Georgia’s Specially Designed Instruction (SDI) Project

What Does IDEA Say?

According to IDEA Sec. 300.39(b), “(3) Specially designed instruction means adapting, as appropriate to the needs of an eligible child under this part, the content, methodology, or delivery of instruction—(i) To address the unique needs of the child that result from the child’s disability; and (ii) To ensure access of the child to the general curriculum, so that the child can meet the educational standards within the jurisdiction of the public agency that apply to all children.”

Goals

- Define & implement data-based individualization framework for successful SDI
- Build a common language and definition of Specially Designed Instruction (SDI)
- Establish essential elements of SDI
- Identify 5 key elements of implementation fidelity
- Identify the “what” and “why” of SDI

Five-Year Implementation Plan

- 4 Statewide Professional Learning Events
  - September 15, October 12, January 25, February 22
  - Elementary Session 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
  - Secondary Session 1:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

- Bi-Monthly Cross Divisional Training
  - Division for Special Education Services and Supports
  - Curriculum and Instruction
  - Learning Loss Specialists (School District Effectiveness)
  - MTSS

- Regional Trainings with Coaching Support
  - SDI Coaches
  - Collaborative Communities Mini Sessions
  - Georgia Learning Resources System Staff
  - By Request Trainings with Coaching

Key Resources:

- Registration for SDI Professional Learning Series
- IEP Tip Sheet: What is the Statement of Special Education or SDI? (promotingprogress.org) Considerations for Effective Implementation: 5 Elements of Fidelity | NCII (intensiveintervention.org)

For more information or questions contact

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Richard Woods, Georgia’s School Superintendent
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District Pilot Groups (10 LEAs – Year 2-5 Implementation)

→ Submit Proposal to be considered November 2022 → Districts announced February 2023
→ Orientation for Pilots March 2023 → Implementation to begin April 2023

→ Four administrator training sessions with follow up coaching → Instructional Coaches Community of Practice Sessions → Four teacher training sessions with follow up coaching → Data Collection with Analysis → Implementation Fidelity Measures → Sustainability Plan