

New Jersey State Special Education Advisory Council

MARCH 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 February 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 – 11:20 am

Standing Updates: Indicators 3 and 7– Student with Disability Achievement and Updates from the Preschool Team

Dr. Alexandra Pensiero, Coordinator of Federal and Local Reporting, Office of Special Education; Jennifer Nicosia, State Early Childhood Special Education Coordinator (Previously known as 619), Office of Special Education; Ilene Goy, Preschool Disabilities Specialist, Office of Special Education; Sriparna Bhattacharyya, Preschool Disabilities Specialist, Office of Special Education

11:20 am – 11:40 am

Project Spotlight: Person-Centered Approaches in Schools and Transition's (PCAST) [IEP Family Workbooks](#) (English and Spanish)

** 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.*

Bill Freeman, **State Coordinator of Secondary Transition,
Office of Special Education**

11:40 am – 12:00 pm

Council Discussion

- New Business
- Membership Change (YJC): Donna Holzschuh
 - 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
- Recent Broadcasts:
 - [Seeking Applicants for the Special Education Transportation Task Force](#) (Deadline: March 20, 2026)
 - [Dare to Dream Student Leadership Conferences](#)
 - [\(Lessons from the Field Webinar Series: Autism Program Quality Indicators-Revised \(APQI-R\)\)](#)
 - [LEARning about Literacy: Guidance into Action](#)
 - [NJSLA-A and NJGPA-A Information Sessions and Registration](#)
 - [NJSLA-A and NJGPA-A Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\) and Informational Materials](#)
 - [Orientation Session for CBI Cohort: Enrollment in the 2026-2027 Community-Based Instruction Project Cohort](#)
 - [Call for Members for Advisory Panel to Update the Speech and Language Toolkit](#)
 - [Invitation: New Jersey Universal Design for Learning \(UDL\) Innovation Network](#)
 - [Preschool Mixed Delivery Handbook](#)
 - [Preschool Inclusion Leadership Conference 2026](#)

12:00 pm – 12:15 pm

Public Comments *

12:15 pm

End of Public Session

Council members shall remain on the meeting for subcommittee breakout discussions and annual report development. Council members are asked to remain on the meeting until 1:00 pm.

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