

BUREAU OF EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES

SEPTEMBER 6, 2024

Weekly Memo

Rule Activity

Notices of Proposed Rules

These rule revisions are scheduled for the State Board of Education meeting on **September 25**, **2024**. To view the following final proposed rules and submit comments, go to the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) <u>State Board Rules Under Review web page</u>:

- Rule <u>6A-1.09441</u>, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Requirements for Programs and Courses Which are Funded Through the Florida Education Finance Program and for Which the Student May Earn Credit Toward High School Graduation
- Rule <u>6A-6.0533</u>, F.A.C., Determining a Substantial Deficiency in Early Mathematics Skills and Substantial Deficiency in Mathematics

Notices of Rule Development

To view the draft, if available, and submit comments for the following rules, go to the FDOE <u>State</u> <u>Board Rules Under Review web page</u>:

- Rule <u>6A-1.09412</u>, F.A.C., Course Requirements Grades K-12 Basic and Adult Secondary Programs
- Rule <u>6A-6.0571</u>, F.A.C., Career and Technical Education and Adult General Education Standards and Industry-Driven Benchmarks

For Rule 6A-1.09412, F.A.C., a rule development workshop is scheduled for **September 20, 2024**. See the notice for the virtual link needed to participate.

Professional Learning

Community of Practice (CoP): Indicator 7; Child Outcomes Summary (COS) Process

Technical Assistance and Training System (TATS), an Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) funded state project, is pleased to announce the CoP meetings in the continuing support of the COS process. The target audience for the CoP calls are all districts' Prekindergarten (PreK) contacts and other district employees that participate in the COS process. The COS is the required process in support of the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) Federal Part B Indicator 7. The next CoP meeting, will be held virtually on **September 26, 2024**, at 10 a.m.

ET, and will cover progress monitoring of functional skills for informing the COS process as well as using the information for educational planning purposes. To join the meeting, click on the <u>CoP</u> <u>meeting virtual link</u>. For questions, please contact your <u>TATS regional facilitator</u>.

Working with the Experts - Deaf/Hard of Hearing (DHH): Visual Phonics and Teach Your Child to Read in 100 Easy Lessons

<u>See the Sound - Visual Phonics</u> is a multisensory <u>evidence-based intervention</u> approach to phonics instruction rooted in the science of reading. <u>Teach Your Child to Read in 100 Easy Lessons</u> is an evidence-based direct instruction program. When paired with <u>Visual Phonics</u>, evidence supports improved reading for students who are DHH. The event will be held in Brandon, FL on **November 21-22**, **2024**. For more information, contact Gwen Black at <u>gwen.black@fldoe.org</u> or Carmelina Hollingsworth at <u>c.hollingsworth@rmtcdhh.org</u>. For more information and to register, go to Working with the Experts – DHH: Visual Phonics.

Action Items

Update of District and Virtual Instruction Program (VIP) Provider Primary Accountability Coordinator Information for 2024-25

The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding <u>updates to district and VIP provider primary</u> <u>accountability coordinator information for 2024-25</u>; attachment A, <u>2024-25 Primary Accountability Coordinator Update District Contacts</u>; and attachment B, <u>2024-25 Primary Accountability Coordinator Update VIP Provider Contacts</u>. Confirmation of or updates to the primary accountability coordinators must be submitted by **September 20, 2024**, per the instructions in the memo.

Job Vacancies

Positions Available with BEESS

Student Support Services (SSS), 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 SSS 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 SSS 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 <u>Student Support Services Project's home page</u>.

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

ISRD, an 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.

Positions Available in the FDLRS the North East Florida Educational Consortium (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 NEFEC Job Opportunities. 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 Ekhator or Kelly Claude, executive co-directors, at LSI-FinAdmin@fsu.edu. To learn more about FIN, go to the FIN website.

Position Available at the Florida Instructional Materials Center for the Visually Impaired (FIMC-VI)

FIMC-VI, an IDEA funded state project, is seeking a statewide educational specialist for the visually impaired (SES-VI). FIMC-VI staff assist with coordinating all aspects of braille versions of statewide assessments in collaboration with the FDOE Bureau of K-12 Student Assessment and Test Development Center. As part of a plan for the use of refreshable braille displays, screen reading software, and embossers on statewide assessment, the SES-VI will provide statewide, regional and district training on this assistive technology. The SES-VI may also collaborate with FIMC-VI staff to conduct item reviews and proofread braille versions of statewide assessments. This position requires Florida teacher certification in visual impairments and three years teaching experience. Additionally, due to the complex nature of the braille and tactile graphics reviews, the SES-VI must be able to quickly and precisely read contracted and uncontracted Unified English Braille (UEB). Knowledge of both UEB Math/Science and UEB with Nemeth is preferred. Candidates must reside in Florida but may be remote. To view the job description and apply, go to the Hillsborough County Public Schools application site. For questions, contact Liz Anderson at eanderson@fimcvi.org or 813-837-7826.

Position Available with TATS for Programs Serving Prekindergarten (PreK) Children with Disabilities

TATS, an IDEA funded state project, is seeking a training specialist for the Northwest Region, which includes the following counties: Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton and Washington. This position will provide in-person and virtual technical assistance, training and support to school district PreK coordinators for programs serving PreK children with disabilities, and their early childhood partners. The support will include but is not limited to the following: State Performance Indicators/APR related to IDEA Part B PreK, child outcomes, curriculum and instruction, evaluation and assessment, family involvement, least restrictive environment (LRE), program effectiveness, Part C to Part B transition, and transition to kindergarten. To view the full job description and apply, go to TATS-NW Regional Facilitator-Position.

Informational Items

Learning Ally's New Reading Challenge and Newsletter

Learning Ally is excited to announce our new reading challenge. Click on our <u>Race to Read introductory video</u> and we encourage you to share it with others. View this month's <u>Florida</u> <u>Learning Ally September Newsletter</u> to access the Race to Read landing page where you can

access classroom resources to encourage student reading. As always feel free to communicate with one of your Learning Ally State Contract Managers if you have any questions or with Dr. Martaluz Pozo at mpozo@learningally.org.

Special Ed Connection®

BEESS provides all LEAs with access to Special Ed Connection[®] at www.specialedconnection.com at no cost. Special Ed Connection[®] is your one-stop-shop for:

- Best practices to meet legal and regulatory mandates;
- Helping you tackle everyday compliance issues;
- Ready- to-use charts, checklists and professional development tools to guide and train staff;
- Case-based insights to help staff avoid missteps that lead to litigation; and
- Insights from special education, Section 504 and response-to-intervention experts.

If you need your login information or would like to schedule a webinar for your staff contact the Special Ed Connection[®] Help Desk/Training Team at specialedconnection@lrp.com.

Rule 6A-1.09952, F.A.C., Requirements for the Florida Seal of Fine Arts

The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding Rule 6A-1.09952, F.A.C., Requirements for the Florida Seal of Fine Arts.

Amended Rule 6A-7.0714, F.A.C., Library and Instructional Materials Objection Report and Specific Material Objection Template

The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding <u>amended State Board of Education Rule</u> 6A-7.0714, F.A.C., <u>Library and Instructional Materials Objection Report and Specific Material Objection Template</u>.

Amended Rule 6A-7.0715, F.A.C., Certifications and Plans for Instructional Materials and Library Media

The FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding <u>amended Rule 6A-7.0715</u>, F.A.C., <u>Certifications</u> and Plans for Instructional Materials and Library Media.

New BEESS Team Members

Dispute Resolution and Monitoring (DRM) Unit

The DRM unit is thrilled to welcome Ms. Curtisa Brown as a compliance specialist and investigator. Ms. Brown graduated from FSU with a Bachelor of Science (BS) in Criminology, and brings with her a wealth of legal experience, having worked as a legal assistant at a law firm while pursuing her degree. Her four years of legal experience will undoubtedly be a valuable asset to our team as she applies her knowledge to support students with disabilities. Ms. Brown enjoys spending time with friends and family, shopping, and journaling. She looks forward to engaging with co-workers, exchanging ideas and contributing positively to BEESS.

The DRM unit is also excited to welcome Mr. Joshua Stacy as its new research assistant. Mr. Stacy earned a BS in marketing from FSU and is currently pursuing a Master of Business Administration with a specialization in marketing and potentially business analytics from his alma mater. Previously, Mr. Stacy worked at a large non-profit organization that provided services to

vulnerable children and struggling families. Outside work, Mr. Stacy enjoys concerts, volleyball, writing stories, and playing board games with family and friends. He is passionate about helping others and will continue through BEESS to support students with disabilities.

Tip of the Week

Reconvene Individual Educational Plan (IEP) Team When Child Overly Depends on an One-on-One Aide

A student's overreliance on a one-to-one aide can lead to the child being socially and academically isolated and slow his progress. When there are signs this is happening, the IEP team should meet to consider whether a more structured classroom with less aide reliance is the child's LRE. (Special Ed Connection®)

Alice Schmitges Bureau Chief

