

AREA 4 NEWSLETTER

WELCOME TO THE IESE NETWORK AREA 4 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER- SECOND ISSUE

In May 2022 we met as a state team to develop goals for our specific area based on the IESE Network grant outcomes. Throughout the year Area 4 has worked diligently to meet the strenuous goals we set. The first outcome was to increase IESE Network support throughout the area. We have met this goal by increasing the participation of 12 new districts and 1 new cooperative. We have created continuous improvement agreements, implemented monthly professional development within ROEs and provided coaching and mentoring to new special education staff members, along with other staff members as follow up from professional development.

The second outcome was to strengthen our coaching and mentoring initiatives. We have met this goal by expanding our services to meet the needs of our new and early career special education teachers. We have provided small group mentoring, monthly meetings, classroom observations and feedback, and collected data on the services we provide to our mentees.

Our third outcome was to establish parent education and collaborative initiatives. We have met with Family Matters to learn more about services they provide to parents and we are meeting with districts to create a plan to meet their individual needs for parent education and collaboration.

The last outcome was to move to be more student focused through developing resources for teachers on the Science of Reading. As a team we have developed a toolkit to share with educators in the five areas of literacy and interventions.

We will be meeting again as a state team in May to reevaluate and write new goals for the 23-24 school year.

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“We don't need it to be easy
we just need it to be
possible. - Timothy
Alexander”



ILLINOIS ELEVATING
SPECIAL EDUCATORS
NETWORK

IMPROVE.
CONNECT.
BUILD.

Area 4 Teacher Spot Light



Overview for February

Area 4 has been extremely busy with providing professional development to our partnering schools. We provided 9 professional development opportunities to special education staff members across our area.

In February we spent time in person and virtually supporting teachers through Coaching and Mentoring. We supported 54 teachers within our partnering districts.

As education professionals and dedicated lifelong learners ourselves, we attended professional development ourselves. We attended the IAASE Winter Conference and three online trainings to stay up-to-date with current trends, topics, and laws in Special Education. We are excited to share some of the new information and resources with our teachers.

Stay tuned for more great things happening in Area 4 next month!

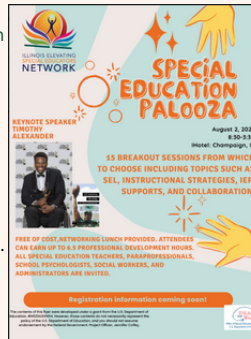
Cristina is a special education teacher at Oakwood Grade School. She services elementary students in a very inclusive classroom, focusing on social and academic skills. Cristina has dedicated herself to implementing a new functional curriculum for her students that best fits their needs. She works closely with her general education peers, mentor, and supportive administration to be student focused and create a welcoming supportive learning environment. Thank you Cristina for allowing IESE Network to work along side you.

UPCOMING PD IN AREA 4

- Wednesday, March 1st**- Family Matters 9 am-4pm (PD for Parents) FAMILY MATTERS: Educational Surrogate Virtual Training [Click here to register](#)
- Tuesday, March 7th**- 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm at ROE 54 Behavior and De-escalation (In person)
- Tuesday, March 7th**- 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm IESE Network-Remote PDC: Response to Intervention (RtI), Progress Monitoring & Assessment [Click here to register](#)
- Wednesday, March 8th**- 12 pm- 1pm or 6:30 pm-7:30 pm (PD for Parents) FAMILY MATTERS: Supported Decision Making [Click here to register](#)
- Thursday, March 9th**- Virtual PD through ROE 9 (All welcome) Interventions and How to Use them (Register at jesenetwork.org)

- SAVE THE DATE:**
- June 13th, 2023- FREE Admin Academy (60 max)** Dr. PJ Caposey will be presenting on Changing School Culture through the Teacher Evaluation Process AA#3849. He will be discussing how to bridge the gap on HLPs for Special Educators and the Danielson Framework. It will be held on at the IHotel in Champaign, IL. from 8:30 am - 3:30 pm.
 - August 2nd, 2023- FREE Professional Development for ALL Special Education Staff**

[Area 4 Special Education Palooza](#)





Provides grants to educate, train, or support children and adults that are physically or mentally disabled. Examples include, but not limited to:

School/Classroom:

- Technology – robots for autism, computers, iPads, etc.
- Curriculum – Apple apps, Wilson Reading Program, Second Step, books, etc.
- Equipment – Stand-up and pedal desks, exercise balls, wobble chairs and other alternative seating, specialized equipment

Cooperate with other organizations and contribute to larger projects for vocation and recreational purposes to serve the disabled.

The Wheeler Foundation Website and Application Link



Disability & Rehabilitation

The Illinois Department of Human Services Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) also provides funding for services to support individuals with developmental disabilities. Vocational, independent living, and home services programs are among the services funded by DRS.

- Jobs
- Independent Living
- Education
- Disability Benefits
- Child Services
- Advocacy and Customer Service
- More Information and Resources on Website click on link above

CLASSROOM STRATEGY



POSITIVE CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT



Be consistent from the beginning and follow through with what you say

Be specific with your praise. Instead of "Good job", say "Good job cleaning up your desk and keeping it organized."

Reward/praise early on and often, eventually you will be able to slowly back off the reinforcement and the behaviors become automatic

Individual or whole class, doesn't always have to cost money

Teach your routines and expectations, using role play, examples, "I do, you do, we do", videos, ect.

Decide upon the routines and behavior expectations you want your students to follow. Make them clear, positive, and specific. For example, instead of "no talking" you can say "work quietly during assignments."

Reference: <https://www.teachercreatedmaterials.com/blog/article/5-steps-to-establish-a-positive-classroom-management-system/>

HOT TOPIC WITH TEACHERS

IEP Tips

Top 10 Tips

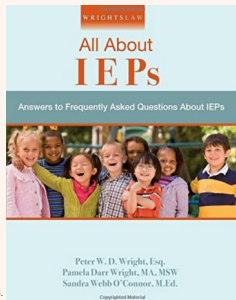
Permission to distribute conference presentation materials provided by Elizabeth Kelly on 2/23/23.

Agendas

Behavior Charts

Time Lines

Permission to distribute conference presentation materials provided by Elizabeth Kelly on 2/23/23.



ADULT SELF CARE



3 Self Compassion Exercises

Helping Other Professionals

The relationship we have with ourselves shapes our daily experiences immensely. If we do not accept ourselves for who we are and feel that we can only be "enough" if we reach certain standards, we are bound to find ourselves in a burnt out stage and unable to help others around us. The tools presented here will help you become a better friend to yourself.

Please feel free to print and share this document with others.

Reference: <https://PositivePsychologyProgram.com>, Copyright © 2019 by PositivePsychology.com B.V.

