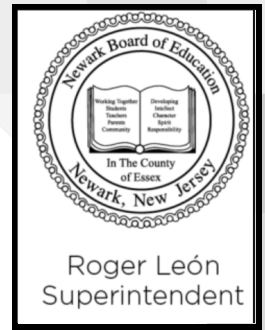


# Newark Board of Education

## Office of Special Education

February 28, 2021

Marilyn Mitchell, Director of Special Education



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## Teacher Talk OSE Updates

### Bi-Weekly Highlights

#### Important DLM PD Information for the Spring Assessment to begin in April

There are two types of mandated DLM PD that teachers must complete in order to administer the DLM Assessments to their students.

#### DLM OSE Mandated PD Session facilitated by Ms. Aida Vasquez on March 9th from 9 am to 12 pm

Teachers who are new to the district and instruct students with DLM in their IEPs must attend this mandatory training. If a new student with DLM in their IEP has transferred into a teacher's class and that teacher has not yet been trained, they will need to attend this PD session. Teachers new to DLM must contact the DLM District Coordinator at [avasquez@nps.k12.nj.us](mailto:avasquez@nps.k12.nj.us) and request a Kite Educator Account.

- This is a mandatory PD per NJDOE which will be held on the March 9th Staff Development Day.
- **Please review the list below to see if you are to attend.** OSE will send an email notification to this group of teachers with the webex link.  
[DLM New Teacher PD Registration](#)

A recording of the session will also be made available to all teachers who instruct students with DLM in their IEPs via the DLM Google Classroom.

**DLM Self-Directed NJDOE Mandated Modules:** Teachers of students who participate in the ELA, Math, and/or Science DLM Year End assessments must complete the self-directed state mandated PD. Test Administrators must view 4 self-directed modules and complete a post-test at the end of each module. A score of 80% or higher must be acquired before being allowed to move on to the next module and post-test. This training is only for teachers who have not yet completed all 4 modules and successfully completed all post-tests.

- [21-22 DLM Kite Educator Portal and PD Guidance Document](#)
- Seasoned teachers who have previous DLM training must still complete the NJDOE mandated self-directed modules every year. Many special education teachers have already completed this training.
- Please reach out to Ms. Vasquez with any concerns.
- OSE will also follow up with each teacher to confirm that they have completed the NJDOE mandated modules.

## March is Social Workers Awareness Month

Social Work Month in March is a time to celebrate the great profession of social work. The theme for Social Work Month 2022 is **The Time is Right for Social Work**. During Social Work Month take time to learn more about the many positive contributions of the profession, and use the items in our toolkit to celebrate all the social workers you know. [Click here for more information.](#)

Please stop by and say hello to your school-based CST Social Worker. Be sure to shout them out for all of the support they provide to students, families and teachers.



## Autism Awareness SAVE the DATE April 5, 2022



**Autism Awareness Kick Off**  
"Building Acceptance and Awareness Through Inclusive Activities & Education"

Keynote Speaker:  
Kim Rivers  
Family Resource Specialist,  
SPAN

Guest Speaker:  
Megan Stuhmann  
Director of Educational Partnerships,  
Rethink Ed

OSE Speaker:  
LaPrice Weatherington  
Transition Coordinator,  
Newark Public Schools

OSE Speaker:  
Nicole Ford  
Supervisor of Related Services,  
Newark Public Schools

Art Music Resources Prizes

Tuesday, April 5th, 2022  
9:30am-11:30pm

<https://www.wvnet.com/news/5.php?MTD=60&e=0e249c155e19e72166d49c5694>

The Office of Special Education is preparing for our Autism Awareness Kickoff on April 5th, 2022. Our schools that support the Autism Program have received the [Save the Date](#) flyer, guidelines for [Art](#) and [Performance](#) Submissions, and a [Planning Document](#). If your school is participating in the Autism Awareness Kickoff, please fill out the Planning Document as soon as possible so the Autism Team can move forward with developing the program.

## Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities Facilitated by OSE

Teachers must be approved by their building principals to attend OSE workshops that occur during the school day.

**March 9th Staff Development** (See list of Staff Development PD Topics to be provided by OSE)

**ReThink Registered Behavior Technician PD:** This PD is for the current paraprofessionals within the Autism and/or ERI Program that are already a part of this year long monthly training. ReThink will provide one PD session with a new topic. Two sessions will be repeat sessions for paras who missed the opportunity between September and January. Paraprofessional participants will receive an email notification directly from the ReThink PD providers.

- Assessing Challenging Behavior to Identify the "Why" at 9 am

- Preference Assessment (make-up PD session) at 10:45 am
- Data Collection: How to see meaningful progress at 1:00 pm

**STAR (Strategies for Teaching based on Autism Research) PD:** There will be two presentations, one for elementary school teachers and one for secondary school teachers. Teachers who are to attend this session are already a part of the yearlong monthly PD and coaching sessions that began in September.

- Discrete Trial and assessments (selected elementary teachers of the Autism Program who were pre-selected as a STAR Autism Model Class) at 9:00 am
- Over for Links Users (selected secondary teachers of the Autism Program who were pre-selected as the STAR Autism Model Class) at 9:00 am

**The UDL Practicum Series** is designed to bridge the gap from knowing to doing, from learning to applying. This PD series will cover the "Six Steps of the UDL lesson design cycle." This practicum series will also engage teachers in reviewing the district's curriculum to learn about planning for all students including the struggling learner. This is the kick off PD for school based teams that were selected by their principals. Selected schools are Chancellor, Cleveland, GWC, Horton and Speedway.

- PD session invites will be sent by the facilitators of WestEd

**Data Driven PLAAFPs, SMART IEP Goals and EdPlan's new user interface PD:** This workshop will provide an overview of a Data Driven PLAAFP and what a SMART IEP Goal should look like. Ms. Megan McCormick from PCG will also provide a demo to show special Education teachers how to use the EdPlan platform. This is the same PD that was previously provided in November, December, January and February to CSTs and special education teachers.

- [Webex Link](#): PD session is at 1:15 pm

### **Child Study Team PD Sessions**

All CSTs are expected to attend either an ELA or Math PD session with teachers during the morning professional development presentations.

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### **Science of Reading Training**

3-3-22 from 8:30am to 3:00pm

This PD session is for selected self-contained special education teachers participating in OSE's K-2 Literacy Initiative. The training will focus on The Science of Reading and teachers will learn how to strengthen their teaching practices during their instruction using the 95 Phonics Core Program.

A Zoom invite will be sent to those pre-selected teachers through District email.

### **OSE Office Hours**

3-15-22

Office Hours are available for both general education and special education teachers. Information on IEP Development will be addressed. A Q&A session will be held during the second half of the meeting.

- [OSE Office Hours Registration](#)

### **Special Education Leadership Institute for New Administrators (Part 3 of 3)**

3-17-22 at 11:30 am

The Office of Special Education is hosting a 3 Part Series of PD sessions for new administrators. Topics include policies for special education, supporting students with an IEP. Sessions will also address legal concerns. Invitations have already been sent out to participants. Reach out to Candice Wells with any questions ([c1wells@nps.k12.nj.us](mailto:c1wells@nps.k12.nj.us))

### **Orton-Gillingham Saturday Training Group 3 PD Session to begin**

March 19, 26 and April 9, 16 and 23, 2022

As teachers of special education students, we know your toolkit for specially designed instruction (SDI) is heavily needed to increase literacy outcomes and prepare students for post-secondary careers. To that end, the Office of Special Education is offering Orton-Gillingham training to special education teachers. The Orton-Gillingham approach is a direct, explicit, multisensory, structured, sequential, diagnostic and prescriptive way to teach literacy when reading, writing and spelling does not come easily to individuals, such as those with dyslexia. OSE will provide participants a stipend for the training. Below are the details for the training.

The response by special education teachers to participate was highly appreciated by teachers. Two groups of PD sessions with approximately 98 special education teachers started on February 5, 2022. The Office of Special Education is anticipating Group 3 to begin training on March 19th.

- Special Education teachers selected will attend a five week PD course occurring on Saturdays (March 19, 26 and April 9, 16 and 23, 2022)
- Special Education Teachers must commit to all five Saturdays from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm
- Teachers will be paid for this training
- PD is capped at 48 participants with 24 virtual seats remaining
- [OG Registration Link](#)

### **STAR Autism Follow Up In-Person Visits**

Visit #4 to High Schools starting February 28th

Visit #5 to Primary Grades starting March 28th

Selected Teachers and Paraprofessionals will receive an email invite from their STAR Autism Consultant. Principals will be copied. Please reach out to Candice Wells [c1wells@nps.k12.nj.us](mailto:c1wells@nps.k12.nj.us) with any questions.

### **Special Education Teacher Academy (S.E.T.A.)**

3/29/22 at 4:00 pm

This workshop is dedicated to the new special education teachers to the district. Topics will cover discussions on working with the paraprofessional and planning instruction.

New Special Education Teachers are currently registered within the S.E.T.A. Google Class and will receive notification regarding the next meeting. If you have new special education teachers joining your school feel free

to send names to Candice Wells ([c1wells@nps.k12.nj.us](mailto:c1wells@nps.k12.nj.us)). She will follow up and send an invite to the special education teacher.

## OSE Staff

OSE Supervisors	OSE Program Specialists
North Ward SLT: Dr. Shirley Fonseca	Autism Program: Susan Marshall
East Central Ward & MD/MDMI Program: Cristina Pennetti	Emotional Regulation Program: Devvon Crawford
South West Ward & Emotional Regulation Impairment Program: Dr. Joe Bresnahan	MD/Multiple Disability Medical Impairment Program & District DLM Coordinator: Aida Vasquez
High School and Specialized Schools/ Transition Program:	Preschool Disabled Program: Amy Woods
Autism Program and Auditory Impairments Program: Katherine Agurto	Transition Program: LaPrice Weatherington
OSE Professional Development: Candice Wells	
Preschool Disabled and OOD CST: Cheryl Myrie	
Related Services & Assistive Technology Initiative: Nicole Ford	