



To: Mr. Watts, Superintendent  
Ms. Malone, Chairperson of the Board  
Members of Newport Board of Education

September 22, 2023

### **1.) Special Education Programming**

- The focus of this month's work has been on ensuring provisions of specially designed instruction and related services are provided as detailed in each student's IEP. Random audits are being conducted to verify delivery of instruction and services.
- Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children (KYCEC) Fall Conference: KYCEC will be having its [Kentucky Exceptional Children's Conference](#) November 19-21, 2023, at the Galt House Hotel in Louisville, KY. Conference attendance is mandatory for Emergency and Probationary Special Education Teachers. Two teachers from Newport Middle School will be attending this conference.

### **2.) Professional Growth and Support to Staff**

One time per month certified special education staff attend a professional learning session after school from 3:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. The focus of these sessions center around parent engagement, effective academic and adaptive instruction, post-secondary transition planning, and legal responsibilities associated with special education programming. The following websites are utilized in the development of the content presented during the sessions and used by teachers to improve their professional practices.

- High Leverage Practices – 22 most critical practices K–12 special education teacher must master to improve student outcomes <https://highleveragepractices.org/higher-leverage-practices>
  - District Policy and Procedures governing special populations.
    - **Kentucky School Boards Association – Newport Independent Online Manual**  
<https://policy.ksba.org/Chapter.aspx?distid=96>
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- **LRP's Special Ed Connection:** KY Office of Special Education and Early Learning offers LRP's Special Ed Connection at no cost to districts. Special Ed Connection is the go-to online source for guidance on current education policy and legal developments related to servicing students with special needs.

<https://www.specialedconnection.com/LrpSecStoryTool/login.jsp>

- Educational Programming and Post-Secondary Transition Planning

**The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)**

OSEP is dedicated to improving results for infants, toddlers, children and youth with disabilities ages birth through 21. OSEP, directly and through its partners and grantees, develops a wide range of research-based products, publications, and resources to assist states, local district personnel, and families to improve results for students with disabilities. <https://osepideasthatwork.org/>

- [Secondary Transition: Helping Students with Disabilities Plan for Post-High School Settings](#): This self-paced module focuses on the transition process from high school to post-secondary settings. Among other topics, it discusses IEP planning, engaging students in the process to become better advocates for their own needs, and partnering with outside agencies such as vocational rehabilitation.
- [Secondary Transition: Student-Centered Transition Planning](#): This self-paced module helps users better understand the benefits of student-centered transition planning, identify ways to involve students in collecting assessment information and developing goals, and be better able to prepare students to actively participate in their own IEP meetings.
- [Secondary Transition: Interagency Collaboration](#): This self-paced module defines and discusses the purpose of interagency collaboration and addresses the importance of partnering with agencies to improve outcomes for students with disabilities who are transitioning from high school.

- Parent Engagement

**Kentucky Department of Education Parent and Family Toolbox**

<https://education.ky.gov/specialed/excep/Pages/FamParTool.aspx>

#### **4.) Strengthening Parent Partnerships**

Special Education staff distribute information about Kentucky Special Parent Involvement Network (KY-SPIN). The website is promoted as a means of providing families with special educational information and training opportunities consistent with IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act). KY-SPIN provides information and support for children and youth with all types of disabilities (birth through 26 years old), their parents, families, and professionals.

Kentucky Special Parent Involvement Network (KY-SPIN)

<https://www.kyspin.com/about/>

Upcoming Kentucky Special Parent Involvement Network Events

<https://www.kyspin.com/events/1696118400/1698710400/>

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**Exceptional Children Programming Rates:**

- **Special Education Services** – 194 Students
- **504 Programming Rates** – 18 Students

**Related Service Enrollments:**

- Speech & Language- 39
- Occupational Therapy – 31
- Physical Therapy – 5
- Mental Health Therapy- 28
- Orientation and Mobility – 2

**Alternate Service Location Enrollments:**

- Phoenix Program – 6
- Home/Private School Students – 2
- Newport School of Innovation- 4

**District Mental Health Clinician Programming Rates:****Number of Students Receiving Individual Therapy:**

- Newport Primary School-Krysten Munn  
19 Students Total/Caseload
- Newport Intermediate School-Brandy Mains  
23 Students Total/Caseload
- Newport High School-Hannah Lunde  
33 Students Total/Caseload

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Swanson

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