

New Jersey State Special Education Advisory Council

FEBRUARY 19, 2026 AGENDA

Virtual via Microsoft Teams

9:30 am – 9:45 am

Call to Order

Dr. Paul Barbato, Chairperson

Jocelyn Gottlieb, Assistant Chairperson

- Introductions
- Approval of January Minutes
- Review of Agenda
- Links Shared During Meetings

9:45 am – 10:05 am

Office of Special Education Standing Updates

Dr. Damian Petino, Assistant Director, Office of Special Education

10:05 am – 10:20 am

Council Discussion

- Old Business
 - [Dispute Resolution and Findings](#)
- Announcements
 - State Resource Advisory (SPAN, NJSBA, DOC, JJC, DVRS, DOH, DCF, McKinney-Vento, etc.)
 - Advisory Council Connections
- Office of Special Education Connections (LRC, NJPBSIS, NJPIEP, etc.)

During the following presentations, only SSEAC Council Members and Stakeholders can comment in the chat.

10:20 am – 11:05 am

Rescheduled - Subcommittee Request: Updates from New Jersey Positive Behavior Supports in Schools (NJPBSIS)

Dr. Sharon Lohrmann, Director NJPBSIS, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, The Boggs Center on Disability and Human Development, Rutgers University

11:05 am – 11:10 am

Break

10:20 am – 11:00 am

Standing Updates: Indicators 1, 2, and 14 – Post-Secondary Success and Current Initiatives

JoAnn Johnson, Transition Specialist, Office of Special Education; Dr. Alexandra Pensiero, Coordinator of Federal and Local Reporting, Office of Special Education; Dr.

** 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.*

Damian Petino, Assistant Director, Office of Special Education

- 11:00 am – 11:30 am** **Standing Updates: Office of Special Education’s Approach to Technical Assistance and Professional Development**
- Dr. Damian Petino, Assistant Director, Office of Special Education
- 11:30 am – 12:00 pm** **Council Discussion**
- New Business
 - Newly Released: 2025 Public IDEA (618) Data
 - Upcoming Meeting Reminders and Topics
 - Subcommittee Updates
 - Priority 1: Least Restrictive Environment
 - Priority 2: Family Engagement
 - Priority 3: Tiered Systems of Support for Behavior and Early Literacy
 - Priority 4: Special Education Student Outcomes
 - Subcommittee Next-Steps and Best-Practices – Reminders Regarding Advisory Strategies
- 12:00 pm – 12:15 pm** **Public Comments ***
- 12:15 pm** **End of Public Session**

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