



Weekly Memo

Rule Activity

Notices of Rule Development

To view available drafts and submit comments for the following rules, go to the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) [State Board Rules Under Review web page](#):

- Rule [6A-1.09401](#), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Student Performance Standards
- Rule [6A-4.004](#), F.A.C., Florida Educator's Certificates with Academic, Administrative, Degreed Career and Technical, and Specialty Class Coverages, which will have a rule development workshop on **June 11, 2024**. See the notice for the virtual link to participate.

Events Coming Soon

2024 Florida State University (FSU) Summer Training Institute on Autism

Registration is open for the virtual 2024 FSU Summer Training Institute on Autism, which will be on **June 18-20, 2024**. This summer institute is being offered in collaboration with FSU Autism Institute, FSU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities, Autism Navigator, LLC, and the Partnership for Effective Programs for Students with Autism. Registration is at no cost, but you must register for each day you want to attend. To register, go to the [2024 Summer Training Institute on Autism: Advances in Evidence-Based Practice for Autism Spectrum Disorder web page](#). For more information, see the attached document.

- Filename: 2024 FSU CARD Summer Institute

Job Vacancies

Position Available in the Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS) Island Coast Associate Center

FDLRS Island Coast, an Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)-funded state project, is seeking a technology specialist. FDLRS Island Coast serves both Lee and Collier Counties. The

full job description can be viewed at [Specialist, Exceptional Student Education \(FDLRS Assistive Technology\)](#). All applicants must apply on the [School District of Lee County's website](#), to be considered for the position. The application is open until filled. For questions, contact Dr. Deidre Phillips at deidremp@leeschools.net or 239-337-8127.

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

ISRD, an IDEA-funded state project, is seeking a coordinator for the 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, Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Special Projects, 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.

Florida Inclusion Network (FIN) Facilitator Position Available: Region 6

FIN is a discretionary project funded by the FDOE, Division of K-12 Public Schools, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS), through federal assistance under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part B. 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. To apply, go to the [Florida State University's Office of Human Resources careers web page](#). Then select View Current Opportunities, search for "FIN," and select the posting "Assistant in Research 12 Month Salaried - REMOTE (Florida Inclusion Network at Learning Systems Institute)." This is a full-time 40-hour-per-week position, and the job number is 57844. 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](#).

Action Items

2023-2024 ESE Parent Survey

Each year, the FDOE surveys parents of students with an individual educational plan to determine how well districts and schools are partnering with parents and promoting parent involvement in their student's education. All states must collect these data for reporting on their State Performance Plan, as required under the IDEA. Additionally, survey results will be used to help schools and districts improve services and outcomes for students with disabilities. We would like to spotlight four districts this week by size that have, thus far, shown to have the highest response rate for the 2023-2024 ESE Parent Survey. **Congratulations Hillsborough (very large), Pasco (large), Columbia (medium) and Dixie (small) districts!** The survey will be open through **June 30, 2024**. For more information about the 2023-2024 ESE Parent Survey, go to the [FDOE ESE](#)

[Parent Survey](#) web page. For questions, contact Patricia Bodiford, senior educational program director, Instructional Support Services, at Patricia.Bodiford@fldoe.org or 850-245-0475.

Informational Items

Special Ed Connection®

BEESS provides all LEAs with access to [Special Ed Connection®](#) 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 specialconnection@lrp.com.

School Best Practices for Inclusive Education (SBPIE) Assessments

In June and July 2024, FIN is providing each district with one through 12 premade kits for use in completing SBPIE assessments in 2024-25 in accordance with section 1003.57, Florida Statutes, (F.S.). The most recent SBPIE assessments and associated reports may be accessed by ESE directors using the BEESS [General Supervision Website](#). The SBPIE assessment kits contain materials needed for school teams to complete the SBPIE assessment, including group norms, assessment protocols, process cards, response cards, and a glossary. Kits may be replenished as needed using a QR code to access files for printing. Directors of ESE should complete the [Kits for SBPIE Assessments 2024-25 form](#) to provide the necessary information regarding the provision of the SBPIE Assessment kits to each district. For questions, email LSI-FINAdmin@fsu.edu or call 850-645-7593. FIN is looking forward to continuing to collaborate with districts and schools to provide customized services and support ensuring all students with disabilities have the same educational, social and future opportunities as their peers.

Learning Ally Updates

Learning Ally would like to send a big thank you to our Florida educators. Because of our Florida educators, Learning Ally was able to support over 175,000 eligible students this year. Over 5,000 of these students have made a habit out of reading (reading with frequency) or are almost there.

Check out the [June edition of the Learning Ally Florida Newsletter](#) for more celebrations. We have several outstanding school districts that are changing student reading habits. Is yours one of them? To see what one Volusia County educator and her students think of Learning Ally click on the following YouTube video link: [Volusia County Schools: Learning Ally](#).

Restraint Data for April 2024 are Now Available

April 2024 data for restraint incidents submitted to the Involuntary Examination, Restraint, and Seclusion (known as IERS) web application is now available. The data have been posted to the [Program Accountability, Assessment & Data Systems web page](#) and can be located by scrolling down to the section titled "SWD Restraint Data – SY 2023-24," and selecting the appropriate month. Pursuant to section 1003.573(8), Florida Statutes, "The FDOE shall maintain aggregate

data of incidents of restraint and disaggregate the data for analysis by county, school, student exceptionality, and other variables, including the type and method of restraint used. This information shall be updated monthly, deidentified, and made available to the public through the FDOE's website."

New BEESS Team Members

Instructional Support Services (ISS) Unit

The ISS unit is pleased to welcome Ms. Caroline Gillis in the role of state lead for emotional and behavioral disabilities (EBD). Ms. Gillis comes to BEESS with 11 years of experience in EBD self-contained and ESE and as a general education teacher. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees in ESE from Florida State University and has a passion for math and science. Ms. Gillis is excited to apply her extensive classroom experience at a broader level through BEESS to support students with disabilities.

The ISS unit is also pleased to welcome Ms. Cheyenne Poliquin in the role of state lead for intellectual disabilities and traumatic brain injury. She earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of Florida. Ms. Poliquin joins BEESS with three years of experience as a patient care assistant and working at a state-run "community" for residents with developmental disabilities ranging from mild to profound. She was also a case manager with a specialized caseload focused on individuals with complex medical needs. She enjoys spending time outdoors and loves to travel. Ms. Poliquin is excited to join BEESS and looks forward to growing and collaborating with her co-workers.

Tip of the Week

Schedule Time to Explain Evaluative Decisions

A parent may not understand why the district evaluated a child in certain areas but not others. When your team declines to assess a student in a particular area, set aside time to explain why the team concluded that subject was not an area of concern. This may help prevent challenges to the district's evaluation down the road. ([Special Ed Connection®](#))

Alice Schmitges
Bureau Chief



For more information, contact
850-245-0475



Registration is OPEN for the 2024 FSU Summer Training Institute on Autism

Register now for the 2024 FSU Summer Training Institute on Autism coming to you **via Zoom, June 18-20, 2024**. We have an exciting lineup of speakers and topics. **Registration is FREE**, but you must register for each day that you want to attend.

The 2024 Summer Training Institute on Autism is a collaboration between FSU Autism Institute, FSU CARD, Autism Navigator, LLC and the Partnership for Effective Programs for Students with Autism (PEPSA).

Click here for more information and to register:

<https://autismnavigator.com/2024-summer-training-institute-on-autism/>

OT & APA (for Florida licenses) and ASHA CEUs available for up to 15 hours (1.5 ASHA CEUs) for all 3 days (5 hours each day). 15 hours of In-service Credits available if approved by your district.

