



Weekly Memo

Rule Activity

Notice of Proposed Rule

This rule revision is scheduled for the State Board of Education meeting on **September 25, 2024**. To view the following final proposed rule and submit comments, go to the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) [State Board Rules Under Review web page](#):

- Rule [6A-1.0995](#), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Form of High School Diplomas and Certificates of Completion

Events Coming Soon

Visual Phonics and Teach Your Child to Read in 100 Easy Lessons

Please join the Resource Materials and Technology Center for the Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing (RMTCD/HH) for Working with the Experts - Deaf/Hard of Hearing (WWE-DHH): Visual Phonics and Teach Your Child to Read in 100 Easy Lessons. [See the Sound - Visual Phonics](#) is a multisensory [evidence-based intervention](#) approach to phonics instruction rooted in the science of reading. [Teach Your Child to Read in 100 Easy Lessons](#) is an evidence-based direct instruction program. When paired with Visual Phonics, evidence supports improved reading for students who are DHH. The event will be held in Brandon, FL, on **November 21 and 22, 2024**. For more information and to register, go to [WWE-DHH: Visual Phonics](#). For more information, contact Gwen Black at Gwen.Black@fldoe.org or Carmelina Hollingsworth at c.hollingsworth@rmtcdhh.org.

Florida Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE) 2025 Winter Leadership Institute—Save the Date

Florida CASE 2025 Winter Leadership Institute will be **January 28-30, 2025**, at The Hilton Orlando/Altamonte Springs. Registration and hotel reservations are open. To register, go to [Florida CASE 2025 Winter Leadership Institute registration](#). To make hotel reservations, go to [FL CASE Winter 2025](#). Note that the deadline to make hotel reservations is **January 14, 2025**. You are encouraged to make your hotel reservations expeditiously as there are a limited number of rooms.

Professional Learning

WWE-DHH: Fairview Learning

Please join the RMTCD/HH for the WWE-DHH: Fairview Learning professional learning series. Fairview Learning is an intervention for students who are deaf or hard of hearing in elementary through high school. The evidence-based program, [Evidence-Based Literacy Interventions for Students who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing](#), can be implemented with students who use listening and spoken language and American Sign Language. Two sessions per week will be offered **between September 5 and October 7, 2024**, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. ET (from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. CT). For more information and to register, go to [WWE-DHH: Fairview Learning](#). For questions, contact Gwen Black at Gwen.Black@fldoe.org or Carmelina Hollingsworth at c.hollingsworth@rmtcdhh.org.

Action Items

2024 Purple Star School of Distinction and Purple Star School District Program

The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the [2024 Purple Star School of Distinction and Purple Star School District Program](#). The appropriate application must be submitted by **September 30, 2024**, per the instructions in the memo.

2024-25 Florida U.S. Senate Youth Program (USSYP) Application

The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the [2024-25 Florida USSYP Application](#). The online application must be completed by **October 1, 2024**, per the instructions in the memo.

Job Vacancies

Positions Available with BEESS

Student Support Services, within BEESS, is looking to fill the following positions:

- [School Counseling Consultant](#) – Position #37167 – The school counseling consultant provides guidance, support, training and technical assistance (face to face, phone and written) to Florida school district personnel focused on the implementation of effective instruction and intervention processes and practices; strategies for providing school-based mental health prevention and intervention services; and elementary school progression, statewide assessment requirements, acceleration programs and student educational records.
- [Media Publishing Specialist](#) – Position #36216 – Performs administrative duties for the Student Support Services Project. These duties include, but are not limited to, assisting in the interpretation of internal and external policies and procedures, which are required for the daily operation of the project. This information is provided to the program director and fellow workers verbally, in writing or via email. Such information also serves as liaison with other internal/external agencies, including the FDOE and school districts in Florida. The

media publishing specialist also provides administrative support to the project's professional staff by conducting research, preparing reports, handling information requests, answering the telephone and assisting with editing documents.

- [Program Specialist-Grant Specialist](#) – Youth Mental Health Awareness Training Program in Student Support Services – Position #37215 – The grant specialist supports state and federal programs and strategic improvement initiatives through grant management processes. Grant management processes include implementing new grant application procedures, reviewing grant applications, monitoring awarded grants, and reporting data from grant programs. The grant specialist must interact professionally with all stakeholders while demonstrating, modeling and reinforcing the FDOE's fundamental values of quality, fairness, cooperation, respect, commitment, excellence, honesty and teamwork. More information on these positions and how to apply is on the [Student Support Services Project's home page](#).

Position Available with the Institute for Small and Rural Districts (ISRD)

ISRD, an Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) funded state project, is seeking a coordinator for the Panhandle Area Educational Consortium (PAEC) Region. This position will serve Calhoun, FAMU Lab School, FL Department of Corrections, Franklin, FSU Lab School, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Liberty, Madison, Tallahassee Collegiate Academy, Taylor, Wakulla, Walton and Washington counties. The position is supported by the Putnam County School District. To view the job description and apply, go to [Putnam County School District Employment](#), scroll down to "Search Current Job Openings," click on "Click to view current job openings," then click it again, and select "Coordinator, ESE Spec Project - ISRD." For job details ("View Details of Highlighted Position") and to apply ("Apply for Selected Position(s)"), choose the appropriate button in the upper-right-hand corner. The application deadline is until filled. If you have questions pertaining to the job description, contact Chastity Lee at leec@nefec.org or 386-329-3894.

Positions Available in the Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS) PAEC Associate Center

FDLRS PAEC, an IDEA funded state project, is seeking specialists for the areas of human resource development and/or technology. FDLRS PAEC serves the districts of Bay, Calhoun, Franklin, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty, Walton and Washington. The application deadline is open until filled. To view the full job description and apply, go to [PAEC Jobs web page](#). For questions, contact Toyka Holden at Toyka.Holden@paec.org.

Position Available in the FDLRS Sunrise Associate Center

FDLRS Sunrise, an IDEA funded state project, is seeking a human resources development (HRD) specialist: The full job description can be viewed at [HRD specialist](#). To view the application, go to the Polk County Public Schools, [Browse Job Openings web page](#), locate TRST, Professional Learning FDLRS, select "VIEW" and follow the application prompts.

Position Available in the FDLRS Gulfcoast Associate Center

FDLRS Gulfcoast, an IDEA funded state project, is seeking a child find specialist. FDLRS Gulfcoast serves the districts of Hernando, Pasco and Pinellas. The application deadline is **August 27, 2024**. To view the full job description and apply, go to the Pinellas County Schools, [FDLRS Resource Teacher \(Child Find Specialist\)](#) web page. For questions, contact Kristen Redding at reddingk@pcsb.org.

Positions Available in the FDLRS NEFEC Associate Center

FDLRS NEFEC, an IDEA funded state project, is seeking specialists for the areas of human resource development and technology. FDLRS NEFEC serves the districts of Putnam, Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Flagler, Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, St. Johns, Suwannee, Union. The application deadline is open until filled. To view the full job description and apply, go to <https://www.nefec.org/about/jobs/>. For questions, contact Dr. Alexandra Kanellis at kanellisa@nefec.org.

Florida Inclusion Network (FIN) Facilitator Position Available

FIN, an IDEA funded state project, is seeking a FIN facilitator for Region 3. The FIN facilitator provides services in one of seven geographical regions to districts and schools in the development and implementation of innovative, research-based instructional methodologies and support models for the education of students with disabilities in general education environments. The FIN facilitator guides and assists schools and districts in analyzing State Performance Plan Indicator 5 educational environment data, student performance data and best practice indicators in identifying needs to develop short- and long-term improvement efforts to increase educational outcomes for students with disabilities. This is a full-time 40-hour-per-week position, and the job number is 58554. To apply, go to the [Florida State University's Office of Human Resources careers web page](#). Then select "Current Career Opportunities," enter "FIN" in the job search and select the posting "Assistant in Research 12 Month Salaried - HYBRID (Florida Inclusion Network at Learning Systems Institute)." For questions, contact JaSheena Ekhatior or Kelly Claude, executive co-directors, at LSI-FinAdmin@fsu.edu. To learn more about FIN, go to the [FIN website](#).

Informational Items

Amended State Board of Education Rules Regarding Exceptional Student Education

The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding [amended State Board of Education Rules regarding exceptional student education](#).

Rule 6A-1.09941, F.A.C., State Uniform Transfer of Students in Middle Grades and High School

The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding [Rule 6A-1.09941, F.A.C., State Uniform Transfer of Students in Middle Grades and High School](#).

New Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Program Accountability

The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding [new VPK program accountability](#).

2023-24 List of Persistently Low-Performing Schools

The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding [2023-24 list of persistently low-performing schools](#) and attachment A, [2023-24 Persistently Low-Performing Schools](#).

2023-24 School, District and State Report Cards

The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding [2023-24 school, district and state report cards](#).

Educator Recruitment Service Available for Florida K-12 School Districts and Charter Schools

The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding [educator recruitment service available for Florida K-12 school districts and charter schools](#).

New BEESS Team Members

Instructional Support Services (ISS) Unit

The ISS unit is pleased to welcome Ms. Kathryn Millican in the role of state lead for autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Ms. Millican comes to BEESS with a lifetime of experience with those on the autism spectrum, including her older brother, who inspired her to attend college and receive a bachelor's degree in exceptional student education. Her most recent position was at Publix Super Markets, Inc. corporate as a systems & communications specialist on the team who drafted and sent out all communications that customer care agents used to assist customers on a first touch basis, either by phone, email or Chatbot. Outside of work, Ms. Millican enjoys spending time reading and going antiquing. Ms. Millican is excited to apply her extensive communication skills at a broader level through BEESS to support students with disabilities and their families.

Dispute Resolution and Monitoring (DRM) Unit

The DRM unit is pleased to welcome Ms. Christina DeProspero as a compliance specialist and investigator. Ms. DeProspero earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology and Environmental Studies from Northland College and worked 10 years as an inspector and code enforcement officer. She decided to change her career and became a certified teacher. Ms. DeProspero comes to BEESS with 14 years of teaching experience, which included 10 years as an exceptional student education teacher. In her spare time, Ms. DeProspero enjoys water-related activities, traveling, reading and puzzles. She is excited to apply her extensive experience as an investigator and teacher at a broader level through BEESS to support students with disabilities.

Tip of the Week

Collect Data Now for Future Discussions about Extended School Year (ESY) Services

A student's performance during the first few weeks of the new school year can provide valuable insight on her need for extended school year services during breaks. Encourage classroom staff to note the skills and subject areas that pose a problem for the student at the start of the year. That way her IEP team is better prepared to discuss her need for ESY services at her next annual review. ([Special Ed Connection®](#))

Alice Schmitges
Bureau Chief



For more information, contact
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