

Special Education Director's Webinar

August 9, 2022





August Webinar Topics

- Welcome and State Updates
 - Wina Low, State Special Education Director
- Incarcerated Students
 - Jamila Pollard, Senior Program Manager/Legal Officer
- Prior Written Notice(PWN)
 - Jamila Pollard, Senior Program Manager/Legal Officer
- GO-IEP Updates for PWN
 - Linda Castellanos, Program Manager GO-IEP
- Budget and Grants
 - Malissa Roberts, Program Manager Budgets and Grants
- Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA)
 - Jeff Allen, GVRA Assistant Director of Transition Services

Family Engagement and Outreach

- Dr. LaTanya Barkley Washington,
Program Manager
 - Family Engagement
 - Parent Mentor Partnership
 - Special Education Helpdesk
 - FIEP
 - Section 504 Support

New Team Members

Andrew Britt - Budget

Melissa Bates – Budget

Yyanisha Bass Bonner – Instruction

Alisha Williamson – Instruction

Barbara Ross – RDA

Florence Bry –RDA

Crystal Callaway – Dispute Resolution

Judith Beccaro – Content Integration Specialist

New Team Members

- Contract Support
 - Debbie Reagin – Instruction
 - Kathy Johnson – Instruction
 - Becky Conner – Instruction
 - Elizabeth Anderson - Instruction
 - Bruce Potts – Executive Coach

Priorities

- Increase Communication to all stakeholders
- Robust Professional Learning
- Enhance General Supervision Technical Assistance and Monitoring
- Specially Designed Instruction
 - Literacy, Math and Behavior
- Teacher/Leader Retention
- Discipline

LEAD

- **Leverage** state resources and knowledge to support districts
- **Engage** with all stakeholders and build trusting partnerships with districts
- **Align** our work and support to identified districts' needs
- **Develop** tiered and tailored quality technical assistance, professional development, and coaching related to specific district needs based on data

Hot Topics

The graphic features the words 'HOT TOPICS' in a large, bold, sans-serif font. The word 'HOT' is positioned above 'TOPICS'. The letter 'O' in 'HOT' is a large, colorful circle with a gradient from orange to red. The letter 'O' in 'TOPICS' is a large, colorful circle with a gradient from yellow to green. The background of the graphic is a white-to-orange gradient with a subtle pattern of overlapping circles.

- Prior Written Notice
- 1% Participation Rate
 - 80% of LEAs exceed the 1%
 - Not about selecting the test, it is the curriculum
- Reactivation of GTIDs
- Certification for Special Education Teachers
- ES4PS

Continuation of Services

An orange square graphic with a circular gradient in the center. The words "HOT" and "TOPICS" are written in a white, bold, sans-serif font, stacked vertically and centered within the circle.

HOT TOPICS

Key Points from this year's data:

- There is an increase from 31 students statewide >10 days without services in FY21 to 281 students in FY22.
- There are 3 LEAs that account for 68% of the students reported.
- 67 of the students have ≥ 20 days of cessation of services, 16 of the 67 have ≥ 30 days, approximately 5 with 60 to 78 days.
- The number of LEAs required to participate in CS has almost doubled from 19 in FY21 to 31 in FY22, an increase of about 63%.
- 221 of the 281 students in the CS list were from the Black subgroup.
- 211 students of 281 are males.
- Average age of student is 14.

Special Education and School Administrator Academy (SESAA)

FY23 Kickoff

- More than 300 registered participants
- Comments:
 - I plan to share the resources with the administrators in my district as well as with the special ed teachers.
 - The checklists are very resourceful for helping me get the school year started.
 - I will use it to better assist our SPED teachers.
 - I am very excited to look at the system data and delve into the tool kits.
 - I plan to present the LEA check sheet for use in our district. Thank you for sharing!

Updates from National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE)

OCR will be conducting digital accessibility reviews – SEAs and LEAs.

Advocates are pushing for the reviews with OCR.

504 regulations are being opened –but no information of the intentions.

New discipline guidance just released

Main message -Don't exclude a child from the classroom.

Teams must demonstrate multiple attempts to improve the behavior.

Burden is on the school system to shape the behavior.

Defined informal removals

Emphasis on children not eligible yet – with protections available.

Everyone is responsible for not discriminating.

Discipline Guidance

Stop relying on suspensions and expulsions, shortened school days, informal removals and other punitive practices as primary responses and consequences for students with disabilities.

Main message - Don't exclude a child from the classroom.



- Review data for IEPs
 - In date?
 - Out of date?
- Re-evaluations
 - Data review

IEPs

**IF THE PLAN
DOESN'T WORK.
CHANGE THE
PLAN, BUT NEVER
THE GOAL.**

www.dpsayings.com

"If you do not
change
the direction, you may
end up
where you are
going."

Lao Tzu

www.dbsquaredinc.com

*Thank
you for
going the
extra
mile*



“
The path forward
is a winding road
filled with
change and endless
possibilities.”

LOVE KNOW

“
I alone cannot
change the world,
but I can cast a stone
across the waters to
create many ripples.”

Mother Teresa

**You must be
the change
you wish to see
in the world.**

—MAHATMA GANDHI

“
All great
changes are
preceded
by chaos.”

Deepak Chopra

**There is no
traffic jam along
the extra mile.**

**Roger
Staubach**

positivityblog.com



GH



- Outstanding Professionals
- Strong Relationships
- Embracing Change
- Productive
- Value Teamwork
- Friendship