



Weekly Memo



Rule Activity

Notice of Proposed Rule

This rule revision is scheduled for the State Board of Education meeting on **September 24, 2025**. To view the following proposed rule 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

Notices of Rule Development

To view the drafts, if available, and submit comments for the following rules, go to the FDOE [State Board Rules Under Review](#):

- Rule [6A-4.004](#), F.A.C., Florida Educator's Certificates with Academic, Administrative, Degreed Career and Technical, and Specialty Class Coverages
- Rule [6A-4.0181](#), F.A.C., Specialization Requirements for Certification in School Counseling (Grades PK-12) - Specialty Class

Action Items

2026 Art in the Capitol Competition

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the [2026 Art in the Capitol Competition](#). Districts must submit the winning piece of art to their legislator by **November 14, 2025**, per the instructions in the memo.

2026 Principal Achievement Award for Outstanding Leadership and the 2026 Outstanding Assistant Principal Achievement Award Nominations

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the [Principal Achievement Award for Outstanding Leadership and the Outstanding Assistant Principal Achievement Award](#). Nomination materials must be submitted by **December 8, 2025**, per the instructions in the memo.

2026 Florida School-Related Employee of the Year Nominations

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the [School-Related Employee of the Year Program](#) nominations. Nomination materials must be submitted by **December 8, 2025**, per the instructions in the memo.

2027 Florida Teacher of the Year Nominations

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the [2027 Florida Teacher of the Year nominations](#). The district nominee's packet must be submitted by **February 9, 2026**, per the instructions in the memo.

Events Coming Soon

2025-26 Statewide Emotional/Behavioral Disabilities (E/BD) Contacts Meetings

The Multiagency Network for Students with Emotional/Behavioral Disabilities (SEDNET) Administration project, in collaboration with local SEDNET projects, is hosting two virtual statewide E/BD contact meetings and two in-person meetings.

The first virtual meeting is on **September 30, 2025**. Use the QR code below to register.



The second virtual meeting is on **January 27, 2026**. Use the QR code below to register.



The in-person meeting dates are **April 9 and 10, 2026**. Additional information will follow. For questions, contact Dr. Charlene Grecsek at cgrecsek@usf.edu.

Publix Super Markets and The ABLE Trust's Virtual Events for Disability Employment Awareness Month

Publix Super Markets and The ABLE Trust have partnered to present virtual career exploration events on **October 2, 7, 14, 16, 21 and 27, 2025**. View the attached file for more information and directions on how to register.

- Filename: DEAM 2025 Flyer

Amendment to Rule 6A-1.09401, F.A.C., Student Performance Standards, for Social Studies Access Points-Alternate Academic Achievement Standards Grades K-12

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding revisions to [Rule 6A-1.09401, F.A.C.](#), and updates regarding the *Access Personal Finance and Money Management* course (#7921023). See the memo for more information.

Rule 6A-6.0331, F.A.C., General Education Intervention Procedures, Evaluation, Determination of Eligibility, Reevaluation and the Provision of ESE Services

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding amendments to [Rule 6A-6.0331, F.A.C.](#) See the memo for more information.

Resiliency Coach Training Program and Volunteer Opportunity

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding [Resiliency Coach Training](#). See the memo for more information.

Florida Instructional Materials Center for the Visually Impaired (FIMC-VI): Tips for Building Stronger Programs for Students with Visual Impairments

There is a tremendous need for teachers in the field of visual impairments. See below for suggestions if your program is looking for additional personnel.

National Recruitment Resources:

- Association for Education & Rehabilitation of the Blind & Visually Impaired Professional Recruitment Website and Videos:
 - [Vision Professions](#)
 - [Visual Impairment Professions Video \(without audio description\)](#)
 - [Visual Impairment Professions Video \(with audio description\)](#)
- Success Beyond Sight (SBS) Resources:
 - [Become a Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments](#)
 - [SBS One-Pager](#)
 - [Teachers of Students with Visual Impairments Messaging Playbook](#)

“Grow Your Own” Programs:

- Teacher Preparation Programs at Florida State University
 - [Blindness and Low Vision Online Program](#)
- Financial Aid Availability Through Other Agencies:
 - [Florida Association for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired](#)
 - [Para to Teacher Tuition Support](#)

If you have any questions or need assistance, reach out to information@fimcvi.org.

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 specialconnection@lrp.com

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.**

If you have any questions, contact Jennifer Coburn, senior educational program director, at Jennifer.Coburn@fldoe.org.

New BEESS Team Members

Hope Florida Unit

BEESS is pleased to welcome Ms. Bobbie Hammond to the Hope Navigator Unit. Ms. Hammond brings extensive experience from both public and charter school settings, where she supported K-12 students as a behavior intervention specialist. She most recently worked at Tallahassee State College as a student support specialist and an academic and career navigator. With a strong background in special education, student advising and career readiness, Ms. Hammond is passionate about helping students and families access the resources and support they need to thrive. Ms. Hammond is looking forward to working with BEESS in her new capacity.

BEESS is also pleased to welcome Ms. Glenda Hance to the Hope Navigator Unit. Ms. Hance has over 25 years of experience in education along with expertise in customer service. She has a passion for helping people find their best path forward when faced with challenges. Currently, Ms. Hance lives in Wakulla County with her husband and mom. Ms. Hance is a passionate and driven person who strives to make the world a better place. She is looking forward to working with BEESS in her new capacity.

Tip of the Week

Use Sensory Supports with Intention

Avoid treating sensory supports as reinforcements or casual tools. Ensure sensory supports are research-based, safe, therapeutic and developed with input from occupational therapists or other sensory experts. ([Special Ed Connection®](#))

Patricia Bodiford
Bureau Chief



Publix Super Markets and The ABLE Trust present virtual events for

Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Scan the QR code to register for an event. Dates and times are listed below.



October 2nd - 9 a.m.
October 7th - 1 p.m.
October 14th - 10 a.m.
October 16th - 1 p.m.
October 21st - 1 p.m.
October 27th - 10 a.m.

