



Weekly Memo

Rule Activity

Notices of Proposed Rule

These rule revisions are scheduled for the State Board of Education meeting on **September 24, 2025**. To view the following final proposed rules and submit comments, go to the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) [State Board Rules Under Review](#):

- Rule [6A-6.0251](#), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Use of Epinephrine Auto-Injectors
- Rule [6A-6.0253](#), F.A.C., Diabetes Management

Job Vacancies

Position Available in the Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS) East Associate Center

FDLRS East, an Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)-funded state project, is seeking a grant manager (assistant director). FDLRS East serves Brevard and Volusia Counties. The application deadline is **September 2, 2025**. To view the full job description and apply, go to the [Brevard Public Schools Employment Listing](#) web page.

Action Items

2025-26 Florida United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) Application

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the [USSYP program application](#). The application form must be submitted by **September 29, 2025**, per the instructions in the memo.

2025 Purple Star School of Distinction and Purple Star School District Program

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the [2025 Purple Star School of Distinction and Purple Star School District Program](#). Application forms must be submitted by **September 30, 2025**, per the instructions in the memo.

Resource Materials and Technology Center for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing (RMTC-DHH): Foundations for Literacy

RMTC-DHH is offering a *Working with the Experts (WWE)-DHH: Foundations for Literacy* training from **September 12 to 13, 2025**, in Orlando, with an optional kit-building day on **September 11, 2025**. Foundations for Literacy is an [evidence-based literacy intervention](#) designed specifically for early intervention and primary-aged elementary children who are DHH. Each lesson includes strategies for differentiating instruction, grounded in the science of reading. This training is limited to two participants per district. Visit the [WWE-DHH: Foundations for Literacy](#) web page for more information and to register, and to view the [agenda](#). For questions, contact Gwen Black at Gwen.Black@fldoe.org or Carmelina Hollingsworth at c.hollingsworth@rmtcdhh.org.

RMTC-DHH 2025-26 Tea with the Teachers

Tea with the Teachers is a virtual collaborative learning community designed for district teachers of the DHH and other educators supporting students who are DHH in Florida schools. In this facilitated conversation, participants will have the opportunity to propose and discuss topics related to the education of students who are DHH by adding them to the [Tea with the Teachers Collaborative Notes Document](#) throughout the year. Dates of the sessions are as follows: **September 17 and November 12, 2025**; and **January 21, April 1 and May 6, 2026**. Visit the [RMTC-DHH Tea with the Teachers](#) web page for more information and to register. For questions, contact Gwen Black at Gwen.Black@fldoe.org or Carmelina Hollingsworth at c.hollingsworth@rmtcdhh.org.

RMTC-DHH 2025-26 Coffee with the Contacts

Join RMTC-DHH for *Coffee with the Contacts*, a virtual conversation for district contacts for students who are DHH. Participants are encouraged to add questions and discussion topics throughout the year on the [Coffee with the Contacts Collaborative Notes Document](#). Dates of the sessions are as follows: **September 3 and December 3, 2025**; and **February 4 and April 8, 2026**. Visit the [RMTC-DHH Coffee with the Contacts](#) web page for more information and to register. For questions, contact Gwen Black at Gwen.Black@fldoe.org or Carmelina Hollingsworth at c.hollingsworth@rmtcdhh.org.

2025 Fall Regional Prekindergarten (Pre-K) Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Teacher Professional Learning

The Technical Assistance and Training System (TATS), an IDEA-funded state project, is hosting the *2025 Part B, 619 Pre-K ESE Teacher Professional Learning* focusing on Improving Child Outcomes. The target audience for these trainings are ESE Pre-K teachers. Dates and locations of the trainings are listed below:

- **October 3, 2025**, in Orange County
- **November 7, 2025**, in Leon County
- **November 14, 2025**, in Miami-Dade County

Visit the [2025 Fall Regional Pre-K ESE Teacher Professional Learning](#) registration page to register for the trainings. Contact your [TATS Regional Facilitator](#) for any questions.

Events Coming Soon

Learning Ally Launch Sessions

Join Learning Ally for the *FL: How I can use Learning Ally in my district, school or classroom?* virtual sessions. Visit the following web pages to register for your preferred date:

- [August 26, 2025](#)
- [September 3, 2025](#)
- [September 8, 2025](#)

For questions, contact Dr. Martaluz Pozo at mpozo@learningally.org.

Informational Items

2025 Disability History and Awareness Weeks

Signed into law in 2008, [section 1003.4205, Florida Statutes](#), Disability History and Awareness Instruction, requires Florida school districts, to designate the first two weeks of October as “Disability History and Awareness Weeks.” The 2025 Florida Legislature passed, and Governor DeSantis signed into law on May 20, 2025, [House Bil \(HB\) 447](#). HB 447 became effective on July 1, 2025, and provides a list of topics by grade for districts planning to participate in disability history and awareness instruction. During these two weeks, schools can provide intensive instruction to students to expand their overall knowledge, understanding and awareness of individuals with disabilities; the history of disability; and the disability rights movement.

With less than two months until the start of Disability History and Awareness Weeks, BEESS is asking districts to begin identifying any events or learning opportunities planned for the first two weeks of October and submitting ideas for planned events to DOEBEESS@fldoe.org. **Be sure to include specifics such as event details and dates, if possible.**

School districts seeking technical assistance in developing instruction and information to fulfill the requirements in HB 447 may contact Jennifer Coburn, senior educational program director, at Jennifer.Coburn@fldoe.org.

Amended State Board of Education Rule Regarding ESE Eligibility and Assessments for Students Who Have Dual Sensory Impairments

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding revisions to [Rule 6A-6.03022, F.A.C.](#) See the memo for more information.

Threat Management — Changes to Rules 6A-1.0019 and 6A-1.0955, F.A.C.

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding changes to [Rules 6A-1.0019 and 6A-1.0955, F.A.C.](#) See the memo for more information.

2024-25 School Year Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Program Accountability

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding [VPK program accountability](#). See the memo for more information.

Student Mental Health Assistance Program Evaluation

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding [House Bill \(HB\) 969](#). See the memo for more information.

Program Assessment Requirements for the VPK Education Program

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding an amendment to [Rule 6M-8.621, F.A.C.](#) See the memo for more information.

9/11 Heroes' Day 2025

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding [9/11 Heroes' Day](#). See the memo for more information.

American Founders' Month/Celebrate Freedom Week 2025

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding [American Founders' Month](#). See the memo for more information.

School District Actions as a Result of Legislation Enacted in 2025

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding [school district actions as a result of legislation enacted in 2025](#). See the memo for more information.

Special Ed Connection®

BEESS provides all local educational agencies with access to Special Ed Connection® at www.specialedconnection.com at no cost. Special Ed Connection® is your one-stop-shop for:

- Best practices to meet legal and regulatory mandates;
- Helping you tackle everyday compliance issues;
- Ready-to-use charts, checklists and professional development tools to guide and train staff;
- Case-based insights to help staff avoid missteps that lead to litigation; and
- Insights from special education, Section 504 and response-to-intervention experts.

If you need your login information or would like to schedule a webinar for your staff contact the Special Ed Connection® Help Desk/Training Team at specialedconnection@lrp.com

New BEESS Team Members

Hope Florida Unit

BEESS is pleased to welcome Ms. Devynn Allen to the Hope Florida unit as a Hope Navigator. Ms. Allen has years of experience in both education and state government. She began her career as a paraprofessional in Wakulla County and later transitioned into public service as a State of Florida employee, holding various roles including administrative secretary, government operations consultant, and a regulatory specialist. Each of these roles has sharpened Ms. Allen's organizational, analytical and people-first skills, while deepening new passion for community impact.

When she is not working, Ms. Allen will likely be found reading a good book, deep in a true crime documentary or recharging with a well-earned nap. She is driven by curiosity, guided by connection and grounded in the importance of living a well-rounded life. Ms. Allen is looking forward to working with BEESS in her new capacity and helping families across the state.

Tip of the Week

Send an Updated Individual Educational Plan (IEP) Notice When Participants Change

If an IEP team leader sends out an IEP meeting notice but another staff member suddenly becomes available and plans to attend, the leader should send the parents a revised notice. Doing so will help prevent surprise and maintain parent trust. ([Special Ed Connection®](#))

Patricia Bodiford
Bureau Chief