

BUREAU OF EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES

DECEMBER 20, 2024

Weekly Memo

Rule Activity

Notice of Proposed Rule

This rule revision is scheduled for the State Board of Education meeting on **January 15**, **2025**. To view the following final proposed rule and submit comments, go to the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) <u>State Board Rules Under Review</u>:

 Rule <u>6A-10.0401</u>, Florida Administrative Code, Gold Standard Career Pathways Articulation Agreements

Action Items

Florida Instructional Materials Center for the Visually Impaired (FIMC-VI) Annual Census

The Annual Census, conducted by FIMC-VI, began on December 9, 2024. Directors of exceptional student education should have received an email with instructions for accessing the online system to authorize district personnel to complete the Annual Census. This first step of the process must be completed by **December 31, 2024**. From **January 6 to February 1, 2025**, the Annual Census will be open for authorized district personnel (typically teachers of the visually impaired) to update student records. The FIMC-VI Info and Updates Part 2 webinar was held on November 12, 2024, to address the steps for completing the Annual Census. If you or your staff were unable to attend, the webinar was recorded and posted on the Past Events webpage of FMIC-VI's website. The Annual Census allows the State of Florida to calculate the number of legally blind students registered in school districts and receive funding from the Act to Promote the Education of the Blind. The Act to Promote the Education of the Blind authorizes an annual appropriation for the American Printing House for the Blind to produce and distribute educational materials adapted for students who are legally blind and enrolled in formal educational programs below the college level. The production and distribution of accessible instructional materials are done at no cost to the districts where students are registered. For more information about student eligibility, registration requirements or the online process, contact Liz Anderson at eanderson@fimcvi.org or Kathee Cagle at kcagle@fimcvi.org, or visit the FIMC-VI website.

Florida School Safety Specialist of the Year

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the <u>Florida School Safety Specialist of the Year</u>. Nominations must be submitted by **January 21, 2025**, per the instructions in the memo.

Informational Items

Restraint Data for November 2024 is Now Available

November 2024 data for restraint incidents submitted to the Involuntary Examination, Restraint, and Seclusion (known as IERS) web application is now available. The data have been posted to the <u>Program Accountability</u>, <u>Assessments & Data Systems web page</u> and can be located by scrolling down to the section titles "SWD Restraint Data – SY 2024-25," and selecting the appropriate month. Pursuant to section 1003.573(8), Florida Statutes, "The department shall maintain aggregate data of incidents of restraint and disaggregate the data for analysis by county, school, student exceptionality, and other variables, including the type and method of restraint used. This information shall be updated monthly, deidentified, and made available to the public through the department's website."

2025 Regional Civics Literacy Professional Learning Events and the 2025 Capitol Complex Professional Learning Events

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding an <u>2025 Regional Civics Literacy Professional Learning Events and the 2025 Capitol Complex Professional Learning Events</u>. See the memo for event dates and registration information.

Amendments to Rule 6A-1.09412, F.A.C., Course Requirements - Grades K-12 Basic and Adult Secondary Programs

FDOE has issued a memorandum regarding the adoption of <u>amendments to Rule 6A-1.09412</u>, F.A.C., Course Requirements - Grades K-12 Basic and Adult Secondary Programs.

Tip of the Week

Inform Parents of Student's Good Days

When a student with severe behaviors has a good day at school, call the parents or send them a positive note. This may help give the parents a sense of the student's progress, prevent them from fearing calls from schools, and foster a better relationship with teachers. (Special Ed Connection®)

Alice Schmitges
Bureau Chief

