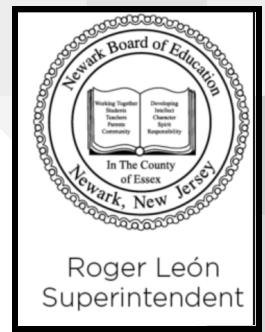


Newark Board of Education Office of Special Education

May 1, 2023 Marilyn Mitchell,
Director of Special Education



Teacher Talk

BETTER SPEECH and HEARING Month

May is *Better Hearing and Speech Month*. Communication disorders—which include speech, language, and hearing difficulties—are among the most common disorders that school-aged children experience. Left unaddressed, they can significantly affect a child’s academic success. You can learn more about communication disorders, and how speech-language pathologists help, here: www.asha.org/public/speech/development/speech-and-language-services-in-schools/.

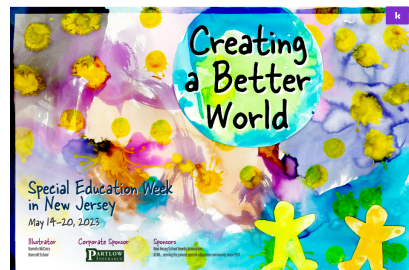
NBOE SLSS and Audiologists will be celebrated during the May 15, 2023 Professional Development from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm at Marion Bolden Center (see below for workshop details)

SPECIAL EDUCATION WEEK May 14-20, 2023



May is a time to shine a spotlight on all of the fantastic activities in your school buildings. Governor Murphy encourages districts across New Jersey to recognize the exemplary programs and services for students with special needs provided by public school districts and private special education schools in New Jersey. Be sure to “shout out” and “shine out” your special education paraprofessionals and support staff for their dedication in supporting students with a disability! Here’s a poster provided by the New

Jersey School Boards Association ([Celebrating a Better World](#)).



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.

New CST Professional Development

A year in review

- Wednesday, May 10, 2023 8:30 AM TO 12:30 PM
- In-person: Marion Bolden Center

CST Monthly Meeting

IEP Audit Updates and Preparing for ESY

- Tuesday, May 16, 2023
- Virtual (Links forthcoming)
 - 8:30 am to 11:30 am North Ward, High School & Specialized Schools
 - 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm South West, East Central & IEC Team

CST Speech Language Specialists Discipline Specific PD

Better Speech & Hearing Month

- Monday, May 15th 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm
- In-person: Marion Bolden

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT for TEACHERS

Preschool Students With Disabilities (PSD) - Teaching Matters

Workshop 5: Monitoring Progress to Goals

- Friday, May 12th at the Dr. 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.



Clerc Center Trainer May 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 on May 30 and 31. Ms. Robinson will continue our discussion from the Special Education Conference and the program redesign for both schools. She will observe select Deaf Education classrooms to focus on language separation and planning. A subsequent meeting will occur with OSE Leadership, to plan for the 2023-2024 SY. Please reach out to Katherine Agurto, OSE Supervisor with any questions (kagurto@nps.k12.nj.us).



Star Autism Supports Consultant May 2023

The Star Autism Supports Consultants are returning in May for Visit 5 at our model classrooms. Cohort 1 and Cohort 2 teachers will receive coaching and feedback in their implementation of the STAR or LINKS Curriculum. Supports include 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 5 May 2023 Dates:

- Monday, May 1, 2023
- Tuesday, May 2, 2023
- Wednesday, May 3, 2023
- Thursday, May 4, 2023
- Friday, May 5, 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).

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).

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.

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).

OSE Office Hours

Learning Ally

Using Learning Ally to Support Students Accessing Literacy

Learning Ally strives to support your developing readers to succeed academically and develop a love of reading and stories! Learning Ally is starting a **weekly drop in Office Hours, only for Newark Educators, every Tuesday starting April 25th from 3:15 – 4:00 PM EST**. If you have questions, would like a quick tutorial or are just starting out, please hop on the Zoom call and you will be able to get started with our Audiobook Solution right away!

If you are new to using Learning Ally or need a refresher, please consider joining this Office Hour hosted by Learning Ally. Learn how to get started in 15 minutes or less?

Hop on the Learning Ally Zoom meeting when you can, jump off when you're all set. It's optional and open to any Newark Educator who wants to learn more.

Tuesdays in May from 3:15 am to 4:15 pm

- **Join Zoom Meeting**
- **Meeting ID: 929 8850 5513**
- **Passcode: 941479**
- [Learning Ally Zoom Webinar link](#)

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	