



## Weekly Memo

### Rule Activity

#### Notice of Rule Development

To view the draft, if available, and submit comments for the following rule, go to the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) [State Board Rules Under Review](#):

- Rule [6A-1.09401](#), Florida Administrative Code, Student Performance Standards

### Action Items

#### Program Accountability, Assessment & Data Systems (PAADS) SurveyMonkey Link

The PAADS team has distributed a SurveyMonkey link via email to all exceptional student education (ESE) directors to collect essential data regarding Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)-funded state projects. Each local education agency should submit only one response to ensure accurate and unduplicated reporting. Complete and submit the survey by **June 1, 2025**.

### Job Vacancies

#### Positions Available in the Brevard Public Schools (BPS)

BPS is seeking qualified teachers of the visually impaired to support students with visual impairments and other exceptionalities across various schools within the district. The application deadlines are **May 29, 2025**. To view the full job descriptions and apply, go to the [Brevard Public Schools Employment Listing](#) web page, and filter position type by selecting VISUAL HAND ITIN.

## Professional Learning

### 2025 Summer Training Institute on Autism

Educators, service providers, families, students and all individuals with an interest in autism are welcome to participate in the virtual three-day 2025 Summer Training Institute on Autism on **June 17, 18 and 19, 2025**. The Training Institute is designed to prepare attendees to understand the social communication, behavioral and learning characteristics of children and adults with autism spectrum disorder. Attendance is free, but registration for each individual day is required. Visit the [2025 Summer Training Institute on Autism](#) web page for more information and registration instructions.

### Emotional/Behavioral Disability (E/BD): An Introduction

[E/BD: An Introduction](#) is available in the BEESS Portal to Professional Development Alternatives. This course provides information regarding eligibility, factors that must be considered during the determination process, impact of experiences on determination, specific individual factors that influence behavioral and emotional expression, and an understanding of the fear and shame related to emotions within E/BD. Access the course catalog under Independent Courses and select Behavior.

## Informational Items

### The Institute of Small and Rural Districts (ISRD) New Website

ISRD is thrilled to announce the launch of a [new website](#) that features enhanced functionalities and a wealth of additional resources, with new content being added continuously.

### Learning Ally Resources

To help prepare for summer school activities, [schedule a one-on-one with Dr. Martaluz Rodriguez Pozo](#) for a quick start review. Keep an eye out for the Learning Ally survey email and share your feedback—10 winners will be chosen.

Below are resources to help implement Learning Ally this summer:

- [FL 2025 Summer Reading Together General Flyer](#)
- [FL 2025 Summer Reading Together Teacher Checklist](#)
- [Florida Elementary School Activity Packet](#)
- [Florida Middle School Activity Packet](#)
- [Florida High School Activity Packet](#)

## New BEESS Team Members

### **Instructional Support Services (ISS) Unit**

BEESS would like to welcome back Ms. Jennifer Coburn as the new senior educational program director for the ISS unit. Ms. Coburn brings a wealth of experience and expertise to BEESS, holding a master's degree in Emotional and Learning Disabilities and more than 18 years of dedicated service in ESE. She has worked across both public and private education sectors, consistently demonstrating a strong commitment to supporting students. Most recently, Ms. Coburn worked with Disability Rights Florida, where she served as an advocate for students and families, ensuring their access to appropriate educational services was protected and upheld. Before that, Ms. Coburn served as a program specialist here in BEESS, where she was the state lead for the deaf and hard of hearing, visual impairments, dual sensory impairments, and hospital/homebound programs. She also acted as a liaison to more than 10 IDEA-funded state projects, bringing deep knowledge of federal and state education law and policy. Ms. Coburn's strong leadership, advocacy background and comprehensive understanding of instructional support systems will be valuable assets to BEESS and the students and families we serve.

### **PAADS Unit**

BEESS would like to welcome Ms. Dorsa Imankhan to the PAADS unit as a fiscal specialist. Ms. Imankhan brings with her many years of experience in customer service and accounting, along with a wealth of valuable skills and a positive, solution-focused, attitude. Her dedication to providing excellent support and her natural ability to connect with people make her a wonderful addition to the PAADS team. Ms. Imankhan is excited to use her skills to make an impact and learn as much as she can in her new role.

BEESS would also like to welcome Ms. Alexandra Rattliff to the PAADS unit as an administrative secretary. Ms. Rattliff comes to BEESS from the Department of Health and has seven years of experience in administrative services, along with a wealth of valuable skills and a consistently positive attitude. Her strong commitment to providing exceptional support and her natural ability to connect with others make her an outstanding addition to the team.

### **Dispute Resolution and Monitoring (DRM) Unit**

BEESS would like to welcome Ms. MacKenzie Honchell as the administrative secretary for the DRM unit. Ms. Honchell has 11 years of experience in long-term care, assisted living and hospital settings. She was also a district manager that oversaw 10 facilities at once, managing over 100 employees. Developing good relationships with corporate support and facilitating meetings to ensure requests and needs of the department were met was a part of her daily schedule. Ms. Honchell's strong leadership, determination and attention to detail prepared her for her new position. Ms. Honchell is excited to be a part of the BEESS team.

### **Include Teachers in Paraprofessional Hiring**

One easy way to help facilitate a good working relationship between a paraprofessional and a teacher is to involve the teacher in the paraprofessional's hiring. It is the teacher who is in the classroom every day and who knows what support is needed. ([Special Ed Connection®](#))

***Patricia Bodiford***  
***Bureau Chief***