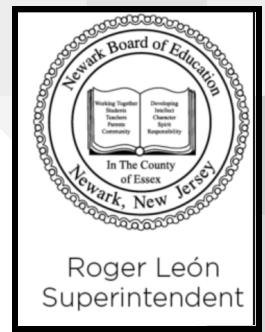


Newark Board of Education

Office of Special Education

February 27, 2023 Marilyn Mitchell,
Director of Special Education



Teacher Talk

Social Worker Month

SOCIAL WORK

BREAKS BARRIERS

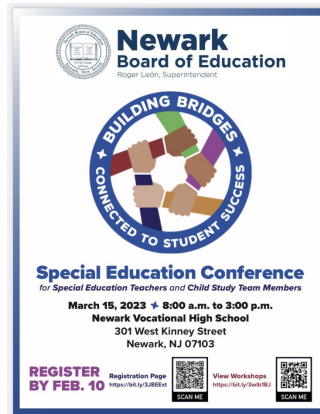
The Office of Special Education will recognize and honor our Child Study Team (CST) Social Workers for National Social Work Month on March 7, 2023 from 8:30am to 12:30pm at the Dr. Marion Bolden Center. The CST Social Workers will also participate in professional development to enhance their skills to continue supporting students with disabilities and their families.



The Office of Special Education is excited to announce our first annual Special Education Conference on March 15, 2023 at Newark Vocational High School for Special Education Teachers and Child Study Team Members. Our theme for this year is **"Building Bridges: Connected to Student Success"**.

Various sessions will provide special education teachers and child study team members an opportunity to discover the latest research, strategies, trends and resources to support their students with disabilities. Having this conference is important as we return to normal and continue our commitment to strengthening our special education teachers through in-district training and collaborative partnerships. The Newark Board of Education's goal is to meet the needs of all students and celebrate the unique qualities that they bring to the community to make our schools' exceptional.

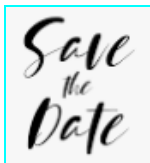
Title:	Building Bridges: Connected to Student Success
Date:	March 15, 2023 (Staff Development Day)
Location:	Newark Vocational High School
Time:	8:00am-3:05pm



[Conference Catalog–OSE Special Education Conference 2023](#)

All Special Education Teachers and Child Study Team Members are required to attend.

DIVERSE ABILITIES AWARENESS



The Office of Special Education (OSE) is pleased to announce that our **5th Annual Autism Acceptance Kickoff** date will be on April 4, 2023. The goal of Autism Acceptance Month is for our district staff, students and families, to be more inclusive of our Autism community and to increase understanding and acceptance of children and adults who have Autism. This year's theme will be **“Make It Personal, Autism Acceptance.”** OSE will be supporting our district teachers with resources to have their learners engage in inclusive activities and increase awareness, education and compassion for their peers with Autism.

Autism NJ has free resources and materials to support us in promoting Autism Acceptance. These resources are open to anyone who wants to make a difference in their neighborhood, workplace, school, or community! CST, Teachers, Lead Teachers, and Coaches click for free resources. [Autism Acceptance Free Resources Request Form](#)

MEETINGS and/or PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Child Study Team PD Sessions

This year, all OSE PD workshops and monthly meetings for the Child Study Team can be found in SchoolMint Grow and Teacher Talks. Child Study Team members are to self-register for select OSE CST workshops and/or monthly meetings within SchoolMint Grow. CSTs should review the workshop description to determine which OSE workshops to attend.

DLM and EE Workshop Series Part 3

PD Session will be held virtually. CSTs who support students with DLM in their IEPs are to attend this mandatory workshop.

- Monday, February 27, 2023 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Social Worker Month

Supporting Students and Families

- Tuesday, March 7, 2023 8:30 am to 12:30 pm
- Marion Bolden Center

Self-Contained Autism CST Workshop (2nd offering)

PD Session will be held virtually. See webex link in SchoolMint.

- Thursday, March 9, 2023 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT for TEACHERS

General Education Teachers Supporting Exceptional Learners

The Office of Special will have four workshops to enhance the knowledge and understanding of general education teachers who instruct students with disabilities in their classes. These workshops are designed to provide general education teachers the foundational knowledge of Special Education Laws, IEPs, Co-Teaching, and incorporating UDL principles for diverse learners and their contributions to PLAAFP writing and IEP Goal development. Priority seating will first be given to general education teachers and Special Education Resource Teachers. Teachers of self-contained classes should not register for these Professional Development sessions.

Workshop details are included in this [flyer](#). Please register using this [Link](#). Teachers selected will receive an email confirmation one week prior to the workshop date. Teachers will be compensated at the NTU rate. If you have questions, contact c1wells@nps.k12.nj.us.

Writing PLAAFPs and IEP Goals (General Education Teachers only)

- Saturday, March 4th 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

My Student has an IEP, now what? Special Education Law/Policy and Reading an IEP (General

Education or Resource Teachers)

- Saturday, March 11th 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Practical Co-Teaching Strategies: Increasing Students' Success in Today's Inclusive Classroom (General Education or Resource Teachers)

- Saturday, March 18th 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Improving Learning Outcomes for Students with Special Needs (General Education Teachers only)

- Saturday, April 1st 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Preschool Students With Disabilities (PSD) - Teaching Matters

Workshop 3: At A Glance IEPs and Goal Writing

- Friday, March 24th at the Marion Bolden Student Center.
- Session 1 from 8:30 am to 11:30 am and Session 2 from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm

The Office of Special Education is offering this session in the morning and afternoon to allow principals coverage for their teachers. Teachers need only attend one session. Teachers should collaborate with their building administrator to determine which session they will be attending, then register in Whetstone/ School Mint. See future editions of Principal Points for more information on upcoming workshops in this series.

Special Education Teacher Academy (S.E.T.A.): Planning for Successful Specially Designed Instruction

This workshop will provide an opportunity for special education teachers to choose their learning activity and to engage in small group learning stations. Choices includes 1) Writing a PLAAFP and IEP Goal, 2) Creating Visuals and 3) Taking a Look at Specially Designing a lesson plan. Teachers should bring one IEP and a printed copy of their lesson plan.

- Tuesday, February 28th 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm
- In-Person at Harold Wilson Media Center Light Refreshments will be provided

This workshop will be dedicated to strategies for classroom management, behavior redirection and individualized behavior support.

- Tuesday, March 28th 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm
- Virtual

TRAINING SERIES for CST and Paraprofessionals in the Autism Programs

rethinkEd Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) On-Demand

Child Study Team members and paraprofessionals who work in the 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).

rethinkEd OSE REGISTERED BEHAVIOR TECHNICIAN® (RBT®)

Cohort 1 and Cohort 2 Paraprofessionals can register for the November RBT Virtual sessions on SchoolMint Grow under, NBOE & RethinkEd Paraprofessional RBT Training - Highly Qualified ABA Specialist 2022-2023 Series. The RethinkEd Consultant will schedule the Monthly Applied Practice Coaching Onsite Support at the paraprofessionals' respective building.

Incidental Teaching, DTT, & MOs: Complete Training Modules: 10A-11A

- PLC Topic 10: Tuesday, March 7th, 2023 3:30 pm to 4:45 pm

Social Skills & Self Advocacy: Complete Training Modules: 9F, 9G

- PLC Topic 11: Tuesday, March 21st, 2023 3:30 pm to 4:45 pm

Zoom Link Information is available on SchoolMint Grow. Please reach out to Katherine Agurto, OSE Supervisor, with any questions (kagurto@nps.k12.nj.us).

Additional Resources for IEP Development

Manuals for using the EdPlan Interface are available within the EdPlan Dashboard. See manuals for PLAAFPs and Goals, plus Creating Your Own Bank of Goals.

[EdPlan Connect for Parents](#) (Share with parents to demo how to access IEPs remotely from EdPlan)

[Writing PLAAFPs and IEP Goals slide deck](#)
[8-25 and 8-26 2022 Writing Data Driven PLAAFPs](#)
[PLAAFP Rubric \(adapted from Carol Kosnitsky\)](#)
[IEP Goal Writing Hints](#)
[EdPlan New User Interface \(PLAAFP and IEP Goals\)](#)
[EdPlan Creating Your Own Goalbank](#)

OSE Staff

OSE Supervisors	OSE Program Specialists
North Ward SLT & ID Program Dr. Shirley Fonseca	Autism Program: Jennifer LoConti
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 & DLM Coordinator: Maria Jara
High School and Specialized Schools/ Transition Program: Kear French	Preschool Disabled Program: Amy Woods
Autism Program and Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program: Katherine Agurto	High School Transition Program: LaPrice Weatherington
Initial Evaluation Center: Adriana DeGiovanni	
OSE Professional Development: Candice Wells	
Preschool Disabled and OOD CST: Cheryl Myrie	
Related Services & Assistive Technology Initiative: Nicole Ford	