



Teachers,

As we plan for summer 2021 activities including Summer Seminar and Summer Programming for students, we know that success depends on you, the teachers! We are hoping that we can depend on you to take advantage of the opportunities that are planned for Summer 2021.

You will want to check out the Summer Seminar professional learning sessions that will be offered throughout the month of June. We are offering courses in both virtual and face-to-face learning environments. Sessions will be provided for all teachers, counselors, nurses, librarians, leaders, etc. Everyone should be able to find sessions that address your needs and interests. Further, we will include the Mary Helen Martin Assessment for Learning Institute during Summer Seminar. Plus, you will find many instructional technology sessions that would typically be offered during TIA (pre-Covid). The Summer Seminar Catalog of sessions will be available sometime in the month of April. The catalog will provide the session choices along with registration info. Exchange day is Jan 4 pending your principal's approval.

Summer programming for students will primarily be conducted during the month of July. If you have interest in providing instruction to students during K-5 Jump Start (Reading or Math) or Jump Start 6-8 (Math), be on the lookout for upcoming information about the times and locations. Bilingual PreK/K Summer School will also be providing details soon, too. For High School, credit recovery courses will need all manner of teachers. We hope to organize the credit recovery teacher hiring through each high school. We need you!!

Thank you,

Dr. Mike Mattingly
Associate Supt, C & I

Summer Seminar Prof Learning	June 3 - 30
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Summer Programs for students	Dates
Bil/ESL PK-K	June 1- June 30 M-Th
Elem Jump Start	July 19-29, M-Th
Elem ESY	June 8-24, July 12-22 M-Th
MS Jump Start	July 19-29, M-Th
MS Algebra I Jump Start (prep for HS Alg I)	July 19 – 29 M-Th
MS ESY	June 8-24, July 12-22 M-Th
HS Credit Recovery (Edgenuity)	June 1-July 1 M-Th
HS ESL Credit Recovery	June 1- June 30 M-Th
HS ESY	June 8-24, July 12-22 M-Th

Summer Seminar Professional Development

The Bilingual & ESL Department will offer several professional development opportunities to dual language teachers and ESL teachers PK-12. We hope you can join us and continue strengthening your strategies to meet the affective, linguistic, and academic needs of English learners.

June 7-8	ESL TeXES 154 Supplemental Preparation
June 9-10	Moving English Learners Forward on TEPAS
June 9	RLA & ENIL training (secondary)
June 10	TELPAS Conferencing in Denton ISD
June 10	Patterns of Power en Español Part 1
June 15	Patterns of Power en Español Part 2
June 16	Estrellita Accelerated Beginning Reading
June 17	Boosting Achievement for SIFE



Summer School Opportunities

PreK & K Summer School

Newton Rayzor will host the Pre-K & Kinder Summer School 2021 with F2F and synchronous/asynchronous virtual learning from June 1- June 30. Incoming kinder and first graders that turn 5 years old by September 5, 2021 and qualify for Bilingual/ESL services, are eligible to participate. **Jesús Luján**, head of school at Borman elementary will be the Pre-K & Kinder summer school principal.

High School ESL Summer Credit Recovery

English learners from all Denton ISD high school campuses may enroll in up to one course at a time via virtual with both synchronous and asynchronous learning from June 1- June 30. **Jackie San Miguel** will be the High School Recovery administrator.

Data and Assessment

Becky and Maranda from the testing team are extremely grateful for the open lines of communication and camaraderie that we experience across so many different departments. We would like to use this opportunity to focus on some of the many positive interactions that have helped us feel like we are all in this together.



Lyneille Meza, Director
Shanna Mikolajchak, PEIMS Coordinator
Becky Lloyd & Maranda Matheson
District Testing Coordinators
<https://www.smores.com/73jcm-all-things-assessment>



"Amy Piper and Teresa Taylor have been so wonderful as we try to navigate TELPAS in this crazy Covid world."

"Laura Davis and Sandra Hensley do a wonderful job at making sure SPED teachers understand the STAAR Alt 2 and TELPAS ALT processes."

"Angie Daub from EIS really saved the day with the April EOC registrations this week, she is always there when we need her."

"Dr. Mattingly paved the way for us to provide accommodations in AWARE in a much more efficient manner, which made the campus teams very happy."

"Cat Tanner from Informatics is instrumental to the registration process for PSAT, PSAT 8/9 and SAT School Day, so grateful for her!"

"Rachel Falknor has been an asset when it comes to communicating state accommodations for 504 students to 504 committees."

"It was really nice to get to work with Lisa Thibodeaux as we navigated some of the features in AWARE last week."

"Susan Cheatham and the Technology team do a wonderful job at making sure that all systems and devices are working properly and up-to-date with the latest versions."

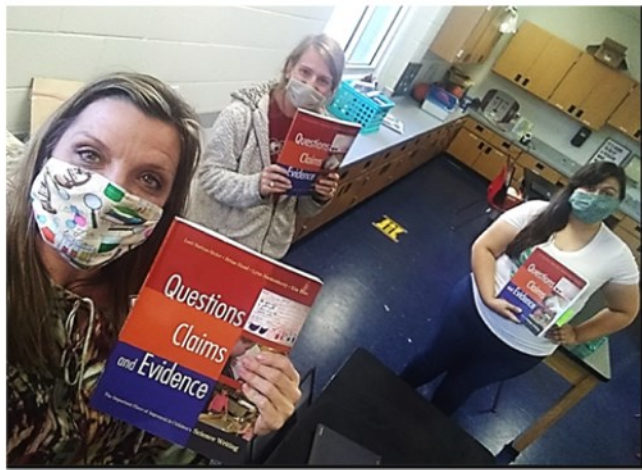
"It would be very difficult indeed to try to complete NNAT3, PSAT, SAT, and TSI without Amy Harp from Advanced Academics."

"Jeff Baker and Chris Jones from Instructional Materials have been a huge asset in delivering state testing materials to campuses... saving CTCs time."

"Gina Burgess and the Warehouse staff make sure that all of our state testing materials are delivered securely and shipments are palletized and wrapped when ready to be returned to the vendor."

"Elizabeth Diaz De Leon was a true hero this week for being so quick to translate a parent letter for us."

Elementary Curriculum



Fifth grade teachers are implementing the Argument Driven Inquiry process in a book study being held in their classrooms this spring.



The 5th grade Ginnings Elementary team work with students as they offer targeted small group instruction during their daily JAG time.

Secondary Curriculum



Denton ISD's ConnectedLearning options allow students to stay enrolled at their home campus while taking courses remotely. By staying enrolled at the home campus, students remain **connected** to their teachers and peers, and the return to school is seamless; all coursework and credits transfer back without complication.

Starting on January 5th, the newly hired ConnectedLearning Teachers participated in a week of professional development to support them for the second semester. Additional information about can be found at <https://www.dentonisd.org/domain/7450>.

Semester Exams – Spring 2021

In Denton ISD, semester exams are designed to provide students an opportunity to present evidence of their learning so that teachers can accurately understand and report levels of achievement. As a district, we are committed to empowering our teachers in developing the assessment experiences for students that most effectively and meaningfully explore measurement of the most essential standards of a course.

During the summative “exam” period of Spring 2021, just as in the Fall 2020 semester, students will see a variety of types of assessments, including cumulative projects, re-submission of work to show achievement gains, portfolio development, advance access to passages and exam artifacts, and open access to notes and other resources.

We encourage campus teams of teachers to work collaboratively to ensure consistency in assessment experiences within each course at a campus. Because students have been learning in both face-to-face and **ConnectedLearning** environments, teacher teams will review the exam administration environment expectations to ensure that all students have access to the same instructional resources and materials, whether at home or at school.

Revving Review for STAAR Success in Grade 8 Mathematics & Algebra I

In support of the district board goal of 90% or more of our students mastering Algebra I by the end of their 9th grade year, the following professional learning opportunities provided by S3 Strategies are being offered to our middle school and Algebra I teachers.

Part II: 8th Grade and Middle School

April 12, 1:30-3:00pm ([sign up here](#)) OR
April 13, 4:00-5:30pm ([sign up here](#))

Part II: Algebra I

April 12, 1:30-3:00pm ([sign up here](#)) OR
April 13, 4:30-6:00pm ([sign up here](#))

Secondary

African American Ethnic Studies

New social studies courses!

In this elective course, students learn about the history and cultural contributions of African Americans. This course is designed to assist students in understanding issues and events from multiple perspectives. This course develops an understanding of the historical roots of African American culture, especially as it pertains to social, economic, and political interactions within the broader context of United States history.

It requires an analysis of important ideas, social and cultural values, beliefs, and traditions. Knowledge of past achievements provides citizens of the 21st century with a broader context within which to address the many issues facing the United States.

Mexican American Ethnic Studies

In this elective course, students learn about the history and cultural contributions of Mexican Americans. Students explore history and culture from an interdisciplinary perspective. The course emphasizes events in the 20th and 21st centuries, but students will also engage with events prior to the 20th century.

This course uses a variety of rich primary and secondary source material such as biographies, autobiographies, novels, speeches, letters, diaries, poetry, songs and artwork is encouraged. Motivating resources are available from museums, historical sites,

Denton ISD math teachers co-author published article

The ELLevate grant is a collaboration between Texas Woman's University and Denton ISD, focusing on improving the academic outcomes of high school emergent bilingual students. As a result of that collaboration, three of our secondary math teachers have recently co-authored an article published in journal for the Texas Association of Bilingual Education (TABE).

You can read the article, [‘ELLevating’ the Success of High School Emergent Bilinguals in Math: Appropriate Accommodations and Strategies for Building Confident Learners](http://tabe.org) by **Robin Hay-Ho** (DHS), **Carron Collier** (DHS), **Katherine Burke** (SMS), and **Dr. Holly Hansen-Thomas** (TWU) by visiting <http://tabe.org>

Congratulations to these teachers for ELEVATING the experiences of their bilingual students by applying strategies learned through the grant and having their work published.

Special Education



SPED Homebound Angel Tree

Recipients received their donated gifts before the holiday break!

The family was very grateful to receive so many thoughtful gifts.

We want to thank everyone who helped make this Christmas magical for this special family!



SELT would like offer a heartfelt “Thank You” to all the teachers, paraprofessionals and support staff who work with students with special needs. You all have gone above and beyond in this unique school year to meet the needs of so many students. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed, we are grateful for each one of you.



Getting to know C & I paraprofessionals...

Brooke Waggoner is administrative assistant to SPED director Dr. Jay Weidenbach, SPED and secretary to Sandra Hensley, deaf education coordinator.



Hometown for Brooke is Houston, TX and she and her family love the Houston Astros. She attended Klein HS in Spring, TX and later, West Texas A & M and Stephen F Austin.

Brooke has worked as a campus secretary for a local charter school and —a surprise to some—a flight attendant! She and her hubby of 17 years have two children: Jordan, 15 (Guyer) and Braeden, 13 (Crownover).

Pastimes include watching her kids play baseball and listening to Texas Red Dirt country music. Favorite movies are Clash of the Titans, The Princess Bride and The NeverEnding Story.

You can reach Brooke at **extension 0681**.

Special Education

Department of Special Education Reminders

Special Education Students who are Connected Learners

Special Education Services are “direct” services; therefore, the teachers/paras **must** be proactive and **must** make contact with their student. **Office hours are not sufficient!**

When an Advocate is Involved in an ARD...

- Make sure a SPED Supervisor participates in the ARD
- Before ARD begins, have parent sign a Consent for Disclosure of Confidential Information
- Be prepared to record the meeting if the parent is recording
- Ensure the parent has been provided with copies of any Evaluations and Draft IEP goals that will be discussed and proposed
- Follow the ARD Agenda and have DATA ready to support progress and all recommendations
- Solicit **parent input** throughout the meeting

What are the 4 components of an IEP goal?

1. Timeframe: The dates

Ex- In 36 instructional weeks, By the end of the IEP year

2. Conditions: The tools used to implement the goal/objective

Ex- Using visual and verbal cues

Ex-Using a graphic organizer and a word list

3. Skill/Behavior: The standard or the behavior, the goal/objective

4. Mastery Criteria: The percentage or fraction of mastery

Ex-70%, 4/5 opportunities

MUST have all four for each goal!

Length of an ARD Meeting

There **is not an average length** for an ARD meeting.

Remember to schedule sufficient time for each ARD meeting to ensure “**active parent participation**” in the ARD.

Special Education Operating Procedures

What are they?

These are the processes and practices for the Department of Special Education. These are HOW we implement local, state and federal requirements.

Where are they?

ESC Region XI, [Legal Framework link](#)

I'm new, who do I call if I have SE questions?

Every Denton ISD campus has an assigned special education supervisor. That supervisor is a good place to start when you have any questions related to special education. That person can also direct you to the department experts in any areas. Call us!

Restraint Documentation Reminder –

Remember the restraint forms are now completed via Laserfiche. Remember to complete the restraint documents that end up in your inbox. Just answer a couple of questions and submit. Then your forms will be automatically generated for you to send home and keep for your files.

Emails (from Laserfiche) will have “**LF_Forms**” as the sender.

Special Education

Exceptional Student of the Month November 2020



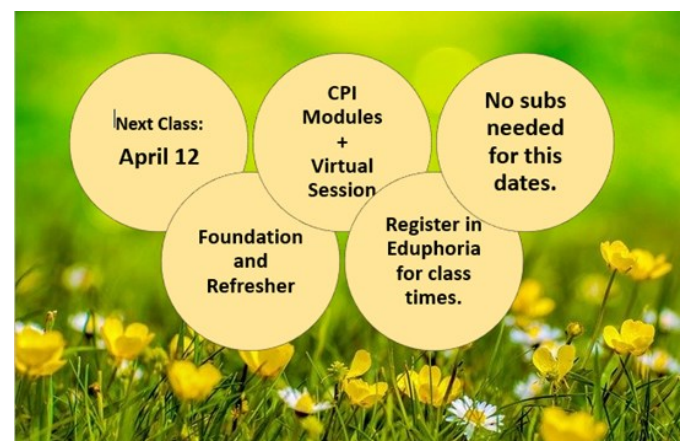
In November we honored **William Reheiser** (monitor screen) as Exceptional Student of the month for Guyer High School. William is in **Mrs. Brook West's** (seated with mask) 10th grade class at Guyer High.

Congrats William!



In honor of **Down Syndrome Awareness Day**, students and staff at BHS created this wall and did pledges to support their fellow students with disabilities.

Congratulations to **Francis Chen** for his recent publication of "Psychoeducational Assessment of Transgender and Gender Nonconforming (TGNC) Individuals: Recommendations for Best Practice" in the *Journal of Applied School Psychology*. Mr. Chen is the LSSP at Calhoun Middle School, volunteers with the GOAL program and was recently named TASP Texas LSSP of the Year.



Registration is open for April 2021 CPI Classes. The course is a combination of online modules followed by a live, virtual session.

Foundation classes are for individuals who have never been CPI trained or have an expired certification.

Refresher classes are for individuals who have current CPI certification that will expire soon.

"VIRTUAL"
Parent Resource Night

The Special Education Department of Denton ISD is sponsoring an informational overview for parents, guardians, and other interested parties in the community.
The topic of discussion is:

"Life Planning for Families of Children with Special Needs"

TJ Kroehle and his staff will share information regarding options that provide financial and physical supports that our families with students receiving special education services face.

The department of special education hosted their first ever virtual parent resource night on January 21st focusing on Life Planning for Families of Children with Special Needs.