



# Newark Board of Education

## Office of Special Education

September 25, 2023

Marilyn Mitchell, Director of Special Education

### Teacher Talk OSE Updates

#### Monthly Highlights

#### Preparation for Inclusive Schools' Week: December 4-8

Nationally, Inclusive Schools Week is celebrated during the first full week in December. This year, Inclusive Schools Week will take place from December 4 to December 8. The Inclusive Schools Network and Stetson & Associates are two organizations that lead the promotion nationally regarding inclusivity. The theme this year is "Draw Me In". This year, the Office of Special Education is collaborating with the Office of Visual and Performing Arts to engage in inclusive activities in the Arts. The activity will ask schools to consider how they can have all students engage in this year's Inclusive Schools Theme. The Office of Special Education will share information on a monthly basis in order to help schools prepare in getting their student body to be involved. Please see your principal to indicate your interest.

#### Phonics Collaboration with OSE and ELA to Support Special Education Teachers in Grades K to 2nd

Special Education Teachers in self-contained classrooms are receiving phonic kits to support their students with disabilities. Self-contained classrooms may be multi-grade level. See the chart below to determine which kit your special education teacher of multi-grade levels was provided with. Special Education Teachers are to attend professional development with their colleagues. Please reach out to both Candice Wells and Lisa Trobaugh with any questions.

Grade Level	Fundations	SIPPS
K	✓	
1st	✓	
2nd		✓
3rd		✓
K-1	✓	
1-2		✓
2-3		✓

Fundations Materials are being ordered for self-contained classrooms and will be sent directly to your school.

Email notification was sent to principals for any SIPPS material that has already arrived. SIPPS materials for remaining schools are on order.

## Goalbook Toolkit

Goalbook Toolkit supports educators with design of instruction to support diverse learners. This year the recommendation has been for schools to create a 5 person team that consists of the I&RS coordinator, an Academic Interventionist, a General Education, Special Education Teacher and a school administrator. Content available in Goalbook Toolkit is aligned to state standards and research-based frameworks for differentiated instruction including the Universal Design for Learning. Educators can customize thousands of instructional strategies and resources to help all students overcome individual learning barriers. (Goalbook webpage 2021). Selected members of your team will have access to use Goalbook Toolkit to assist with determining supports for students who have been identified via the I&RS process.

Currently, Learning Disability Teacher Consultants (LDTs) have access. All CST Social Workers and psychologists will be trained this year.

The Office of Special Education is collaborating with the Office of Student Life to provide access to Goalbook. Your OSE SLT supervisor will follow up with an email this week so that you can review your current team and register new users. Please contact Candice Wells (OSE) and/or Jessica Silva (OSL) with any questions.

Review the chart below to learn more about what is available within [Goalbook](#). Principals will select their five staff to have access to Goalbook.

<p><b>Standards-Based Design</b> We take each college and career readiness standard and create specific and measurable learning goals aligned to the standard. We presume competence and write the first goal at a grade level expectation.</p>	<p><b>Breadth of Content</b> We take each state and Common Core standard, identify its “Essential” – or “Core Purpose” – and create IEP goals, resources, and strategies. Our repository includes content for Pre-K to Grade 12 in Reading, Writing, Math, and Speech, in addition to Behavior, Social and Emotional Learning, Autism, Occupational Therapy, Alternate Academic and Life Skills, and Transition.</p>	<p><b>Multiple Levels of Support</b> We use strategies and supports aligned to the UDL framework to develop <b>scaffolded instruction at mild, moderate and intense levels of support</b>. Every standard has adapted goals so that teachers can start at the most appropriate level for students.</p>	<p><b>Instructional Strategies</b> Aligned instructional strategies and resources aid teachers as they plan instruction. We place strategies at the fingertips of teachers to <b>maximize access to the standards for every student</b>.</p>
<p><b>Strategies for Moderate/Severe Disabilities</b> Alternate Academic and Life Skills resources help you address five distinct areas of support that prioritize autonomy with functional and academic skills development.</p>	<p><b>Detailed Explanations of Every Strategy</b> Every strategy is aligned to the Universal Design for Learning framework and supplemented with real-world applications and downloadable resources which help you become a more versatile educator in the classroom.</p>	<p><b>Resources for Behavior and Social-Emotional Learning</b> It is critically important at various stages of child development to maintain routines that promote a sense of safety and independence. Our Social and Emotional Learning strategies include resources that support students with behavioral challenges.</p>	<p><b>Become a Master (UDL) Strategist</b> We publish UDL strategies based on practices we see used by master educators. All of our strategies are organized so you can quickly find a strategy based on the subject area, learning barrier, grade level, type of instruction, and instructional setting.</p>

**Office of Special Education  
Professional Development Calendar**  
See additional workshop details below:

# October 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 New CST Training 8:30 am -3:05 pm 321 Insight Para PD Admin Overview 10-11 am or 1-2 pm	3 FBA Training 8:30-12 pm STAR Autism Teacher Training Visit	4 STAR Autism Teacher Training Visit	5 DLM/IE Assessment Training Teacher Training 12:30-2:30 pm STAR Autism Teacher Training Visit	6	7
8	9	10 New CST Training 8:30 am -3:05 pm Gallaudet - Deaf Ed Teacher Training Visit	11 Vizzle Admin Overview 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm Gallaudet - Deaf Ed Teacher Training Visit	12 Intro to Vizzle 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm Gallaudet - Deaf Ed Teacher Training Visit	13 New CST Training 8:30 am -3:05 pm	14
15	16	17 S.E.T.A Chancellor 3:30 pm -5:30 pm	18 STAFF Development Day #3	19 SEPAC meeting 6:00pm-8:00pm	20	21
22 LRE Training 8:30 am -3:05 pm	23 LRE Training 8:30 am -3:05 pm STAR Autism Teacher Training Visit	24 LRE Training 8:30 am -3:05 pm STAR Autism Teacher Training Visit	25 STAR Autism Teacher Training Visit	26 STAR Autism Teacher Training Visit	27 STAR Autism Teacher Training Visit	28
29 New CST training 8:30 am -3:05 pm	30	31	1	2	3	4

## Upcoming 321 Insight PD for Paraprofessionals

The Office of Special Education is excited to announce that paraprofessionals districtwide will be participating in training to enable and empower them to develop the skills needed to be successful in their role. For the 2023-2024 School year, permanent paraprofessionals will receive year-long training and access to the 321 Insight Platform that contains videos and relevant materials. Newly hired per-diem paraprofessionals will be offered (1) virtual training session. Afterschool and Saturday sessions will be offered in October. Permanent paraprofessionals will participate in their second session on Staff Development Day October 18, 2023.

### *321 Insight Administrator Overview*

- Thursday, September 28, 2023
- 10:00 am-11:00 am or 1:00 pm-2:00 pm
- Virtual Link Forthcoming from 321 Insight
  
- Monday, September 28, 2023
- 10:00 am-11:00 am or 1:00 pm-2:00 pm
- Virtual Link Forthcoming from 321 Insight

### *321 Insight Per-Diem Paraprofessional Virtual Training*

- Dates–October 4, 5, 11 and 12, 2023
- Link for registration-<https://forms.gle/4BcanrSrZxtbfsrL6>

### *321 Insight Permanent Paraprofessional In-Person Training*

- Wednesday, October 18, 2023
- 8:30 am-11:30 am or 12:30 pm-2:30 pm
- location–TBD

Contact: Katherine Agurto, OSE Supervisor  
Email: [kagurto@nps.k12.nj.us](mailto:kagurto@nps.k12.nj.us)

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## Upcoming PD for Child Study Team Members

### *DLM Updates*

This session is for CSTs that manage students with DLM in their IEPs. This is a mandatory workshop.

- Monday, September 25, 2023 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
- Email invitation with webinar link will be sent

### *NJDOE FBA Training*

- Friday, September 29, 2023 8:30 am to 12:30 pm
- East Central, South West & OOD Teams Harold Wilson

- Tuesday, October 3, 2023
- North, High School, Specialized & IEC Teams

8:30 am to 12:30 pm  
Harold Wilson

### *CSTs Staff Development Day #3*

- Wednesday, October 18, 2023
- More details to follow

8:30 am to 3:00 pm

### *NJDOE LRE Training*

- Monday, October 23, 2023
- East Central Teams
- South West Teams

Harold Wilson  
8:30 am to 11:30 am  
12:00 pm to 3:00 pm

- Tuesday, October 24, 2023
- North, IEC and OOD
- High School & Specialized Schools

8:30 am to 11:30 am  
12:00 pm to 3:00 pm

### *New CST PD*

New CSTs recently hired for the 2023-2024 school year and select CSTs hired during the 2022-2023 school year will be invited to the New CST Orientation. The dates below are mandatory for the invited New CSTS. New CSTs are to meet at Central Office, Special Education Department, 4th Floor, 765 Broad Street, Newark, NJ.

- Monday, October 2, 2023
- Tuesday, October 10, 2023
- Friday, October 13, 2023
- Monday, October 30, 2023

8:30 am to 3:00 pm  
8:30 am to 3:00 pm  
8:30 am to 3:00 pm  
8:30 am to 3:00 pm

## **Upcoming PD for Teachers**

### **DLM Instructionally Embedded Assessment Office Hours**

The Office of Special Education will offer DLM IE Assessment Office Hours for special education teachers with students who participate in DLM. Teachers will review DLM IE Assessment guidelines, DLM Essential Elements and will have the opportunity to ask questions.

- Thursday, October 19, 2023
- Thursday, October 26, 2023

3:00 pm to 4:00 pm  
3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Contact: Maria Jara, Teacher Coach MD/MDMI

Email: [majara@nps.k12.nj.us](mailto:majara@nps.k12.nj.us)

Cisco Webex Meetings: <https://nboe.webex.com/meet/majara>

### [Introduction to Vizzle \(a supplementary resource fo Au, ID, MD and MD/MI classes\)](#)

The Office of Special Education has obtained the Vizzle supplemental curriculum to support students and teachers in the Autism (AU), Intellectual Disabilities (ID), Multiple Disabilities (MD), and Multiple Disabilities/Medically Involved (MDMI) programs.

There will be an overview session to introduce teachers to the various components of Vizzle. Special Education Teachers who support the Au, ID, MD or MD/MI program will be compensated for attending this PD session.

- Thursday, October 12, 2023 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm
- Registration is forthcoming in SchoolMint

### [SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER ACADEMY](#)

The Special Education Teacher Academy (S.E.T.A.) is open to all special education teachers new to NBOE. Special Education teachers with less than 4 years at NBOE can continue to attend. This session is in-person at Chancellor Elementary. Please register in SchoolMint Grow if you are attending. This session will be dedicated to providing 'access to curriculum'. Please bring a printed copy of an IEP to this workshop.

- Tuesday, October 17, 2023
- Chancellor Elementary School 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm

### [School Testing Coordinator - DLM IE Assessment Training](#)

Turnkey training for School Testing Coordinators to administer DLM IE testing.

- Thursday, October 5, 2023 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Please register via SchoolMint

### [Teacher - DLM IE Assessment Test Administrator Training](#)

Turnkey training of state information for teachers for the administration of DLM IE testing. Teachers should discuss with their building principal and register via SchoolMint Grow.

- Thursday, October 5, 2023 12:30 am to 2:30 am



### [Autism Program Virtual Weekly Office Hours SY 23-24](#)

The Office of Special Education is excited to announce that every Tuesday in September-October 2023, the Autism Team will be providing office hours for staff working with students with autism every Tuesday from 3:00 pm -4:00 pm. This time will be set aside for listening, sharing, and helping each other with questions, queries, or concerns. Please feel free to join us for productive and effective conversations on topics like curriculum, behaviors, and social/emotional support. Please use the link below to access office hours.

- Cisco Webex Link for every Tuesday from 3:00 -4:00 pm.:  
<https://nboe.webex.com/nboe/j.php?MTID=mbe541293999ed063412bf7c4fba8868d>

If you have any questions, please reach out to Katherine Agurto, OSE Autism Supervisor ([kagurto@nps.k12.nj.us](mailto:kagurto@nps.k12.nj.us)) or Jennifer LoConti, Autism Teacher Coach ([jloconti@nps.k12.nj.us](mailto:jloconti@nps.k12.nj.us)).

## AUTISM PROGRAM UPDATES

### STAR Autism Supports



#### **LINKS (Secondary: Grades 6-12th) 2 Day Virtual Workshop 9/30/23:**

This two-day workshop provides participants with information on how to implement evidence-based practices for secondary students using the Links Curriculum (Arick, Hoffman and Magee-Arick, 2012). Participants will learn to use a process for assessing and teaching functional routines that has been documented in the research. Extensive information will be given on selecting and individualizing routines and teaching specific skills to support success during routines. Participants will learn how to use the evidence-based strategies of discrete trial training, use of visual supports and the use of modeling strategies to teach critical skills necessary to support success during daily functional and academic routines. Presenters will identify specific skills to teach using a research-based assessment system and will then demonstrate how to teach these skills using the most appropriate instructional strategy. The Links Curriculum includes extensive data collection systems and participants will learn to collect and use data for instructional decision making, tracking student progress and writing IEP Goals. Video examples and video practice activities will be incorporated into the workshop. An on-line computerized system will be demonstrated with hands-on practice by the participants. **Registration by invitation only.**

- Session 2: Saturday, September 30, 2023 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

#### **In-Class Consultations (In-Person) Scheduled Throughout the Year:**

Direct consultation with teachers, paraprofessionals and related service staff on the implementation of evidence-based practices using the STAR Program and/or Links Curriculum. Consultation can include general classroom implementation of the curriculum as well as individual student planning and progress monitoring. Modeling of fidelity of implementation of lessons and use of positive behavior supports will be provided. Classroom consultation activities focus on active learning including observation, practice and collaboration.

- Visit 1: October 3-5, 2023

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## DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING PROGRAM UPDATES



### Clerc Center Trainer Visit # 1 in October 2023

Gallaudet- Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center Trainer, Ms. Barbara Robinson, will visit our Deaf and Hard of Hearing Programs at Bruce Street School for the Deaf and Technology High School October 10-12. Barbara Robinson will meet with teachers to provide real time feedback and coaching related to agreed upon instructional practices (from 1:1 sessions and/or PLCs). **Focus Area:** Examine language use within school buildings and classrooms, and its impact on students' academic and social development. Please reach out to Katherine Agurto, OSE Supervisor with any questions ([kagurto@nps.k12.nj.us](mailto:kagurto@nps.k12.nj.us)) or Dejanee Martinez, Teacher of the Deaf Coach ([d.mmartinez@nps.k12.nj.us](mailto:d.mmartinez@nps.k12.nj.us)).

- Visit 1: October 10-12, 2023

## TRAINING SERIES for CST and Paraprofessionals in the Autism Programs

### rethinkEd Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) On-Demand

Child Study Team members and paraprofessionals working in Autism Programs can support their students and respective teachers by accessing the on-demand ABA Learning Modules in RethinkEd's lesson library. CST and paraprofessionals can increase their skill set in the area of ABA and learn more about evidence-based support for learners with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Special education teachers that support the Autism Program all currently have access to ReThink.

Case managers and paraprofessionals for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder have 2 Training options:

- Basic Training: Educators can earn a certificate for 8-hours of professional development upon completion of all 11 Basic Training modules.
- Advanced Training: Educators can earn a certificate for each individual training module, amounting to 40-hours of professional development upon completion. This course can also be used to satisfy the RBT Certification coursework requirements.

If you would like access to the ABA On-Demand Training Series or if you have any questions, please reach out to Katherine Agurto, OSE Supervisor ([kagurto@nps.k12.nj.us](mailto:kagurto@nps.k12.nj.us)) or Jennifer LoConti, Autism Teacher Coach ([jloconti@nps.k12.nj.us](mailto:jloconti@nps.k12.nj.us)).

### OSE Staff

OSE Supervisors	OSE Program Specialists
North Ward SLT and ID Program: Dr. Shirley Fonseca	
East Central Ward & MD/MDMI Program: Cristina Pennetti	MD/Multiple Disability Medical Impairment Program & District DLM Coordinator: Maria Jara



South West Ward & Emotional Regulation Impairment Program: Dr. Joe Bresnahan	Emotional Regulation Program: Devvon Crawford and Aaron Brown
High School and Transition: Kear French	Transition Program: LaPrice Weatherington
Autism Program and Auditory Impairments Program: Katherine Agurto	Autism Program: Jennifer LoConti
OSE Professional Development, LDM/S and Resource Programs: Candice Wells	
Preschool Disabled and OOD CST: Cheryl Myrie	Preschool Disabled Program: Amy Woods
Related Services & Assistive Technology Initiative: Nicole Ford	