



December 4, 2020 Email Blast

## **Federal Programs - Division for Special Education Services and Supports**

Directors,

We will host the next Directors' Webinar on Tuesday, December 8 and feature several transition topics and updates from the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA). You may register using the following link: [Click Here](#).

## **Disproportionality Data**

Review your Disproportionality Data for Identification, Placement, and Discipline in the GaDOE Portal (Special Education Applications). If you have questions, contact Linda Castellanos (Email: [lcastellanos@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:lcastellanos@doe.k12.ga.us); Phone: 404-719-8045), or Dawn Kemp (Email: [dkemp@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:dkemp@doe.k12.ga.us); Phone: 678-340-6738).

## **Georgia Deaf-Blind Child Count**

The Georgia Deaf-Blind Child Count for registered students will be updated in January!

Important dates are:

January 2021: Child Count update request sent via email to the student's

identified "Best Contact"

March 1, 2021: Deadline for Updates in the Child Count database completed by Best Contact

Please click the link for the GSAP Child Count for additional information. [Click Here](#)

## Keenville Alpha and Beta Testers Needed

GaDOE's Division for Assessment has been working closely with the Keenville program developers to improve accessibility for students who have difficulty using a mouse. They are currently in need of teachers with 1st and 2nd grade students (general or special education) with limited mobility to participate in playtesting of the Keenville formative assessments. Some 3rd grade students may qualify, as well.

Teachers will observe students interacting with three to four Keenville games over a one to two-week period depending on availability. Playtesting windows are 2/8-12 and 2/15-19 for Alpha testing and 3/15-19 and 3/22-26 for Beta. Teachers will complete a short online survey after the playtesting has been completed. Please identify teachers who have eligible students and are willing to participate in the testing. Contact Mary Nesbitt-McBride, [MNesbit@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:MNesbit@doe.k12.ga.us) by December 18. Thank you in advance for your support of Georgia's students.

**Warm regards,**  
**Zelphine Smith-Dixon, Ed.D.,**  
**State Director, Division for Special Education Services and Supports**

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December 11, 2020 Email Blast

## Federal Programs - Division for Special Education Services and Supports

Directors,

You may access the archived recording link for the **Directors' Webinar** (December 8) using the following link: [Click Here](#).

You may access the **Special Education Directors' Webinar Webpage** using the following link: [Click Here](#).

Thank you for tuning in for the **CARES Special Education Drop-In Q&A webinar** held on December 4. You may access the archived recording on this webpage: [Click Here](#).

As a gentle reminder, **Disproportionality Determinations** were finalized on last week.

## New Videos for Parents of Children with Significant Cognitive Disabilities on Supporting Learning at Home

**National Center on Educational Outcomes (NCEO)** and **TIES Center** are jointly developing a series of videos for parents on various aspects of supporting the learning of children with significant cognitive disabilities at home.

The first four videos are now published.

**Helping Your Child with Routines at Home**

**Helping Your Child with the Foundations of Communication at Home**

**Helping Your Child with Communication at Home**

**Helping Your Child with Academics**

In addition to parents, educators and other audiences will find the videos useful as they work with parents and families. Each video focuses on three key questions: Why is it important to focus on this with my child at home? How can I do this at home? What support can I ask for from my child's school? These videos help families learn ways to support the learning of their children with significant cognitive disabilities at home and have conversations with teachers to link home- schools supports.

Additional videos will be added to the series over the next several months The future videos will be on supporting the learning of reading, writing, and math at home, as well as one on monitoring progress.

**Warm regards,**

**Zelphine Smith-Dixon, Ed.D.,**

**State Director, Division for Special Education Services and Supports**

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December 21, 2020 Email Blast

## Federal Programs - Division for Special Education Services and Supports

Directors,

The 2019-2020 Annual Event Graduation Rate and Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate for Students with Disabilities have been calculated. If the group size for either calculation is less than 15 students, the information is redacted for confidentiality purposes. The process for calculating the two types of graduation rates is different. The Annual Event Graduation Rate calculation includes all students with disabilities in the school system who graduate with a general education diploma regardless of when they entered high school, or how long they were in school. Click here to access the data: [Click Here](#).

### Annual Event Graduation Rate

- The number of students with disabilities who graduate with a regular high school diploma, divided by
- The total number of students with disabilities who exit high school grades 9-12 including dropouts, special education diplomas, certificates of attendance, and a regular high school diploma

### Four-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate

- The number of students who graduate in four years with a regular high school diploma, divided by
- The number of students who form the adjusted cohort for the graduating class

Please contact Dawn Kemp (Email: [dkemp@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:dkemp@doe.k12.ga.us)), Linda Castellanos (Email: [lcastellanos@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:lcastellanos@doe.k12.ga.us)), or Ann Cross (Email: [LeighAnn.Cross@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:LeighAnn.Cross@doe.k12.ga.us)), if you have any questions.

## **Disproportionality Data Monitoring Tool**

If you are using the **Disproportionality Data Monitoring Tool** to track your disproportionality data, please be aware that the resource has not been updated for the 2020-2021 school year. All areas of Disproportionality, except placement, are calculated for students ages 3-21, and the 2019-2020 Tool does not reflect this update.

When available, please contact your district liaison if you would like to use the updated Disproportionality Data Monitoring Tool.

## **Special Education Data Collection and Reporting Webpage new videos available**

The Data and GO-IEP Team have posted several new links to recordings to assist you in completing Student Class on the **Data Presentations, Recordings, and Documents page\***, which can be accessed from the **Special Education Services and Supports webpage**. These recordings are located under the Recordings section: **\*Student Class Introduction, Student Class and Professional Qualifications**, and **Student Class and Special Education Delivery Models**. The full PowerPoint for the recording is also located on that page under the PowerPoint section: **Student Class and Special Education Delivery Models**. The webpage is updated frequently with new presentations, recordings and resources. If you have questions or need more information, contact the Data and GO-IEP. Contact information for the various data collections is available on the **Data Presentations, Recordings, and Documents page** in the Documents, Tools and Templates section.

Warm regards,  
**Zelphine Smith-Dixon, Ed.D.,**  
State Director, Division for Special Education Services and Supports

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