

The State Special Education Advisory Council/Stakeholder Meeting

Virtually via Microsoft Teams

Thursday, April 13, 2023

- 9:30 am – 9:45 am Call to Order
Introduction to NJ-SSEAC
- Dr. Paul Barbato, Chairperson
 - Ms. Debora Esposito, Assistant Chairperson
- 9:45 am – 10:15 am Office of Special Education Updates
- Kimberly Murray, Director, Office of Special Education
- During the following presentations only SSEAC Council Members and Stakeholders can comment in chat.*
- 10:15 am – 10:30 am Newsletter District Spotlight Presentation - [Small Town, Big Impact - Manasquan High School, 18-21 Program “The Center for Learning and Independence \(CLI\)”](#) followed by a Q&A
- Presenter: Jennifer Steffich, Director of Special Services
- 10:30 am – 11:00 am Council Priority Engagement - “**Addressing Mental Health in Schools: The Power or Partnerships**” followed by a Q&A
- Presenter: Michael J. Tozzoli, MSW, LCSW, Chief Executive Officer of West Bergen Mental Healthcare
- 11:00 am – 11:15 am Break
- During the following activity NJ-SSEAC Council Members, Internal and External Stakeholders, and members of the public can participate. Once the activity concludes, all public comments will be held until the public portion of the meeting.*
- 11:15 am – 12:30 pm **Panel Discussion: The Community Collaborative**
- Priority in Focus: Mental Health for Students with Disabilities
 - Presenters: Dr. Paul Barbato, Chairperson, and the NJ-SSEAC Mental Health Subcommittee Members
- 12:30 pm – 12:45 pm Council Discussion
- Old Business
 - Reminder about Attendance
 - NJ-SSEAC: 2023-2024 Survey and Evaluation (15 respondents)
 - New Business
 - Council Vote: 2023-2024 Meetings

* Due to the virtual nature of the meeting, members of the public are invited to send their statements and concerns to SpEdAdvisoryCouncil@doe.nj.gov prior to the meeting. If requested, members will respond to you at a later time. Written material may be submitted to the Office of Special Education.

- Update on the NJ-SSEAC Letter to the Commissioner (projected date)
- The June NJ-SSEAC meeting will be held as a hybrid event at the LRC Central in Trenton, New Jersey. The event space holds up to 55 people. Council members will have first right to attendance. *Access to the location and virtual links will be posted on the NJ-SSEAC webpage.*
- Subcommittee Reports
 - Least Restrictive Environment
 - Recruitment and Retention
 - Mental Health and SWD
 - External Engagement
 - Internal Engagement
- Projected Next Steps for Subcommittees
 - Presentation during June 2023 Meeting
- Council Member Announcements
 - Elizabeth Alves (LDANJ)
 - The Learning Disabilities Association of NJ Transitions and Beyond Conference this May 6th at TCNJ.
- Stakeholder Announcements (*see attachment A*)

12:45 pm – 1:00 pm

Public Comments*

1:00 pm

End of Public Session (*Council Members are requested to remain online to facilitate breakout sessions for subcommittees*)

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Appendix A: Stakeholder Engagement Opportunities

Entity/Stakeholder Representative	Events/Opportunities
<i>Learning Resource Center - South</i>	<p>Inclusive Education Paraprofessional Series: This professional development series is designed to provide paraprofessionals with effective strategies to help them better support students with disabilities in inclusive classrooms. The content is organized into five modules that are aligned to the six professional standards for paraeducators as outlined by the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC).</p> <p>Ongoing Professional Development (rowan.edu)</p>
<i>New Jersey Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics</i>	<p>New Jersey Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics will hold its Annual Conference and Exhibition on June 7, 2023 from 8AM to 5PM.</p> <p>This year they will feature a workshop on “Parenting a Medically Compromised Child: Navigating Info Sharing”. It will be a panel session featuring family faculty from Children’s Specialized Hospital.</p>
<i>New Jersey Occupational Therapy Association</i>	<p>Town hall meeting on Tuesday May 16, 2023 at 4:30 pm for NJ special education and related service professionals. The town hall in we want to hear about New Jersey school based occupational therapy successes and areas needing improvement.</p> <p>Register here for a reminder email: https://forms.gle/HoGg8a3LLFrYFAsH9</p>
<i>The New Jersey Coalition for Inclusive Education (NJCIE)</i>	<p>The New Jersey Coalition for Inclusive Education will host its Summer Inclusion Leadership Conference on June 9, 2023 at Montclair State University. This conference is sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Education and the Montclair State University Center for Autism and Early Childhood Mental Health.</p> <p>The link with more information and to register is: www.njcie.org/conference</p>

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<p><i>The New Jersey Center for Tourette Syndrome</i></p>	<p>The NJ Center for Tourette Syndrome is the only organization in the state committed to education, advocacy, and research critical to those in the Tourette Syndrome and Tic Disorder community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• On Wednesday, April 19th at 7:30 pm-8:30 pm, the NJ Center for Tourette Syndrome is conducting a free webinar –<i>Introduction to Transition Services</i>. Participants will be introduced to the various school and agency based services available to help students aged 14+ transition from high school to adulthood. We will talk about the Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) offered by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS), additional transition related services from other agencies, and how these various agencies can work together to provide holistic services. In addition, attendees will learn about the college tuition sponsorship that the DVRS offers, how to apply, and more. <p>Registration Link:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/314508033723437147
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