



BEESS Weekly Memo



Rule Activity

Notice of Rule Development

The following rule will have a rule development workshop on **August 5, 2026**, at 3 p.m. ET. Participants may join via the virtual link listed in the notice. To view the draft, if available, and submit comments for the following rules, go to the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) [State Board Rules Under Review](#):

- Rule [6A-1.0957](#), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Internet Safety Policy

Action Items

Technological Tools Survey for Virtual Students – 2025-26 Fiscal Year

The FDOE issued a memorandum regarding a [Technological Tools Survey for Virtual Students – 2025-26 Fiscal Year](#). A completed survey must be submitted by **September 1, 2026**, per the instructions in the memo. See the memo for more information.

Professional Learning

2026-27 Virtual Communication Matrix Overview Sessions

The Access Project and Assistive Technology Learning Connections (ATLC) will be hosting virtual Communication Matrix overview sessions for the 2026-27 school year. The Communication Matrix is an evidence-based assessment tool that helps support students with complex communication needs. It pinpoints an individual's current communication level and gives a framework for determining future goals. Local educational agency participants will receive assessment credits for trial when they attend the one-hour session. For more information and to register, see the attached flyer. Contact Janet Good, ATLC, at jgood@usf.edu or Jeff Pruitt, Access Project, at jeff@accesstofls.org for questions.

- Filename: 26-27 Communication Matrix Flyer

Job Vacancies

Position Available in the Institute for Small and Rural Districts (ISRD) North East Florida Educational Consortium (NEFEC)

ISRD, an Individuals with Disabilities Education Act-funded state project, is seeking a Project Coordinator, ESE special projects, for the Putnam County School District. The position vacancy is advertised until filled. To view the full job description and apply, go to the [Putnam County School District Employment Listing](#). For more information, see the attached documents.

- File Name: Vacancy Notice for Coordinator, ESE Special Projects, ISRD - Heartland Region
- File Name: Coordinator, ESE Special Projects, ISRD

Position Available in the University of Florida (UF) Autism Micro-Credential Program

The UF Autism Micro-Credential Program is seeking part-time, remote Course Facilitators to support educators completing an online professional learning course. This flexible opportunity (approximately 10 hours per week) is ideal for teachers, retired educators, speech-language pathologists, board-certified behavior analysts and other professionals with autism-related experience. Facilitators provide feedback, grade assignments, answer participant questions and help educators successfully complete the course. The salary is \$19/hour, and positions can be completed from anywhere in Florida. To learn more and apply, visit [University of Florida - Details - OPS Education Admin – Department of Psychiatry](#).

Informational Items

Florida Instructional Materials Center for the Visually Impaired (FIMC-VI) is Helping to Spread the Word

Looking for qualified vision impairment professionals? Local education agencies can now advertise employment opportunities through FIMC-VI's new Job Board and share vision program recruitment contacts with prospective candidates across the state. These resources can be found on FIMC-VI's [Teach in Florida](#) webpage.

Amendments to Rule 6A-6.0251, F.A.C., Use of Epinephrine Auto-Injectors and Anaphylaxis Policy

The FDOE issued a memorandum regarding [amendments to Rule 6A-6.0251, F.A.C.](#) These amendments will be effective August 25, 2026. See the memo for more information.

Amendments to Assessment and Accountability Rules

The FDOE issued a memorandum regarding [amendments to assessment and accountability rules](#). See the memo for more information.

Amendments to Rule 6A-6.0530, F.A.C., Summer Bridge Program

The FDOE issued a memorandum regarding [amendments to Rule 6A-6.0530, F.A.C., Summer Bridge Program](#). See the memo for more information.

Reading Achievement Initiative for Scholastic Excellence (RAISE) Schools Identified for 2026-27

The FDOE issued a memorandum regarding [RAISE schools identified for 2026-27](#) and [RAISE schools identified for 2026-27 \(Attachment\)](#). District school boards are required to approve the final version of the Schoolwide Improvement Plan per the instructions in the memo. See the memo for more information.

Tip of the Week

Distinguish Door-to-Door from Curb-to-Curb Transportation

Door-to-door transportation involves walking the student from the bus to the door of his home, whereas curb-to-curb involves delivering the student off of the bus and to the parent. The IEP should specify which related service the student requires and why. ([Special Ed Connection®](#))

Patricia Bodiford
Bureau Chief

COMMUNICATON MATRIX



Tuesday Aug 18, 2026 [11:00 a.m.*](#) or [2: 00 p.m.](#)

Wednesday Oct 14, 2026 [10:00 a.m.](#) or [2: 00 p.m.](#)

Tuesday Jan 19, 2027 [10:00 a.m.](#) or [2: 00 p.m.](#)

Tuesday Apr 13, 2027 [10:00 a.m.](#) or [2: 00 p.m.](#)

ACCESS
Providing Resources that Facilitate the Teaching & Learning of Access Points



* When selecting the August 18, 2026, 11:00 a.m. training, the time will show as 10:00-11:00 a.m. Central Time.

Further information is available following registration confirmation.

Note: All times are Eastern Time.

Please select the time/link to register.

Join us for this one hour Communication Matrix overview.

The Communication Matrix is an evidence-based assessment tool that helps support students with complex communication needs. It pinpoints an individual's current communication level and gives a framework for determining future goals. Local Educational Agency participants will receive assessment credits for trial.

For more information, contact Jeff Pruitt at jeff@accesstofls.org or Janet Good at jgood@usf.edu.

Level	Category	Item	Level	Category	Item	Level	Category	Item	Level	Category	Item
Level 1 Emerging	Communication	1.1	Level 2 Moderate	Communication	2.1	Level 3 Significant	Communication	3.1	Level 4 Significant	Communication	4.1
		1.2			2.2			3.2			4.2
		1.3			2.3			3.3			4.3
		1.4			2.4			3.4			4.4
Level 5 Significant	Communication	5.1	Level 6 Significant	Communication	6.1	Level 7 Significant	Communication	7.1	Level 8 Significant	Communication	8.1
		5.2			6.2			7.2			8.2
		5.3			6.3			7.3			8.3
		5.4			6.4			7.4			8.4

Legend: Not Used (Grey), Emerging (Yellow), Moderate (Orange), Significant (Red)

APPLICATION OF POSITION VACANCY

Putnam County Public Schools

200 Reid Street Palatka, Florida 32177

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Until Position is Filled

POSITION TITLE: Coordinator, ESE Special Projects, ISRD

JOB LOCATION: HEC *(This position is currently housed at the Heartland Educational Consortium (HEC), located at 1096 U.S. 27 North, Lake Placid, FL 33852. It serves the Heartland Districts: DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, and Okeechobee, plus the following districts/LEAs: Charlotte, FAU Lab School, FLVS, IDEA Charter, Indian River, KIPP Miami, Lake Wales Charter, Martin, Mater Academy Charter, Monroe, Odyssey Charter School, South Tech Charter, and UCP Charter.)*

DATE OF VACANCY: Immediately

JOB DESCRIPTION: See Attached

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Master's Degree from an accredited college or university; Valid Florida teaching certificate or Professional License/Certification; Minimum of five (5) years' experience working with students with disabilities; Knowledge of professional learning facilitation and delivery; Able to travel extensively, sometimes overnight; Valid Florida Driver's License; Satisfactory criminal background check and drug screening. Pay Grade 7 – anticipated salary placement range \$61,425 - \$74,196

*****ONLY SELECTED APPLICANTS WILL BE INTERVIEWED**
INTERVIEW TO BE SCHEDULED WITH THE DEPARTMENT HEAD:***

Alissa Hingson

VETERANS PREFERENCE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

HOW TO APPLY: Complete a Putnam County District School Board online application.

NOTE TO APPLICANT: Applications will not be accepted after the application deadline.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION – EMPLOYMENT: Discrimination on the basis of religion, race, national origin, color, handicap, sex, age, marital status, or parental status is prohibited in the recruitment, hiring, assigning, promotion, paying, demoting, or dismissal of employees of the District School Board of Putnam County.

DISTRIBUTION: Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Citrus, Clay, Columbia, Dixie, Duval, Flagler, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Marion, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns, Suwannee, Union, P.K. Yonge School, FSDB 7/01/26

FOR CURRENT POSITIONS VISIT

<http://www.putnamschools.org>

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

NORTH EAST FLORIDA EDUCATIONAL CONSORTIUM

COORDINATOR, ESE SPECIAL PROJECTS - ISRD

JOB DESCRIPTION

QUALIFICATIONS:

- * (1) Masters Degree from an accredited college or university.
- * (2) Valid Florida teaching certificate or Professional License/Certification
- * (3) Minimum of five (5) years experience working with students with disabilities
- * (4) Knowledge of professional learning facilitation and delivery
- * (5) Able to travel extensively, sometimes overnight
- * (6) Valid Florida Driver's License.
- * (7) Satisfactory criminal background check and drug screening.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

Ability to work cooperatively with individuals and groups. Ability to develop concepts and ideas and relate them in both written and oral form. Ability to initiate and maintain rapport with state department officials, statewide networks, community agencies, and universities. Ability to organize and conduct meetings and workshops and to communicate, plan, and disseminate precise information and interpretation of technical issues related to exceptional student education. Knowledge of current trends and research in all areas of exceptional student education, issues related to exceptional education curriculum, instructional techniques, regulations, statutes, policies, special programs and procedures affecting individuals with disabilities. Knowledge of federal, state, and local exemplary practices in exceptional student education. Familiarity with statewide implementation of programs related to exceptional student education, databases, and national, state, and local resources. Knowledge and skills related to online instruction.

REPORTS TO:

Program Administrator, ISRD/NEFEC

JOB GOAL

To facilitate the implementation of ISRD project activities and priorities related to exceptional student education at the state, regional, and local levels.

SUPERVISES:

None

PERFORMANCE RESPONSIBILITIES:

Service Delivery

- * (1) Provide overall planning, coordination, and implementation of established project activities, under the direction of the ISRD program administrator with an emphasis on professional learning offerings, professional learning communities, and building district and consortium capacity for supporting exceptional students.
- * (2) Coordinate programs and services with the Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS), ISRD program administrator, ISRD Advisory Board, Florida's educational consortia, and established councils to meet identified project goals.

COORDINATOR, ESE SPECIAL PROJECTS – ISRD (Continued)

- * (3) Develop, conduct, facilitate, and evaluate professional learning activities related to exceptional student education programs, services, and project goals.
- * (4) Provide technical assistance in leadership, management, and programming related to ESE activities and services.
- * (5) Coordinate planning to involve FLDOE staff, agencies, districts, universities, and other agency personnel.
- * (6) Plan, initiate, conduct, and evaluate project activities related to exceptional student education.
- * (7) Collaborate with the program administrator and the ISRD administrative support staff to maintain all financial and budgetary matters.
- * (8) Facilitate the updating, maintaining, and use of online resources through the ISRD website and other virtual tools.
- * (9) Use technology to facilitate meetings and perform job responsibilities.

Inter/Intra-Agency Communication and Delivery

- * (10) Review and coordinate activities with other state and exceptional student education initiatives.
- * (11) Work effectively through collaboration and coordination with stakeholders and partners served by ISRD.
- * (12) Represent exceptional student education interests on various statewide advisory committees as relevant and appropriate.
- * (13) Use effective communication strategies to interact with a variety of audiences face-to-face and virtually.

Professional Growth and Improvement

- * (14) Attend state and national conferences, training sessions, and workshops relevant to exceptional student education and related to project goals to remain current in exceptional student education programs and services.
- * (15) Keep well informed about trends and best practices in ESE.
- * (16) Maintain a network of peer contacts in related fields.
- * (17) Promote and support the professional growth of self and others.
- * (18) Develop annual goals related to project implementation.

Systemic Functions

- * (19) Complete all required reports in a timely manner.
- * (20) Maintain and monitor all required records, websites, virtual resources, and files related to the ISRD project.
- * (21) Plan, implement, and analyze the development of project activities through collaboration with targeted state, regional, and local personnel.
- * (22) Develop products related to project goals and activities.
- * (23) Adequately plan all program and organizational functions within reasonable timeframes.
- * (24) Assist in maintaining appropriate coordination and communication among all agencies that work collaboratively providing services related to project goals.
- * (25) Promote a culture of service by exhibiting proactive interaction, assistance and support to district staff.

Leadership and Strategic Orientation

- * (26) Use appropriate strategies and problem-solving tools to make decisions concerning planning, use of funds, delivery of services, and evaluation of activities.
- * (27) Provide leadership, direction and coordination of initiatives that support the specified project goals and objectives.

COORDINATOR, ESE SPECIAL PROJECTS – ISRD (Continued)

- *(28) Use appropriate interpersonal styles and methods to guide individuals and groups toward task accomplishment.
- *(29) Provide oversight and direction for cooperative planning with other agencies to ensure the achievement of project goals.
- *(30) Perform other tasks consistent with the goals and objectives of this position.

Worksite Service Standards

- *(31) Exhibit a positive and flexible attitude.
- *(32) Foster and develop a professional image.
- *(33) Demonstrate effective communication and collaboration with external stakeholders as well as co-workers.
- *(34) Exhibit compassion and humility.
- *(35) Promote a passion for learning and growing.
- *(36) Demonstrate initiative.
- *(37) Exhibit the ability to multitask and problem solve.
- *(38) Translate organizational purpose into observable behavior.

Assessment and Other Services

- *(39) Participate in the NEFEC performance appraisal systems for employees.
- *(40) The accurate and timely filing of all applicable reports.
- *(41) The completion of professional development activities as appropriate

*Essential Performance Responsibilities

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

Light Work: Exerting up to 20 pounds of force occasionally and/or up to 10 pounds of force as frequently as needed to move objects. (Must be able to do extensive driving and overnight travel.)

Job Description Supplement 11

TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT:

Twelve months. Eight hours per day.
Compensation based on Pay Grade 7.

EVALUATION:

Performance of this job will be evaluated in accordance with provisions of the NEFEC policy on evaluation of personnel.