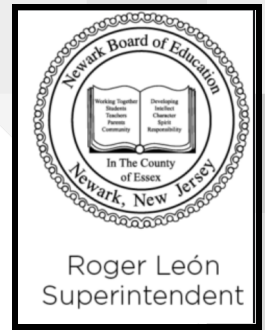


Newark Board of Education

Office of Special Education

September 12, 2022

Marilyn Mitchell, Director of Special Education



Teacher Talk OSE Updates

PARAPROFESSIONAL UPDATES



Vector Professional Development for Paraprofessionals

On August 29th, OSE unrolled a new professional development initiative for paraprofessionals supporting special education students. Phase 1 of the initiative involved training all permanent paraprofessionals in three PD modules: *Roles and Responsibilities*, *Behavior Management Basics*, and *Strategies for Small Groups*. Moving forward, Phase 2 will involve training all per diem paraprofessionals in the three PD modules listed above, and Phase 3 will deliver additional targeted training according to paraprofessionals by program. At this time, OSE is working with school principals to register all permanent paraprofessionals. Follow up information will be sent by email to principals.

AUTISM PROGRAM UPDATES

STAR Autism Supports



On behalf of the Office of Special Education, we want to welcome you back for our 2022-2023 school year. In order for us to best support our students on the Autism Spectrum with evidence based practices, we will continue our partnership with Star Autism. The Star trainers will be continuing to work in our district schools with Autism Programs. OSE will have 2 model classrooms in each school with an autism program. Cohort 1 Teachers from 2021-2022 will continue and Cohort 2 Teacher will begin for the 2022-2023 SY. Autism teachers will receive training, materials, monthly coaching and feedback from Star Consultants. The STAR Program includes detailed 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. Our goal is to increase the number of teachers annually so we can begin to use common language, resources and data when discussing the indicators and characteristics of an autism program.

Autism Program PD Sessions

Cohort 2 Autism Teachers Virtual STAR & Links Overview Workshops (2 separate trainings for new users)

STAR Overview Workshop, Select Autism Teachers in Grades PSD-A/Prek-5th Grade

This workshop provides participants with detailed examples and practice activities on how to implement the evidence-based practices identified in the National Standards Report (2009). The STAR Program (Arick, Loos, Falco and Krug, 2015), a research-based curriculum is used to provide examples. Appropriate content connected to the common core curriculum is presented and detailed information on the three evidenced-based instructional methods of discrete trial training, pivotal response training and teaching through functional routines are shared. Participants will learn how to implement these strategies through structured lesson plans and a curriculum scope and sequence. The workshop will include extensive data collection systems and participants will learn to collect and use data for instructional decision making. Workshop topics will include the use of a powerpoint lecture, video examples, presenter demonstration and participant "hands-on" practice. Registration by invitation only.

- Session 1: Saturday, September 17, 2022 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Links Overview Workshop, Select Autism Teachers in Grades 6-12

This one-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. 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 17, 2022 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Cohort 1 Autism Teachers In-Person STAR & Links Consistency Workshops (2 separate trainings for existing users)

STAR Consistency Workshop, Select Autism Teachers in Grades PSD-A/Prek to Grade 5

This one-day workshop provides participants a review of how to implement the evidence-based instructional strategies identified by the National Standards Project (2009) using the curriculum content and lesson plans from the research-based STAR Program. The focus of the workshop is on fidelity of implementation of the evidence-based practices and use of data collection for instructional decision making. The workshop will engage participants in hands-on practice activities to become fluent in the instructional strategies of discrete trial training, pivotal response training and teaching functional routines as described in the STAR Program. Participants will also be provided with detailed handouts to assist them to obtain fidelity of implementation in their school programs. Participants at this workshop should have attended the two or three day STAR comprehensive workshop or be very familiar with the implementation of the strategies included in the STAR Program. Registration by invitation only.

- Session 1: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 8:45 am to 2:45pm

Links Consistency Workshop, Select Autism Teachers in Grades 6-12

This one-day workshop provides participants a review of how to implement the evidence-based instructional strategies identified by the National Standards Project using the curriculum content and lesson plans from the Links Curriculum. The focus of the workshop is on fidelity of implementation of the evidence-based practices and use of data collection for instructional decision making. The workshop will engage participants in hands-on practice activities to become fluent in the instructional strategies of discrete trial training and teaching functional routines as described in the Links Curriculum. Participants will also be provided with detailed handouts to assist them to obtain fidelity of implementation in their school programs. Participants at this workshop should have attended the two or three day Links comprehensive workshop or be very familiar with the implementation of the strategies included in the Links Curriculum. Registration by invitation only.

- Session 2: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 8:45 am to 2:45pm

Assessment Updates

Students with a Disability Participation in District and/or State Assessments

Students with an IEP are not exempt from participation in a district and/or state assessment. In a few cases, a student's IEP may indicate participation in an alternate assessment such as the Dynamic Learning Map. Please look out for the upcoming DLM PD for special education teachers to be facilitated by OPPET on October 3rd. OPPET and OSE collaborate to support special education teachers regarding the implementation of the DLM assessment.

District Benchmark Assessment Reminders

- Grades 1st and 2nd: All students with IEPs in grades first and second participate in the district's MAP assessment. The accessibility features available within the MAP assessment for grades first and second can be used as accommodations (if indicated in the IEP). See your building's School Test Coordinator for more information.
- Grades 3rd to 9th and 11th grade: Students whose IEPs reference Essential Elements or Dynamic Learning Map for grades 3rd to 8th and 11th grade should participate in the DLM IE Fall Assessment as their benchmark assessment. Students whose IEPs reference NJSLs should participate in the Strong Assessment and the district's MAP assessment.

NJDOE provides guidance as to which students may sit for the alternate assessment (DLM). Annually, the IEP team reviews the [NJDOE DLM Participation Criteria Guidance](#) document to determine student eligibility. Eligibility is not automatic each year and is not specific to a special education program placement.

If you have any questions about testing please reach out to your School Testing Coordinator.

SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER ACADEMY (S.E.T.A.)

The Office of Special Education is excited to host for the fourth year, the Special Education Teacher Academy. Special Education Teachers new to the district are highly encouraged to attend these monthly workshops/meetings to learn about supports for their professional growth. Special education teachers can register within the S.E.T.A. Google Class and be in receipt of upcoming information. The first S.E.T.A. workshop will be held on September 20th at 4 pm. Feel free to reach out to Candice Wells, OSE Supervisor for more information (c1wells@nps.k12.nj.us)

- Click the link below to join the S.E.T.A. Google Class
<https://classroom.google.com/c/MzgwODc3Nzc5NTIa?cjc=xszsisp>

CHILD STUDY TEAM UPDATES

This year, all OSE PD workshops and monthly meetings for the Child Study Team can be found in SchoolMint Grow as well as the bi-weekly 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.

IEC meeting

In this interactive training, educators will learn how to use Goalbook Toolkit to identify a student's present level of academic and behavioral performance or gather baseline data for a student, develop scaffolded learning goals, and identify UDL-based strategies to use in instruction. The session will focus on supporting educators to select appropriate goals for their students based on identified areas of need in student data. Teachers will begin by using model student examples and will then modify and adapt instruction for their specific students. (IEC Team Members Only)

- Monday, September 19, 2022 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Essential Elements and the IEP Part 1

This workshop is for CSTs who manage students with EE and DLM within their IEPs. Students with DLM in their IEPs will participate in the DLM IE Fall Assessment as their benchmark assessment. The NJDOE DLM Participation Criteria Guideline will be reviewed. The window for DLM is October to December, 2022. In this session, CSTs will review the DLM data pull. OPPET will host a DLM PD for special education teachers in October.

- Friday, September 30, 2022 1:00 pm to 2:45 pm

OSE Office Hours: EdPlan Features to facilitate the work of a CST

Office Hours are open to all CSTs for the following three dates below. New CSTs do not need to attend these sessions as this will be presented during the New CST Workshops.

- Wednesday, September 21, 2022 10:00 am to 11:00 am
- Wednesday, September 28, 2022 10:00 am to 11:00 am

- Wednesday, October 5, 2022

10:00 am to 11:00 am

NEW CST Workshops

New CSTs to NBOE will meet with OSE supervisors on Wednesday, Thursday and Fridays at the central office. CSTs will join their school based teams on Monday and Tuesday. The New CST workshops are in person at 765 Broad Street.

- Session 2: Wednesday, September 14, 2022 8:30 am to 3:00 pm
- Session 3: Thursday, September 15, 2022 8:30 am to 3:00 pm
- Session 4: Friday, September 16, 2022 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

OSE Staff

OSE Supervisors	OSE Program Specialists
North Ward SLT: Dr. Shirley Fonseca	Autism Program: Vacancy
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: Maria Jara
High School and Specialized Schools/ Transition Program:	Preschool Disabled Program: Amy Woods
Autism Program and Auditory Impairments Program: Katherine Agurto	Transition Program: LaPrice Weatherington
Initial Evaluation Center: Adrianna DeGiovanni	
OSE Professional Development: Candice Wells	
Preschool Disabled and OOD CST: Cheryl Myrie	
Related Services & Assistive Technology Initiative: Nicole Ford	