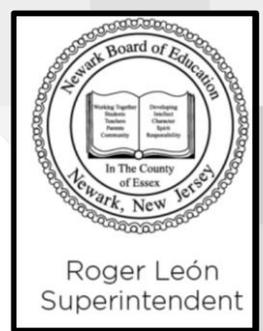


# Newark Board of Education

## Office of Special Education

October 25., 2021

Marilyn Mitchell, Director of Special Education



## Teacher Talk OSE Updates

### Bi-Weekly Highlights

#### **Celebrating Diverse Abilities During the Month of November**

During the week of November 8-12, 2021 schools throughout the United States will celebrate [National School Psychology Week \(NSPW\)](#) to highlight the important work school psychologists and other educators do to help all students thrive. This year's theme is "Let's Get in Gear." The theme's acronym provides a challenge to grow both personally and professionally. It encourages us to engage in best practices and advocate for children's access to mental health and learning supports. To rise implies resilience and renewal despite the challenges of the past. Remember to shout out your School Psychologist.

#### **EasyIEP Updates**

EasyIEP is now known as EdPlan and is managed by the Public Consultant Group Education (PCG Education). Last year, due to COVID19 the Office of Special Education invested in remote access for parents. IEP teams and families continued to meet and hold virtual IEP meetings with the use of EdPlan Connect. This system allows families to access their child's IEP remotely. Parents can receive email notifications and have the ability to sign IEPs with remote access. This year, the Office of Special Education has invested in a few new interfaces that rolled out on October 21, 2021. The new user interface within EdPlan provides a new platform for PLAAFP writing and for the selection of IEP Goals and Objectives. Child Study Team members were trained on October 6th and 8th. PCG will host Office Hours on 10/25 and 11/1 for teachers to learn about the new interface. Registration link is available below within the Professional Learning Section of this newsletter.

Also available this year is the new Translation feature. IEPs can be accessed in Spanish, French, Creole, Portuguese. Keep in mind that the IEP in English remains as the legal version for signatures.

#### **Important DLM Information**

"The Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) assessments are based on the Essential Elements and measure a student's performance on alternate achievement standards. Essential Elements are grade-level-specific expectations related to college-and career-readiness standards for students in the general population. The DLM assessments measure performance on the Essential Elements. Students who participate in the

DLM assessments are not precluded from participating in the menu of options available to meet the state assessment requirement for graduation .”(NJDOE 2021-2022 guidelines)

The Office of Special Education is reviewing current IEPs for accuracy of state assessment choices for students with an IEP. See resources below to assist with DLM Assessment decision making.

- [10-5-21 Essential Elements, Classroom Instruction and Supports](#)
- [10-20-21 EE, Classroom Instruction and Supports Follow Up](#)
  - [NJDOE DLM Participation Guidelines SY21-22](#)
  - [Intellectual Functioning Tool](#)
  - [Adaptive Functioning Tool](#)

### DLM Instructionally Embedded Assessments

The DLM Instructionally Embedded Assessments takes place from 9/13/21 to 12/17/21. This assessment is the district’s benchmark assessment for students who have an IEP that references participation in the end of year DLM assessment.

- Teachers must complete all state mandated PD modules
- Please see the attached document for specific guidance and information
- [21-22 DLM Guidance Document](#) [21-22 DLM Instructionally Embedded Assessments](#)
- [DLM Embedded Assessments PD Recording 9/24/21](#)
- **DLM Test Coordinators must create all ELA and Math student rosters no later than 10/27/21**  
[How to Create DLM Rosters](#)

### OSE Staff

Supervisor	Name
East/Central (MD/MDMI)	Cristina Pennetti
High School (Transition)	Dr. Pia Moore
North (Related Services)	Dr. Shirley Fonseca
South/West (ERI)	Dr. Joseph Bresnahan
Initial Evaluation Center	Adriana DeGiovanni
OOD (PreSchool)	Cheryl Myrie
OSE PD (I-Team)	Candice Wells

Program Specialists	Name
Autism	Susan Marshall
ERI	Devvon Crawford
K2 Literacy Initiative/LD	Lisa Trobaugh
MD/MDMI	Aida Vasquez
PreK Disabled	Amy Woods
Transition	LaPrice Weatherington

## **OSE Office Hours**

Office Hours are available for both general education and special education teachers  
3:15 pm to 4:00 pm

*IEP Development 10/30*

**Candice Wells**

<https://nboe.webex.com/meet/c1wells>

General education and special education teachers are invited to learn about “Writing Data Driven PLAAFPs”.

[Registration Link](#)

## **Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities Facilitated by OSE**

Teachers must be approved by their building principals to attend OSE workshops that occur during the school day. OSE sends email invites to CSTs.

### **95th Percent Phonics Group**

10/26/21 from 8:30pm to 3:00 pm

This presentation is for select self-contained classes from kindergarten to second grade. Selected teachers from the Emotional Regulation Impairment, Intellectual Disabilities and the Learning Disability Mild/Moderate/Severe Program will receive an invite to attend. This first workshop will be held virtually. Teachers will receive their login information prior to 10/26/21. Email invites to principals and teachers have been sent.

### **EasyIEP New User Interface**

10/25 and 11/1/21 from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Our partner Public Consultant Group (PCG) which manages the EasyIEP platform is offering office hours to demonstrate to teachers how to access the new user interface. The PCG Office Hours are scheduled for 10/25 and 11/1 at 4 pm. Teachers can register by using the link below. A recording will be shared via the November edition of Teacher Talk and will be available on OTIS. The new user interface will be available on October 21st. Teachers will be able to access training manuals located at the bottom of the EasyIEP dashboard.

[PCG Office Hour Registration Links](#)

### **Getting to Know Board Maker**

10/28/21 from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm

This presentation will familiarize you with Boardmaker and how it can be used within the schools and therapy.

After this presentation teachers will be able to:

- Understand at least 3 uses of Boardmaker
- Better understand the teacher's role in the use and implementation of Boardmaker
- Be able to choose appropriate Core Vocabulary and apply it to an activity using Boardmaker
- List 3 key foundational skills students need to have in order to be successful with Boardmaker as a voice output system

Please share this registration link with your staff (information is in Whetstone as well)

<https://forms.gle/cYstCk1HSQNSy7HD9>

### **Child Study Team PD Sessions**

11/9/21 CST Monthly Meeting

- South West Ward at 8:30 am
- East Central Ward at 12 pm

11/10/21 CST Monthly Meeting

- High School and Specialized Schools at 8:30 am
- North Ward at 12 pm

11/15/21 New CST Training "Data Driven PLAAFPS and IEP Goals"

11/15/21 IEC CST Training

### **Special Education Teacher Academy (S.E.T.A.)**

10/26/21 at 4:00 pm

Participants will get an overview of working with paraprofessionals and related service providers (SLP/OT/PT- Fine & Gross Motor strategies for SUCCESS in the classroom for Teachers & Paraprofessionals) and will receive training managing behavior and classroom management (components of SDI) Please note that the Office of Special Education will also host monthly OSE Office Hours in which other general education and special education teachers can attend. See the OSE Office Hours opportunities listed on page one. Email invitations for S.E.T.A. have been sent. Please contact Candice Wells with any questions.

Prior Professional Development Provided by OSE

- 10-6-21 New Teacher Development -OSE Presentation
  - [What General Education Teachers Need to Know about "Connecting IEPs to Instruction: Components of an IEP" Recording](#)
  - [What General Education Teachers Need to Know about "Connecting IEPs to Instruction: Components of an IEP slide deck](#)

## Archive

- [9-27-21 OSE Teacher Talk](#)
- [10-12-21 OSE Teacher Talk](#)