



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: August 17, 2022

To: Local Educational Agency Leads, Administrators of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities

Route To: Building Administrators, Director of Guidance, Special Education Directors

From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Educational Services

Launch of New Office of Special Education Website

As we anticipate the upcoming return for staff and students across the state of New Jersey, it has been a priority of the Office of Special Education (OSE) to update our [website](#) to engage stakeholders and support educators and families as we work together to improve outcomes for students with disabilities.

Each page has been designed in collaboration with specialists from the OSE and stakeholders throughout the state and there are several new tools that highlight the great opportunities afforded to the special education community.

- The [IEP Development and Resource](#) page provides access to the *NEW Model IEP* and the *Model Speech-Only IEP*. On this webpage you can also explore the opportunities of the *Facilitated Individualized Education Program (FIEPs)* to promote student-centered IEPs and maximize capacity for effective IEP meetings.
- The [‘Special Education in Action’ Newsletter](#) can be found on the homepage of our website. The newsletter is released bi-monthly and highlights important policy changes, district spotlights, parent engagement opportunities, and upcoming professional development events.
- The [Specialized Programs, Partnerships and Projects](#) dashboard will provide information on over a dozen program and intervention-based toolkits to reimagine the way we design innovative, evidence-based practices for our students with disabilities.
- In alignment with our office’s mission to “empower all educators, families, and other stakeholders with the knowledge, skills and resources to promote improved outcomes for students with disabilities”, we encourage you to visit our [E-learning Opportunity Portal](#), navigate our [“Technical Assistance Request Form”](#), and familiarize yourself with the revised [Dispute Resolution](#) forms.

In the coming months, we will offer webinars to empower our users with the knowledge of all that our website has to offer the special education community. We also anticipate the continued release of impactful resources including, but not limited to, the *Functional Behavior Assessment Toolkit*, more *E-Learning Opportunities*, *Interactive IEP Resource Guides and Toolkits*, the revised *Parental Rights in Special Education (PRISE)* guide, and access to efforts for increasing engagement, including the *Communities of Practice for Autism (CoPA)*.

c: Members, State Board of Education
Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group