Special Education Nuggets

January 2023



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Items from the Interim State Director of Special Education:

January 9, 2023, Director Check In

Yes, it is happening,

Topics of Discussion: (this information will also be sent out Friday with the link)

- Update on hiring
- Reminders about upcoming trainings
- MOE update
- Discussion Questions:
 - How are LEAs supporting students' gender identities on paperwork and documentation?
 - What challenges/solutions are LEAs finding with regards to student transportation?
 - What changes are LEAs noticing around bullying/harassment and what steps have LEAs found to be helpful?

OSEP RESOURCES

RESOURCES:

- The U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) announced a resolution agreement with Fairfax County Public Schools in Virginia requiring it to take steps necessary to ensure that students with disabilities receive educational services, including compensatory services, resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - <u>U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights Announces Resolution of Investigation into Fairfax County Public Schools in Virginia, Related to the Needs of Students with Disabilities During the COVID-19 Pandemic | U.S. Department of Education</u>
- The links provided below are to the FFY 2020 Indicator Analysis for Part B and Part C. In collaboration with OSEP Funded TA Centers, OSEP annually publishes an analysis consisting of an explanation of the reported federal fiscal year indicator measures, data sources for reporting, any variations in State approaches to the reported federal fiscal year's data collection or measurement, review of six-year trends (reported federal fiscal year and 5 years prior data) in means and ranges, patterns and trends from prior year's data in comparison to the reported federal fiscal year's data (including progress and slippage), other relevant indicator data comparisons, and a brief conclusions/summary of the indicator report. The Indicator Analysis chapters are available via the following links.
 - o 2022 Part B FFY 2020 SPP/APR Indicator Analysis
 - o 2022 Part C FFY 2020 SPP/APR Indicator Analysis

Please note OSEP has published the Indicator Analysis on the <u>IDEA site</u>.



Professional Development Opportunities

SPECIAL EDUCATION RULE CHANGES

2022-2023 Sessions Coming Soon to our website and communication to you.

Indicator 13 and Transition Webinars- Contact John Spinney

Office Hours: The 8 Elements of Indicator 13 on 1/10/2023, from 3 - 4pm

This session will be a review for most but please bring your questions. We will cover all elements of Indicator 13. As part of this session please review the following webinar prior to attendance:

Comprehensive Overview of Indicator 13 Covering All 8 Elements of the Transition Plan in the IEP: This is a comprehensive and condensed overview of all elements of Indicator 13 (Transition Plan in the IEP). This training includes I13 compliant examples and best practices for all aspects of the transition plan in the IEP.

Special Education Mentoring Live Talk Sessions:

The AOE is hosting a training session on Jan. 24th and Jan. 26th, 2023, 3:30-5:00 pm With Christy Hunt from the Mississippi Department of Education to discuss the importance of Mentoring New Special Educators on Connecting Standards-Based Curriculum to Instructional Planning for specifically designed instruction as a Special Educator. For more information, please contact Sienna Tuinei and Cassie Santo.

Multilingual Learners and Special Education Office Hours:

Office hours will be offered for English learner teachers and special education teachers to discuss special education identification for multilingual students. A recorded webinar, guidance document and slide deck will be shared in Jan. 2023, and it is recommended that participants review these resources prior to the office hours. The first fifteen minutes will include a brief overview of these resources with time to discuss the guidance and answer questions from participants. These office hours will be held on **January 19, 2023**, from 8:00am -9:00am. Please register for Multilingual Learners and Special Education Office Hours. Contact Cassie Santo or Stephanie Vogel for questions about the Office Hours.



General Montioring and Supervision

Special Education Program Monitoring

For School Districts/Unions presently in Cyclic Monitoring (please see prior communications and/or the <u>cohort roster for Cyclic Monitoring</u>), Cyclic Monitoring submissions begin soon, with all submissions due no later than February 15, 2023.

Please be sure to review all the information provided last Fall, where you will find details regarding Cyclic Monitoring submissions.

For School Districts/Unions presently in Targeted Monitoring (which may occur in parallel to Cyclic Monitoring), as per our email of January 4, 2023, details on Targeted Monitoring are forthcoming.

As always, the Monitoring Team is available to answer your questions. You are invited to attend the <u>Q&A Sessions</u> on Fridays, 9-10 am, write us an <u>e-mail</u>, or set an <u>appointment</u>.



Extended Special Education Team - Updates:

Interagency/Home Study:
Nothing at this time.
Independent Schools
Nothing at this time.
Early Childhood
Nothing at this time.
Data News
Child Count for School Year 2023 Thank you to our Child Count reporters who have worked so hard on this year's data collection. We enjoyed seeing 35 of you at our four scheduled Office Hours—thanks for bringing your questions to us there and for being mindful of student privacy in that shared space! Please keep an eye out for communications from AOE this month as we work through our post-submission data quality process.
Special Education Finance
Please be on the lookout for future communications on the MOE calculator and upcoming training opportunities.
Assessment
Nothing at this time.

