**SPPS DIRECTORS MEETING**

**Date: 4/10/2024 10:00 AM**



**ZOOM recording:** https://mainestate.zoom.us/rec/share/9wPhyfOWJLA4FAPl1Pq2EqgIs7cszIclKGAif3KO9ePZfgYBfT96L5daoxuVYRdS.Nd5FixuMPA0CzFp

**Passcode:** 58vi$8c1

**PowerPoint Presentation/Leora Byras GSM April 2024 Updates**



**April is A Celebration of many things:**

**National Poetry Month**

**Earth Month**

**National Garden Month**

**Financial Literacy Month**

**Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month**

**Arab Heritage Month**

For classroom activities please visit:

https://www.teachstarter.com/us/blog/april-awareness-months-heritage-months/

**1. Erin Frazier’s Director of Office of Special Services updates: March 2024 Monthly Meeting Notes/Announcements**

LD 345 will be reviewed at the next Director’s Meeting on April 11th,2024 at 11:00.

“An Act to Transition the Responsibility for Child Find and for ensuring a Free

Appropriate public Education for Eligible Children from the Child Development Services System to School Administrative Units.” We will discuss what early adoption will look like and answer any questions.

The May meeting will be Thursday, May 9 and the June meeting will be cancelled. See you at MADSEC June 24-26!

2. DOE UPDATES

**Jodi Bossio-Smith, Director of Assessment**

* Maine Through Assessment – Acacia Platform opens for pre-administration activities on April 1st. The assessment window opens April 22nd. The Accessibility Guide and additional resources can be accessed on the [Maine Through Year webpage](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.maine.gov%2Fdoe%2FTesting_Accountability%2FMECAS%2FNWEA&data=05%7C02%7CGaye.Erskine%40maine.gov%7Ccf7ae6ec197d4face55608dc4a793a3f%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638467131788514184%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=86kyg3vwQtztVrMcWT3qWgQnxRGHPu02kscgtCvGHio%3D&reserved=0).
* Maine Science Assessment – ADAM Platform is now open. Assessment window opens on May 13th. Additional information can be found on the [Maine Science Assessment webpage](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.maine.gov%2Fdoe%2FTesting_Accountability%2FMECAS%2FGeneralscience&data=05%7C02%7CGaye.Erskine%40maine.gov%7Ccf7ae6ec197d4face55608dc4a793a3f%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638467131788526225%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=C1VlEwYmqnwtqdDWzAhZeuLxt0909XcHaFpRp0MsqSs%3D&reserved=0).
* National and International Assessment (NAEP) closed on March 22nd.
* Multi-State Alternate Assessment - Administration window is open March 11th - April 26th.

Any questions around accessibility supports, accommodations can be directed to [Krista.Averill@maine.gov](mailto:Krista.Averill@maine.gov) or [Jodi.bossio-smith@maine.gov](mailto:Jodi.bossio-smith@maine.gov).

**Sheila Wells-Moreaux & Maura Hart**

National Center on Inclusion Towards Rightful Presence at SWIFT Education Center is a national research and technical assistance center that strengthens school capacity to provide academic, behavioral, social, and emotional support to improve outcomes for all students.

View a presentation for more information on the wonderful work of the SWIFT Education Center at this link!

<https://swiftschools.org/what-we-do/towardrightfulpresence/>

**Leora Byras** – Federal Monitoring Updates a short PowerPoint. See the link at the top of the page.

**DOE Standards Review** - As part of the scheduled periodic review of the Maine Learning Results, the Maine Department of Education (DOE) is seeking public comments regarding the current [**social studies standards**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.maine.gov%2Fdoe%2Fsites%2Fmaine.gov.doe%2Ffiles%2Finline-files%2FMaine%2520Learning%2520Results%2520for%2520Social%2520Studies%2520-%2520Revised%25202019_5.pdf&data=05%7C02%7CSarah.Ferguson%40maine.gov%7C3a17f4f193bc43fbfbad08dc502bde1f%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638473396561367514%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=QljXvib74pvEbZtikYzVTFS5zet1fCWg1rZL229d4JU%3D&reserved=0)**.**These comments will inform the work of the standards revision teams. The standards review process opens with a public comment and public hearing prior to the convening of teams that will review and revise the social studies standards. The public hearing will occur on **April 29th, Burton Cross Building, 111 Sewall Street, Augusta, Room 500, from 3-5pm**and is intended to give anyone the opportunity to weigh-in on the direction of future social studies standards in Maine. Anyone may speak at the public hearing. People wishing to speak will be asked to sign in and it will be helpful, but not mandatory, to provide a written copy of their comments. Anyone unable to attend the public hearing may send written comments by 5 pm on April 29th, 2024. Written comments may be emailed to [**sis.doe@maine.gov**](mailto:sis.doe@maine.gov) with the subject “Social Studies Standards Review” or mailed to Maine Department of Education, Attn: Beth Lambert, 23 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333. [You may also fill out this form.](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.office.com%2Fpages%2Fresponsepage.aspx%3Fid%3Dq6g_QX0gYkubzeoajy-GTk15gk8gwhdCsZmDUw95RN9UMlE1MTM2WjhISjE4NDYzNTExSFYwSkJaSC4u&data=05%7C02%7CSarah.Ferguson%40maine.gov%7C3a17f4f193bc43fbfbad08dc502bde1f%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638473396561376812%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=RK1pxMcbbwO81FPSgRIc2Qf34jfeHQUzcnET4lEJ48M%3D&reserved=0)For further information about the standards review process contact Beth Lambert at [**Beth.Lambert@maine.gov**](mailto:Beth.Lambert@maine.gov). <https://mainedoenews.net/2024/03/28/maine-doe-seeks-public-comment-for-current-social-studies-standards/>

**4-08-2024** **Maine School Needs Assessment Survey Now Live**

Seeking input from constituents - significant impact on the types of professional learning and support services made available by the Maine DOE to schools across the state. Survey respondents must reside in the State of Maine and have a direct connection with one or more school(s) in their community—such as an individual working in a Maine school or a student attending a Maine school.

Survey responses will be used to identify areas of focus for the Maine Department of Education’s professional learning and technical assistance efforts under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) in the 2024-2025 school year.

**We encourage you to share your input by completing this year’s survey** [**here**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmaine.us2.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Da582edd6473e477ef6307c769%26id%3Dd60d933a57%26e%3D20811a8ea5&data=05%7C02%7CGaye.Erskine%40maine.gov%7Cc1a4cd127cbc40b47b7f08dc58d90a76%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638482936403540156%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=sj8MSV4N7YNf4A%2FccR6izvqOYfEI3tJC1kIq%2BsNDMHc%3D&reserved=0)**.** The survey itself should take no more than 10 minutes to complete and all responses are anonymous. Survey responses are due by April 30, 2024.   
   
 If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Ryan Reed at 207-530-2129 or [ryan.reed@maine.gov](mailto:ryan.reed@maine.gov).

3.DHHS Bulletins

**3-15-24** **Attention Sections 68 & 85, Occupational and Physical Therapy Service Providers: Revised 2023 Rates** MaineCare revised rates for Section 68, Occupational Therapy Services and Section 85, Physical Therapy Services, effective January 1, 2023. Rates were implemented on February 8, 2023, and may be viewed on the Health PAS online portal.

**Adjustment of affected claims:**

* The Department will adjust claims that were submitted **at or above** the new rates for dates of service January 1, 2023, through February 7, 2023, and no provider action is needed.
* Providers will be responsible for adjusting claims with charges that were submitted **below** the new rates, for the same date span noted above. Per policy, and to avoid timely filing denials, adjustments must be submitted within 120 days of this notice.

For additional billing guidance please see the [How to Adjust Claims for Retro Rate Increases (PDF)](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDUsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3Lm1haW5lLmdvdi9kaGhzL3NpdGVzL21haW5lLmdvdi5kaGhzL2ZpbGVzL2lubGluZS1maWxlcy9SZXRybyUyMFJhdGUlMjBJbmNyZWFzZXMlMjAwNjE2MjAyMi5wZGY_dXRtX21lZGl1bT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fc291cmNlPWdvdmRlbGl2ZXJ5IiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDI0MDMxNS45MTg2MzI1MSJ9.zGP9UzCRoLmGOP5pbFleQjJkn_xjQE5oWNaAbKNyq3E/s/1191514404/br/238913233891-l) document.

For questions, please contact your [Provider Relations Specialist](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDYsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3Lm1haW5lLmdvdi9kaGhzL3NpdGVzL21haW5lLmdvdi5kaGhzL2ZpbGVzL2lubGluZS1maWxlcy9QUlMtQXNzaWdubWVudC1MaXN0LnBkZj91dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjQwMzE1LjkxODYzMjUxIn0.rTQF0xxgDaV7ThsN1rcAIPWxftYDBWuMk6yWALTa7hg/s/1191514404/br/238913233891-l).

**3-18-24 To providers of Section 28**- Rehabilitative and Community Support Services for Children with Cognitive Impairments and Functional Limitations:

The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Licensing and Certification (DLC) recently adopted CMR 10-144 Chapter 123 Behavioral Health Organizations Licensing Rule, with an effective date of February 11, 2024. This rule requires that providers of Section 28 services obtain a Mental Health license in order to provide these services. <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/MEHHS/bulletins/3913240>

**3-19-24 Revalidate with MaineCare to Avoid Claim Denials** Per the Affordable Care Act (ACA), [Section 6401](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDUsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3Lm1lZGljYWlkLmdvdi9zaXRlcy9kZWZhdWx0L2ZpbGVzL0ZlZGVyYWwtUG9saWN5LUd1aWRhbmNlL2Rvd25sb2Fkcy9DSUItMTItMjMtMTEucGRmP3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyNDAzMTkuOTIwMTk3NDEifQ.L1wnLtRzGa0v3znfG4PX-BkOakyAVIOt7Re4bc8Lrvc/s/1191514404/br/239076972545-l), all providers need to revalidate with all states they are enrolled with.

Durable Medical Equipment (DME) providers are required to revalidate their information with MaineCare every three years. The current round of revalidation began in January 2022.

All other provider types must revalidate their information with MaineCare every five years. MaineCare posts a list of providers who are due to revalidate annually in the [PDF](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDYsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3Lm1haW5lLmdvdi9kaGhzL3NpdGVzL21haW5lLmdvdi5kaGhzL2ZpbGVzL2lubGluZS1maWxlcy9SZXZhbCUyMExpc3QlMjAyMDI0LnBkZj91dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjQwMzE5LjkyMDE5NzQxIn0.ImvzNYYe-vWiCcxjy1o-5qotfVY1vF9HFStyMVBFbh8/s/1191514404/br/239076972545-l) found on the [Enrollment and Revalidation webpage](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDcsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3Lm1haW5lLmdvdi9kaGhzL29tcy9wcm92aWRlcnMvcHJvdmlkZXItZW5yb2xsbWVudC1yZXZhbGlkYXRpb24_dXRtX21lZGl1bT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fc291cmNlPWdvdmRlbGl2ZXJ5IiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDI0MDMxOS45MjAxOTc0MSJ9.F2pSqXVFW1MviCmGlAqpU-u6pbby8vLXP1Altdsb-nA/s/1191514404/br/239076972545-l).

You will receive letters 60 days and 30 days prior to your assigned revalidation date. You can initiate your revalidation through the [Health PAS Online Portal](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDgsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vbWFpbmVjYXJlLm1haW5lLmdvdi9EZWZhdWx0LmFzcHg_dXRtX21lZGl1bT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fc291cmNlPWdvdmRlbGl2ZXJ5IiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDI0MDMxOS45MjAxOTc0MSJ9.tDUGn-ARl6cN4__1FxvZ3ni9BI8Hvn3yJEEArVat_VE/s/1191514404/br/239076972545-l) on or after your assigned revalidation date. Providers who do not submit their revalidation within the first 60 days of their open revalidation window will have all of their claims go into a PEND status until the revalidation case is submitted.

The following resources are available to assist you with the revalidation process:

* [MaineCare Provider Enrollment and Revalidation webpage](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDksInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3Lm1haW5lLmdvdi9kaGhzL29tcy9wcm92aWRlcnMvcHJvdmlkZXItZW5yb2xsbWVudC1yZXZhbGlkYXRpb24_dXRtX21lZGl1bT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fc291cmNlPWdvdmRlbGl2ZXJ5IiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDI0MDMxOS45MjAxOTc0MSJ9.Ng-K5o7Mo5U-HUMBMOuYUQrZ4-PO94hvyGAWeHf9buc/s/1191514404/br/239076972545-l)
* [MaineCare Frequently Asked Questions webpage](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMTAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3Lm1haW5lLmdvdi9kaGhzL3NpdGVzL21haW5lLmdvdi5kaGhzL2ZpbGVzL2lubGluZS1maWxlcy9FbnJvbGxtZW50LVElMjZBLTA3MjgyMDIwLnBkZj91dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjQwMzE5LjkyMDE5NzQxIn0.IPdoM77KlNj6GgzDRUfZalGgmBRdwCufZj6sto5gedE/s/1191514404/br/239076972545-l)
* [MaineCare Revalidation email box](mailto:MaineCareenroll@Gainwelltechnologies.com)

Provider Services Call Center: 1-866-690-5585. TTY users dial 711.

**4-08-24 REVISED - Medicare Standardization Rates for Calendar Year 2024 (CY24)** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has revised its rates effective March 9, 2024. To align with these changes, the Department is in the process of updating reimbursement rates for Medicare covered codes and services for the sections noted below. The new rates will reflect 72.4% of the most recent, 2024 Medicare rates.

The Department has begun to post the updated fee schedules to the [Rate Setting page](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDUsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vbWFpbmVjYXJlLm1haW5lLmdvdi9Qcm92aWRlciUyMEZlZSUyMFNjaGVkdWxlcy9Gb3Jtcy9QdWJsaWNhdGlvbi5hc3B4P1Jvb3RGb2xkZXI9JTJGUHJvdmlkZXIrRmVlK1NjaGVkdWxlcyUyRlJhdGUrU2V0dGluZyZWaWV3PSU3QjY5Q0VFMUQ0LUE1Q0MtNERBRS05M0I2LTcyQTY2REUzNjZFMCU3RCZ1dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjQwNDA4LjkzMDE1NDUxIn0.Mbd7KqvR4YlhlxiDpYVm1IoLk0-kchFKxncgA9GWr2w/s/1191514404/br/240319294810-l) of the Health PAS online portal and will continue to do so, as they are completed. Rates will be implemented over the course of the next two weeks, or shortly thereafter. No further notice will be provided.

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| Section 14 | Advanced Practice Registered Nursing Services |
| Section 15 | Chiropractic Services |
| Section 30 | Family Planning Services |
| Section 68 | Occupational Therapy Services |
| Section 75 | Vision Services |
| Section 85 | Physical Therapy Services |
| Section 90 | Physician Services (\*see exception below for [Enhanced Primary Care Providers)](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9..K1D5w98fogfmq9yaZaZ6iGplPA11O-egRU9FNbqI3v8/s/1191514404/br/240319294810-l) |
| Section 95 | Podiatry Services |
| Section 101 | Medical Imaging Services |
| Section 109 | Speech & Hearing Services |

\* Reimbursement for Enhanced Primary Care Provider services under Section 90, Physician Services will receive 100% of the current year Medicare rate.

The Department is providing this notice pursuant to [MRS Title 2021, §3173-J](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDcsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vbGVnaXNsYXR1cmUubWFpbmUuZ292L3N0YXR1dGVzLzIyL3RpdGxlMjJzZWMzMTczLUoucGRmP3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyNDA0MDguOTMwMTU0NTEifQ.lP0cz7_Zc3o9OXOiBADRqPZ9N4ns9CGguVmDifrF-ao/s/1191514404/br/240319294810-l), which requires advance notice for planned Medicare fee schedule changes that do not require rulemaking.

Note that these adjustments only apply to services benchmarked to Medicare under the specified Sections of Policy for eligible services above. When a Section of Policy cross-references rates in a separate Section of Policy, the reimbursement provisions in the cross-referenced section of policy dictates the reimbursement amount (e.g. reimbursement for laboratory services under Section 95, Podiatry, is dictated by reimbursement methodology and rates set forth in Section 55, Laboratory Services. Podiatry providers will continue to receive reimbursement for Laboratory services in accordance with Section 55).

**Adjustment of Claims**

* The Department will reprocess claims that were submitted**at or above** the new rates for dates of service from March 9, 2024, through the date of implementation and no provider action is required.
* Providers who billed claims with charges **below** the new rates for the same date span above, will be responsible for adjusting claims as is deemed appropriate by the provider.

For additional billing guidance, please see the [How to Adjust Claims for Retro Rate Increases (PDF) document.](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDgsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3Lm1haW5lLmdvdi9kaGhzL3NpdGVzL21haW5lLmdvdi5kaGhzL2ZpbGVzL2lubGluZS1maWxlcy9SZXRybyUyMFJhdGUlMjBJbmNyZWFzZXMlMjAwNjE2MjAyMi5wZGY_dXRtX21lZGl1bT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fc291cmNlPWdvdmRlbGl2ZXJ5IiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDI0MDQwOC45MzAxNTQ1MSJ9.KeB1Wh8-tr8OtzUJYF5H-ljneyosoXoJAwUhyZCe4_Q/s/1191514404/br/240319294810-l)

Please contact your [Provider Relations Specialist](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDksInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3Lm1haW5lLmdvdi9kaGhzL3NpdGVzL21haW5lLmdvdi5kaGhzL2ZpbGVzL2lubGluZS1maWxlcy9QUlMtQXNzaWdubWVudC1MaXN0LnBkZj91dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjQwNDA4LjkzMDE1NDUxIn0._TN7SRNsLsB6V37gGEMQWEtxKroZXrLYLRyrHOLMW9I/s/1191514404/br/240319294810-l) with questions.

**4-08-24** [**Attention Providers of Section 28**, Rehabilitative and Community Support Services for Children with Cognitive Impairments and Functional Limitations](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDQsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHA6Ly93d3cubWFpbmUuZ292L2RoaHMvb21zL3Byb3ZpZGVycy9wcm92aWRlci1idWxsZXRpbnMvYXR0ZW50aW9uLXByb3ZpZGVycy1zZWN0aW9uLTI4LXJlaGFiaWxpdGF0aXZlLWFuZC1jb21tdW5pdHktc3VwcG9ydC1zZXJ2aWNlcy1jaGlsZHJlbj91dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjQwNDA4LjkzMDE1MzQxIn0.UHDrGNpuH4ribojZ02KZer5jIzetB-9ZiNPCce6-8Tw/s/1302775786/br/240319312648-l) Apr 08, 2024, On March 18, the Division of Licensing and Certification (DLC) sent notice that Section 28 providers are required to obtain a mental health license in order to provide Section 28 services due to the recently adopted CMR 10-144 Chapter 123, Behavioral Health Organizations Licensing Rule. The notice included an application filing deadline of May 11, 2024, for providers who are not currently licensed as mental health agencies.

DLC is extending the application filing deadline for the currently unlicensed providers to an unspecified date, while the licensing requirement is discussed internally amongst Department offices. The Department is also waiting for guidance on how the licensing requirement will impact schools. Impacted providers will receive additional information regarding timelines and requirements in the coming weeks.   <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/providers/provider-bulletins/attention-providers-section-28-rehabilitative-and-community-support-services-children?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery>

4.Legislative Updates

**Recent Activity**

**LD 50** An Act to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect by Developing a System to Ensure Child and Family Well-being 3/29/2024 WS Anonymous ONTP

**LD 779** An Act to Create a Separate Department of Child and Family Services (Sen. Timberlake) 4/3/24 Accept minority OTP-AM report out prevails Yea: 22 Nay: 8

**LD 2243** Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Amend MaineCare Rules Governing Certain Types of Behavioral and Mental Health Services and to Form a Stakeholder Group to Study Methods for Improving Those Services

(WS) 3/14/24 OTP-AM

5.DOE Calendars:

* **NEO DC&R calendar** <https://neo.maine.gov/DOE/neo/DCAR/Calendar>
* **Maine Department of Education Event Calendar**

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/calendar>

* **Title 20-A Holidays -** <https://legislature.maine.gov/legis/statutes/20-A/title20-Asec4802.html>
* **Professional Development Calendar**  <https://www.maine.gov/doe/calendar>

6. Recent SPPS inquiry topics/clarification:

* Ensure discussions about LRE/ discharge **and** implemented transition activities include all options, at all ages/grades.

1. 7. Promising Practices:

Chris Sacoco - Morrison Center “Walk the Walls” and High School inclusion

8. Questions and Comments from and for SPPS group:

***When are FY 24 Daily Rates coming out?*** All SPPSs should have been notified, some are pending. [SPPS FY24 Rates](https://www.maine.gov/doe/sites/maine.gov.doe/files/inline-files/FY24%20Rates%20Final_0.pdf) Rates are found here: https://www.maine.gov/doe/learning/specialed/fiscal

***How do year-round programs set up their summer schedule for some* decompressing** *time?* Pathways builds in more field trips and tries to do things that are fun for both students and staff. Has a great effect on attendance.

***Any progress on Attendance vs enrollment tuition?*** It is incorporated into the full MUSER changes. The emergency rule is only in place until July 1st. DOE will pose the question about navigating budgets for next year.

**After meeting info: (sent via email as well)**

4/10/2024 From Mary Adley

Champions of Education,

Great news, Erin clarified that the update to (SPPS enrollment-based invoicing) MUSER was passed in the Ed Committee this session (with the extended eligibility and updated eligibility definitions) and it will go into effect 90 days after the end of the legislative session (4/17/24 is the end of the session). DOE let SAUs know that this will be a permanent adjustment.

[Paper | Maine Legislature](https://legislature.maine.gov/billtracker/#Paper/2180?legislature=131)

9.Upcoming PD options:

**NEW - IRIS Webinar: Supporting Professional Learning with IRIS Resources** - Did you know that the IRIS Center offers FREE online resources for professional development and personalized learning activities at the school, district, or state level? These resources provide information about evidence-based instructional and behavioral practices and address a range of topics relevant to today’s educators (e.g., classroom management, reading, math, diversity, IEPs, accommodations) in a way that is both practical and meaningful. Additionally, IRIS offers free PD Certificates, which are a great way to verify module completion and effort toward professional development hours for all educators (e.g., general education, special education, paraeducators/instructional assistants, school staff, school leaders).

If you plan or deliver professional development at the school, district, or state level and would like to learn more about IRIS resources and how to effectively connect them to your professional development objectives, we are offering an hour-long webinar this spring to provide you with this information. This webinar will be held on four different dates for your convenience.

During this webinar, we will:

* Overview a variety of FREE IRIS resources about evidence-based instructional and behavioral practices to improve results for all students, including struggling learners and those with disabilities.
* Demonstrate how IRIS Modules can be used to support the individualized professional learning needs of your educators.
* Introduce strategies and tools for adding depth and breadth to professional learning experiences.
* Highlight how other schools, districts, and states have used IRIS resources to help increase educators’ knowledge and skills.

To accommodate your busy schedule, we are offering this webinar on multiple days and times. Register below for the date and time that works best for you.

Note: These sessions will not be recorded.

[**April 23 11:00 a.m. (CST)**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fr.news.associationrevenuepartners.com%2Fmk%2Fcl%2Ff%2Fsh%2F7nVU1aA2ng5nEZ0cPyxWK0gjputIi5n%2FH2_f9aR_iTdp&data=05%7C02%7Csarah.ferguson%40maine.gov%7C3a4e1648eba54a50c04408dc5891bac5%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638482630159904243%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2BJmoH7vgjeEpy7djSl2qw%2BAFsn76fskSyQ0DG7iTmus%3D&reserved=0) 12:00 p.m. EST

[**April 25 3:00 p.m. (CST)**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fr.news.associationrevenuepartners.com%2Fmk%2Fcl%2Ff%2Fsh%2F7nVU1aA2ng7gE5VvOYByMN0Y0HO5S2J%2FNQCSQ8Dnrlo1&data=05%7C02%7Csarah.ferguson%40maine.gov%7C3a4e1648eba54a50c04408dc5891bac5%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638482630159910248%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=LGODWLhLIYBdFoMOPcXduO36voy9Bwr21SBkYiCQF9A%3D&reserved=0) 4:00 p.m. EST

[**May 6 1:00 p.m. (CST)**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fr.news.associationrevenuepartners.com%2Fmk%2Fcl%2Ff%2Fsh%2F7nVU1aA2ng9ZDc1EN7QQOjKMAdssByp%2Fws10MXTsF8LF&data=05%7C02%7Csarah.ferguson%40maine.gov%7C3a4e1648eba54a50c04408dc5891bac5%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638482630159916183%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=UXirZBOmMMI%2Fjm4%2Bf8Kzf6p0A%2FmV5qBvteyOeZaYD%2FM%3D&reserved=0) 2:00 p.m. EST

[**May 8 4:00 p.m. (CST)**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fr.news.associationrevenuepartners.com%2Fmk%2Fcl%2Ff%2Fsh%2F7nVU1aA2nfsakEBg0OgRyei8UlEmGCF%2FQTDJWJ0ce0EK&data=05%7C02%7Csarah.ferguson%40maine.gov%7C3a4e1648eba54a50c04408dc5891bac5%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638482630159922125%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=1p4%2Bm0o%2BS2DRkkJrkCVGvtoe30C8UXnciOIIfPHl7D4%3D&reserved=0) 5:00 p.m. EST

NEW - The U.S. Department of Education will host the 2nd annual **YOU Belong in STEM National Convening** virtually on April 11, 2024, from 12:00 – 3:30 PM ET. The event features examples of partnerships, programs, and investments with demonstrated success in strengthening belonging in STEM for students and educators. [Raise the Bar: YOU Belong in STEM (cvent.com)](https://web.cvent.com/event/02f18d81-df8c-4062-b8e6-bfef727f9272/regProcessStep1:360b0cf9-2a4c-4d81-a487-0248d50bbdf2?rp=a9a5cbf5-5396-402b-a856-3932f17aaf8f)

9. Resource Topics:

**High-Leverage Practices for Students with Disabilities (2nd Edition)** - In partnership with the Collaboration for Effective Educator Development, Accountability and Reform (CEEDAR), the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) has developed and published a set of high-leverage practices (HLPs) for special educators and teacher candidates. The roles and practice of special education teachers have continuously evolved as the complexity of struggling learners unfolded, along with the quest for how best to serve and improve outcomes for this diverse group of students. High-Leverage Practices in Special Education defines the activities that all special educators need to be able to use in their classrooms, from Day One.

HLPs are organized around four aspects of practice ―collaboration, assessment, social/emotional/behavioral practices, and instruction―because special education teachers enact practices in these areas in integrated and reciprocal ways.

https://highleveragepractices.org/

High-Leverage Practices for Students with Disabilities is available for download at no cost by clicking <https://ceedar.education.ufl.edu/high-leverage-practices/>

**4 Brain Breaks for Different Classroom Needs**

Edutopia: February 29, 2024, Wendy Turner

These brain breaks are designed to serve different purposes, and selecting the right one at the right time can yield positive results! We know that incorporating brain breaks into academic routine yields benefits for students of all ages. Brain breaks are a necessary and enjoyable element of any learning environment and for students of all ages. They work best when we plan them to meet our learners’ needs at different times of the day and in different situations. When we are flexible and attuned to our students, we can take advantage of the best type of brain break for the moment. Read this article to learn how and what this teacher does to enhance her classroom and spark her students.

<https://www.edutopia.org/article/incorporating-brain-breaks-different-classroom-needs>

5 Review Activities That Kids Actually Like

Edutopia: May 26, 2022, Sarah Gonser

To make reviews more engaging, or even fun, you need to find the right balance between effectiveness and motivation, mixing evidence-backed tactics that improve retention with gamification, group work, or movement.

Content review doesn’t need to be boring! Here’s how to liven it up and make the information stick!

<https://www.edutopia.org/article/5-review-activities-kids-actually>

**3 Strategies to Increase Student Participation**

Edutopia: February 8, 2024, Miriam Plotinsky

Many teachers report lower levels of participation in the past couple of years. These verbal and nonverbal strategies may get students to contribute in class. We may not yet know the root cause, but many students seem more inclined to exhibit passive learning behavior since returning to in-person school after the pandemic. To help kids become more comfortable making contributions in class again, learn about three strategies that elevate participation without requiring a significant shift in lesson planning!

<https://www.edutopia.org/article/student-participation-strategies?utm_source=Facebook&utm_medium=Social&utm_campaign=Winter+24&utm_id=Winter24&utm_term=participation+strategies&utm_content=practitioner>

**Nonspeaking autistic people show greater literacy skills than expected** - About one-third of autistic people are unable to communicate using speech, and most are never provided with an effective alternative. However, a new study from scientists at the University of Virginia suggests that many of these individuals are literate, raising the possibility that they could learn to express themselves through writing.

The study published in the journal Autism reports that five times more nonspeaking autistic teenagers and adults demonstrated knowledge of written language conventions than would be expected from previous estimates of their abilities. The finding has important implications for the millions of autistic people around the world who have little or no speech and who are often assumed to be incapable of acquiring literacy. <https://www.news-medical.net/news/20240307/Nonspeaking-autistic-people-show-greater-literacy-skills-than-expected.aspx?utm_medium=email&utm_content=rfEsDQq-59YVJAV7GRmRxn8fcaQukE1ivngG2zTD8tW5Wr7RGXVTSMZeUMIFduGV>

**New Items in the Padlet:**

* **4 Brain Breaks for Different Classroom Needs**
* 5 Review Activities That Kids Actually Like
* 3 Strategies to Increase Student Participation

<https://padlet.com/gayeerskine/resources-for-sppss-6ip20lenh9odtu15>