team meetings.

- Filename: 2025-26 Paper-Based ESE Parent Survey
- Filename: 2025-26 ESE Parent Survey Flyer 1
- Filename: 2025-26 ESE Parent Survey Flyer 2
- Filename: 2025-26 ESE Parent Survey Flyer 1 (Spanish)
- Filename: 2025-26 ESE Parent Survey Flyer 2 (Spanish)
- Filename: 2025-26 ESE Parent Survey Flyer 1 (HC)
- Filename: 2025-26 ESE Parent Survey Flyer 2 (HC)

Month of the Military Family and Purple Up! Day

The Month of the Military Family in Florida gives communities an opportunity to emphasize and recognize the sacrifices of military children while their parents serve our nation. Florida is committed to being the most military-friendly state in the nation. In recognition of the Month of the Military Family and *Purple Up!* Day, which is **April 15, 2026**, please visit [Purple Up!](#) for resources and information, the recently signed proclamation from Governor Ron DeSantis, and a toolkit to support and recognize military families. For additional resources, visit [Military Family Resources](#).

New BEESS Team Members

Instructional Support Services (ISS) Unit

The ISS unit is pleased to welcome Ms. Marianne Driver in the role of state lead for emotional/behavioral disabilities. Ms. Driver began her career as a medical assistant before finding her passion in education, where she discovered a love for supporting student learning and growth. That passion has grown into a commitment to making a broader impact across the state and helping ensure all students have access to a high-quality education and the supports they need to succeed. Ms. Driver values collaboration, strong relationships and open communication, and is looking forward to connecting with colleagues across Florida. Ms. Driver enjoys traveling throughout Florida and appreciates both its large cities and small towns, bringing a well-rounded perspective to her work. She is looking forward to her journey with the BEESS.

Use Strong Language in Prior Written Notice (PWN)

When writing PWN, do not just state what was discussed in the IEP meeting; describe the team's decision with unambiguous language. Err on the side of being wordy. Explain why the district chose what it did, reference evaluative data, and explain what it said. Parent attorneys look at PWN when deciding whether to take a case. ([Special Ed Connection®](#))

Patricia Bodiford
Bureau Chief



Rookie ESE Administrator of the year:

This individual is an administrator of special education programs that has worked in this position for 4 years or less. This person should demonstrate vision and leadership skills that have supported children with disabilities and their families. The winner of this award will receive a monetary gift, plaque, paid registration for the 2027 Florida Summer Institute as well as the recognition of their peers at the Florida CASE Summer Leadership Institute. Individuals nominated for this award are not required to be a member of CASE but **must** be a member of CEC.



Outstanding ESE Administrator of the year:

This individual is an administrator of special education programs that has worked in this position for 5 to 20 years. A person who demonstrates consistent, outstanding vision and leadership for children with disabilities and their families and be recognized for the contributions they have made not only to their district but to their community and state. Individuals nominated for this award must be a current member of National CASE. Winner of this award will also receive a monetary gift, plaque, paid registration for the 2027 Florida CASE Summer Leadership Institute. This individual may also be submitted as a nominee for the National CASE award.



Life Time Achievement Award:

This individual is or has been an administrator of special education programs for a minimum of 20 years and has demonstrated consistent and outstanding vision and leadership for children with disabilities and their families and be recognized for the contributions they have made not only to their district but to their community and state. Winner of this award will receive a monetary gift, plaque, paid registration to the 2027 Florida CASE Summer Leadership Institute, National CASE or National CEC Conference and recognition at the Florida CASE Summer Leadership Institute. This individual may also be submitted as a nominee for the National CASE award. Selected by FLO-CASE Board of Directors.



Don't Miss the



All nomination forms must be completed in its entirety and submitted to Christina McCray via email @ christina.mccray@desotoschools.com no later than Monday, **April 13, 2026**. Nomination form is attached.



FLORIDA CASE 2026 AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Date of Submission: _____

(PLEASE CHECK ONE)

Rookie Special Education
 Administrator (4) yrs. Or
 less)

Outstanding Special
 Education Administrator
 (5-20 yrs. in the field)

Life Time Achievement
 Award
 (20 yrs. or more)

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|
| NOMINEE's Name: | | Nominated by: | |
| Email: | | Email: | |
| Telephone/ Cell #: | | Telephone #: | |
| Years of Experience: | | N/A | |

Request a vita of the nominee which includes professional memberships. Please include two (2) letters of support from other individuals which support your nomination.

**RETURN FORM and accompanying documentation (2 letters of support) via email to
 Christina McCray@ christinamccray@desotoschools.com**

Deadline for submission April 13, 2026.

**Recipients of the awards will be announced at the CASE Summer Leadership
 Institute **Wednesday, June 10****

Thank you,

Ms. Barbara Johns, President

Dr. Rosalind Hall, CASE Past President



2025-2026 Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Parent* Survey

The Florida Department of Education is seeking parent and guardian input to enhance services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). If your child has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP), please complete the following survey to help us improve our services. If you have more than one child with an IEP, please complete one survey for each child. The information gathered remains anonymous and will be used to inform support and resources for parents and students with IEPs. Results will be compiled at the district and school level.

*Please note: If your child is 12 years of age or older, please complete the Transition Section located on page 11 of this survey.

*Students 18 or over may complete this survey.

1. Relationship to the student.

- Parent/Guardian
- Self - 18 years or older

2. How old is your child with an IEP?

3. Is your child Hispanic or Latino?

- Yes
- No

4. Which of the following races describes your child with an IEP?

- White
- Black or African American
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian or Asian American
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- Two or more races

5. Enter the name of the school your child attends.

District: _____

School: _____

6. What is your child's primary exceptionality?

7. Is your child with an IEP in Pre-Kindergarten (PK) or grades K-12?

Pre-Kindergarten (PK)

K-12

The 2025-2026 Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Parent Survey can be returned via mail, fax or email as follows:

Mail

Florida Department of Education
Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services
Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Parent Survey
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 614
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400

Fax

850-245-0953

Email

BEESsupport@fldoe.org

Preschool Section

- 1. I am considered a valued partner with personnel in the planning of my child's program.**
 - Very strongly agree
 - Strongly agree
 - Agree
 - Disagree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Very strongly disagree

- 2. My child's IEP/IFSP goals are written in a way that I can work on them at home during daily routines.**
 - Very strongly agree
 - Strongly agree
 - Agree
 - Disagree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Very strongly disagree

- 3. I understand the information I receive from the school about my child's program.**
 - Very strongly agree
 - Strongly agree
 - Agree
 - Disagree
 - Strongly disagree
 - Very strongly disagree

4. The school involves parents in assessments of whether preschool special education is effective.

- Very strongly agree
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Very strongly disagree

5. I am offered a variety of ways to communicate with staff.

- Very strongly agree
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Very strongly disagree

6. I am provided with the support I need to play an active role in my child's education.

- Very strongly agree
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Very strongly disagree

6(a). If you disagree, what additional resources would you like to receive from the school? (Check all that apply)

- Resources on how to navigate IEP meetings.
- Resources on how to interpret IEPs.
- Resources on how IEP decisions are made.
- Resources related to my legal rights.
- Resources related to outside support organizations.
- Information on my student's academic progress.
- Information on my student's behavior.
- Resources for contacting my child's teacher(s).

7. School personnel ensure that I have fully understood my rights related to preschool special education.

- Very strongly agree
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Very strongly disagree

8. I know what options I have if I disagree with the decision of the IEP team.

- Very strongly agree
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Very strongly disagree

9. The school provides me with information about organizations that offer support and connections for parents.

- Very strongly agree
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Very strongly disagree

10. I am considered a valued partner to personnel in the planning and support of my child's program.

- Very strongly agree
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Very strongly disagree

11. Overall, I am satisfied with the efforts to facilitate my involvement in my child's educational planning.

- Very strongly agree
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Very strongly disagree

12. On a scale from 0-10 (with 10 being very satisfied, and 0 being not at all satisfied), how satisfied are you with your child's special education program?

- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10

13. Please share any other comments you have below:

K-12 Section

1. I understand the written information I receive from the school about my child's education.

- Very strongly agree
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Very strongly disagree

2. I am provided with the support I need to play an active role in my child's education.

- Very strongly agree
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Very strongly disagree

2(a). If you disagree, what additional resources would you like to receive from the school? (Check all that apply)

- Resources on how to navigate IEP meetings.
- Resources on how to interpret IEPs.
- Resources on how IEP decisions are made.
- Resources related to my legal rights.
- Resources related to outside support organizations.
- Information on my student's academic progress.
- Information on my student's behavior.
- Resources for contacting my child's teacher(s).

3. My child's Individual Educational Plan (IEP) addresses my child's development and describes progress towards goals.

- Very strongly agree
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Very strongly disagree

4. The school provides my child with all the services, accommodations and modifications documented on his/her IEP.

- Very strongly agree
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Very strongly disagree

5. I am offered a variety of ways to communicate with available staff.

- Very strongly agree
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Very strongly disagree

6. I know what options I have if I disagree with the decision of the IEP team.

- Very strongly agree
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Very strongly disagree

7. Overall, I am satisfied with the efforts to facilitate my involvement in my child's educational planning.

- Very strongly agree
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Very strongly disagree

8. On a scale from 0-10 (with 10 being very satisfied, and 0 being not at all satisfied), how satisfied are you with your child's special education program?

- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10

Transition Section

1. School personnel provide me with information on agencies and information that can assist my child in the transition from school.

- Very strongly agree
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Very strongly disagree

2. School personnel discuss options for work or continuing education after high school.

- Very strongly agree
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Very strongly disagree



2025-2026
Exceptional Student Education
PARENT SURVEY

Your participation is requested!

The 2025-2026 survey takes less time to complete making it easier for you to provide feedback.

To complete the survey, scan the QR code or visit

bit.ly/ESEParentSurvey

*Use your camera
to scan here!*



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EDUCATION
fldoe.org



2025-26

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*Use your camera
to scan here!*



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2025-26

Educación para estudiantes excepcionales
ENCUESTA PARA PADRES

¡Se solicita su participación!

Para completar la encuesta, escanee el
código QR o visite

bit.ly/ESEParentSurvey

*¡Utilice su cámara
para escanear
aquí!*





2025-26

Educación para estudiantes excepcionales

ENCUESTA PARA PADRES

¡Se solicita su participación!

Para enviar sus comentarios, escanee el código QR o visite

bit.ly/ESEParentSurvey



*¡Utilice su cámara
para escanear
aquí!*



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2025-26

Edikasyon Pou Elèv Esepsyonèl

SONDAJ POU PARAN

Nou mande pou ou patisipe!

Pou ranpli sondaj la eskane kòdQR la
oswa ale sou

bit.ly/ESEParentSurvey

*Itilize kamera w
pou eskane la!*



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2025-26

Edikasyon Pou Elèv Esepsyonèl

SONDAJ POU PARAN

Nou mande pou ou patisipe!

Pou bay reyaksyon, eskane kòd QR la oswa ale sou

bit.ly/ESEParentSurvey



*Itilize kamera w
pou eskane la a!*



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