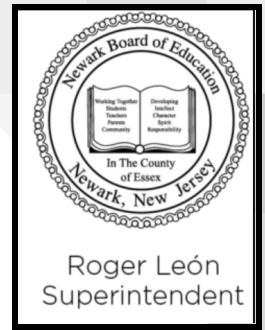


Newark Board of Education Office of Special Education

March 27, 2023 Marilyn Mitchell,
Director of Special Education



Teacher Talk AUTISM ACCEPTANCE 2023



The Office of Special Education (OSE) is pleased to announce that our **5th Annual Autism Acceptance Kickoff** date will be on April 3, 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! Principals please share with your CST, Teachers, Lead Teachers, and Coaches in your building.

[2023 OSE Autism Acceptance Flyer with QR Code](#)

- [Autism Acceptance Free Resources Request Form](#)
- <https://www.autismnjambassador.org/resources-1>
- [Autism Acceptance Teacher Resources Folder](#)

Office of Special Education Autism Acceptance Calendars & Activities

- [OSE 2023 Autism Calendar of Events & Activities for Students & Families](#)
- [OSE 2023 Autism Acceptance Special Education Teacher Virtual Office Hours](#)
- [OSE 2023 Autism Acceptance Virtual Parent Workshops](#)

NBOE SPECIAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE 2023



The First Annual Special Education Conference, “Building Bridges: Connected to Student Success”, was held on March 15th. Over 750 participants from schools across Newark and charter schools attended 96 sessions led by 43 presenters. The conference was an enormous success and the culmination of months of collaboration and teamwork. Special thanks to Principal DeSantis, whose team at Newark Vocational hosted the conference, as well as Principal Ramkissoon and Principal Summers-Phillips, who sent 20 Student Ambassadors from NJ Regional Day and John F. Kennedy Specialized Schools to assist with the event. Additional thanks goes to the 28 paraprofessionals who were an essential part of the coordination team for the conference events. To see highlights from the conference, please take a few minutes to view the [Annual Special Education Conference Slideshow](#).

DLM Assessment Teacher Training

All teachers who will administer the DLM Assessment to their students must attend an annual PD by NBOE and NJDOE. Please see the resource below from the 3-3-23 Teacher DLM Presentation.

- [Recording of 3/2/23 Test Administrator Training](#) Password: Aijm2m8s
- [Presentation Slide Deck](#)

The Office of Special Education will offer DLM Assessment Office Hours for teachers of special education. Office hours will take place the following Thursdays: 3/30/23, 4/6/23 and 4/20/23 from 3:00 - 4:00 pm. Teachers will review NJ DLM Assessment guidelines, DLM Essential Elements and have the opportunity to ask questions. [Webex Link](#)

Contact: Maria Jara, Office of Special Education

Email: majara@nps.k12.nj.us

EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR

Extended school Year Job Posting are now available on the NPS Internal Postings page. Interested teacher applicants should apply under the [Summer - Instructional](#) postings and select JobID 1284. Interested paraprofessionals should apply under [Summer - Non-Instructional](#) postings under JobID 1287.

For detailed visual instructions on applying for ESY positions, see the following links:

- [Summer ESY Teacher Position Applicants - Step-by-Step](#)
 - [Summer ESY Paraprofessional Applicants - Step-by-Step](#)
-

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 as well Principal Points 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.

CST LDTC Discipline Specific PD

Limited Verbal Assessments and Functional Assessments

- April 3, 2023 8:30 AM TO 12:00 PM
- In-person: location TBD

CST Psychologist Discipline Specific PD

Limited Verbal Assessments and Functional Assessments

- April 19, 2023 8:30 AM TO 12:30 PM
- In-person: location TBD

CST Speech Language Specialists Discipline Specific PD

SLS check-in, needs assessment and planning for 2023-2024 school year

- April 28, 2023 8:30 AM TO 12:30 PM
- In-person: Marion Bolden

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT for TEACHERS

General Education Teachers Supporting Exceptional Learners

The Office of Special is presenting the last of 4 workshops to enhance the knowledge and understanding of general education teachers who instruct students with disabilities in their classes. These workshops were 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. As in previous sessions, priority seating will be given to general education teachers and Special Education Resource Teachers. Teachers of self-contained classes should not register for this Professional Development session.

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.

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 4: Data-Driven Small Group Instruction

- Thursday, April 6th at the Marion Bolden Student Center
- Session 1 from 8:30 am to 11:30 am

Session 2 from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm

The Office of Special Education is offering these sessions 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.

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 include 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, March 28th 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm
- In-Person at Harold Wilson Media Center
190 Mohammed Ali Rd, Newark NJ



Star Autism Supports Consultant April and May 2023

The Star Autism Supports Consultants will be returning to our district schools with Autism Programs in April for Visit 4 and May for Visit 5 at our 2 model classrooms in each school. They will provide Cohort 1 and Cohort 2 teachers with coaching and feedback in their implementation of the STAR or LINKS Curriculum. This includes support with the use of the lesson plans, teaching materials, data systems and a curriculum-based assessment for teaching in the six curricular areas of receptive language, expressive language, spontaneous language, functional routines, academics, and play & social skills.

Star Autism Supports Site Visit 4 April 2023 Dates:

- Monday, April 3, 2023
- Tuesday, April 4, 2023
- Wednesday, April 5, 2023
- Thursday, April 6, 2023

More information regarding the site visit schedule is forthcoming. Please reach out to Katherine Agurto, OSE Supervisor with any questions (kagurto@nps.k12.nj.us).

rethink Ed 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.

Sustainability of Practices: Complete Training Modules: 24F-24I

- PLC Topic 12: Tuesday, April 25th, 2023 3:30 pm to 4:45 pm
- Monthly Applied Practice Coaching & Onsite support scheduled by building

Zoom Link Information is available on SchoolMint Grow. RethinkEd Consultants will be providing makeups for certain sessions to support paraprofessionals with completion of all PLC Topics for the RBT Training. More information is forthcoming. 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 & Aaron Brown

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	