**SPPS DIRECTORS MEETING**

**Date: 6/12/2024 10:00 AM**

**ZOOM recording:**

**Passcode:**



“I created digital art of animals in the shapes of the letters representing the Google logo. My wish is for there not to be as many "unhoused" animals on the streets or animals being imported, inbred, or abandoned.”

**Maine’s Winner: Doodle for Google 2024 Mt. Blue High School, Farmington**

**Congratulations Oliva Fish!**

55 winners are moving on to a national contest where five national finalists will be selected. The winner will receive a $55,000 college scholarship, $50,000 supplies and tech package for their school or non-profit, a package of Google hardware and fun swag AND an individual trophy for their school! The other 4 runners up will receive a $5000 college scholarship, Google hardware and Fun Google swag! Good luck and congratulations!

1. Guest: Tracy Whitlock, OSSIE Special Programs, will bring information regarding Conditional 282 Certification, the SEEDS program.

Tracy has another meeting scheduled for this time and will join us when she is able.

1. Erin Frazier’s Director of Office of Special Services updates: Monthly Meeting May 9, 2024
   1. **Sandy Flacke conducted the meeting**. She reviewed PL 643, formerly known as LD 345. The was passed with amendments as Part W of the Governor’s Budget on 4/2024. The anticipated enactment date is 8/8/2024. Cohort 1 is comprised of approximately 20 SAU’s that will be working closely with multiple offices within the Department of Education to ensure that all preschool students within their catchment area are receiving FAPE. Districts that are interested in collaborating with CDS to provide services this upcoming school year please contact your local CDS site director. In addition, SAU’s that are interested in joining Cohort 2 next year, there will be an informational meeting this fall.
   2. **Jamie Pratt and Samantha Blair joined us from USM** to discuss a unique grant proposal that will support expansion of school psychology in Maine. They would like to collaborate with SAUs to apply for a grant which would allow supporting a total of 28 students over the next 5 years. The current Maine ratio of school psychologists to students is more than 3 times the recommended ratio and in Maine we are experiencing the most significant shortage in the northeast. To access this opportunity, USM will be required to partner with SAUs on the project. Qualifying partner SAUs must be high-need and not already supported through the Maine School Psychology CAREs project. Please contact Jaime Pratt at [jamie.pratt1@maine.edu](mailto:jamie.pratt1@maine.edu) or Samantha Blair at  [samantha.blair@maine.edu](mailto:samantha.blair@maine.edu) for more information.
   3. **Barb McGowen** reviewed the process for rate setting for special purpose private preschools. For more detailed information, please schedule an appointment with Barbara through Gaye Erskine ([Gaye.erskine@maine.gov](mailto:Gaye.erskine@maine.gov)).
   4. **Dawn Willard-Robinson talked briefly about** **Pine Tree Camps in Rome, ME**. Pine Tree is a camp for children and adults with special needs. They currently have openings in their summer programs. See the flyer that is attached or reach out to Dawn Willard at [DWillard@pinetreesociety.org](mailto:DWillard@pinetreesociety.org) for more information.
2. DOE
   1. **Preschool Maine Early Learning and Development Standards Update Released** - The Maine Department of Education (DOE) and the Maine Department of Health and Human Services, in collaboration with the Maine Roads to Quality Professional Development Network (MRTQ PDN), are thrilled to announce the release of the updated Preschool-Maine Early Learning and Development Standards (P MELDS). | [More](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmaine.us2.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Da582edd6473e477ef6307c769%26id%3D9f1334cbb5%26e%3D4bb1694fe4&data=05%7C02%7CSarah.Ferguson%40maine.gov%7C0378dd9f55dc4b03ae4408dc8188fa09%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638527673473405120%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C60000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=jUOacOHYo9qBRlAtY2AQEaZjFHsFYM7dfKD0xhHAMX0%3D&reserved=0)
   2. **Save the Date: 2024 Maine DOE Annual Summit Scheduled for August 6-8** The Maine Department of Education (DOE) is excited to announce that its Annual Summit is scheduled for August 6th through 8th at Augusta Civic Center. This year’s theme is Supporting the Whole Student & Community. |  [More](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmaine.us2.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Da582edd6473e477ef6307c769%26id%3D67d68fb0f5%26e%3D4bb1694fe4&data=05%7C02%7CSarah.Ferguson%40maine.gov%7C0378dd9f55dc4b03ae4408dc8188fa09%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638527673473448070%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C60000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2Bs3xr5eV8swKAGiysL%2B1s4shWxbore7E%2BmCLFJZzdhg%3D&reserved=0)
   3. **Governor Mills Announces Major Expansion of Maine Outdoor Learning Initiative** Governor Janet Mills today announced a significant expansion of her Maine Outdoor Learning Initiative that will provide thousands of middle and high school students with access to free outdoor learning and career exploration programs this summer and fall. | [More](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmaine.us2.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Da582edd6473e477ef6307c769%26id%3D802c4d0fb9%26e%3D4bb1694fe4&data=05%7C02%7CSarah.Ferguson%40maine.gov%7Cfaf6b31b45794d4f87c308dc7c0bf7a9%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638521638046933902%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=KdCPpFxf5wI7M28WdiYXIo%2B4UA6s45HjResz5aA2wYQ%3D&reserved=0)
3. DHHS
4. **Upcoming Informational Sessions for HCBS CAHPS ® Survey** - The Office of Aging and Disability Services (OADS), in partnership with a survey management provider, Knowledge Services, plans to offer home and community-based service (HCBS) waiver members a second opportunity to participate in a survey about their experiences with our waiver services and supports. OADS will host online Zoom sessions with Knowledge Services to share information about the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS®) survey. These Zoom sessions will provide an overview of the HCBS CAHPS® survey, share information about the previous participation opportunity in Fall 2023 and review options for waiver member participation in Summer 2024.

We are hosting two Zoom sessions specific to target audiences: Waiver Members and their Families or HCBS service providers, Case Managers and Care Coordinators. If you would like to learn more or ask questions, please plan to register for a Zoom session that is most appropriate to your role (e.g., Waiver Member or Service Provider).

Dates/Times:

• Option 1 for Waiver Members and their Families, Guardians, or other Partners (e.g., Advocates) Session: Tues, June 25, 2024, from 11:30AM-12:30PM EST

• Option 2 for HCBS Waiver Service Providers, Assessing Services Agencies, Case Managers and Care Coordinators Session: Wednesday, June 26, from 1:00 PM-2:00 PM EST

Zoom Registration:

There are Zoom registration links provided below. Please register for the session most appropriate to your role (e.g., Waiver Member or Service Provider).

• Option 1 for Waiver Members and their Families, Guardians, or other Partners on Tuesday, June 25, 2024 from 11:30a-12:30p EST, register here: <https://mainestate.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwsdumqrzMpHtdgH1IFizks4LpPkQcAOAym>

For Option 2 for Waiver Service Providers, Assessing Services Agencies, Case Managers and Care Coordinators on Wednesday, June 26, from 1:00 PM-2:00 PM EST, register here: <https://mainestate.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwtcu6trzIsHd3VL17AZDUOenJHP3X2LMU0>

1. Legislative Updates
   1. Education-Related Legislation Enacted by the 131st Maine Legislature First Regular and First Special an 84 page summary prepared by Maine DOE

[Legislative Summaries | Department of Education (maine.gov)](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.maine.gov%2Fdoe%2Fabout%2Flaws%2Fnew&data=05%7C02%7CSarah.Ferguson%40maine.gov%7C4d2400dca2984ddbc70808dc8adc07dd%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638537924848063510%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ZmSb15whvjU2UTPXTIxil15Nlx7Sbr4QFl97sq4RMiU%3D&reserved=0).

1. DOE Calendars:
2. **NEO DC&R calendar** <https://neo.maine.gov/DOE/neo/DCAR/Calendar>
3. **Maine Department of Education Event Calendar (includes PD)**

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

1. **Title 20-A Holidays -** <https://legislature.maine.gov/legis/statutes/20-A/title20-Asec4802.html> This link outlines the Legislative provisions that shall apply to Maine school holidays.
2. Recent SPPS inquiry topics/clarification:
3. Chapter 33 – with the new school year beginning July 1 – a reminder that the IEP team needs to meet within 10 days of the 3rd incident, unless the team has met within the past 30 school days. Ken R is overseeing Chapter 33 until Bear Shea returns. If there is an incident after July 1, it counts toward the 24-25 school year.
4. Promising Practices:
5. Questions and Comments from and for SPPS group:
6. Upcoming PD options:
   1. WHYTRY Level 1- Introductory Training DHHS June 5, 2024

The Office of Behavioral Health is excited to bring WhyTry training to those working directly with children and their families. WhyTry is an evidence-based, flexible toolkit, along with structured, interactive modalities used to improve engagement, motivation, and build resiliency in children and teens. WhyTry uses a multi-sensory approach that incorporates music, movement, art, and video to engage and motivate. This unique approach engages children to understand Relationships, Relevance, and Resilience to build positive social skills. The **WhyTry Tools may be utilized either individually or in group settings.  If you work with children who are experiencing adversity, trauma, health or behavioral challenges, WhyTry is a great resource to add to your toolbox.** **Eligible participants will receive full access to the WhyTry website and curriculum, fidelity materials, and 8 hours of CEU’s.**  **This is a great opportunity to add a very valuable resource when working with children and their families!**

Visit [https://vimeo.com/808916784](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vdmltZW8uY29tLzgwODkxNjc4ND91dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9zb3VyY2U9Z292ZGVsaXZlcnkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjQwNjA1Ljk1ODA4MzYxIn0.JNGskSzPkKfTt554tvWqCf5YJ0CoBVDX8N-1pIc-T3A/s/1302775786/br/243620440496-l) to view a Why Try Toolkit Demo or browse their website at [https://whytryprogram.org/](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDMsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd2h5dHJ5cHJvZ3JhbS5vcmcvP3V0bV9tZWRpdW09ZW1haWwmdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1nb3ZkZWxpdmVyeSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyNDA2MDUuOTU4MDgzNjEifQ.ZuJwfCGj5S_dm3Otycxpdh4Ac8hrrDIu0OtMzPpSUw4/s/1302775786/br/243620440496-l) to find out more.

 Registrants are encouraged to sign up as soon as possible to guarantee an opportunity to receive this free training. This training will be offered via live instruction with many flexible dates. Alternatively, participants may also access an online, self-paced course.

If you wish to register or have questions about Why Try and this training opportunity please reply to: [Anthony.Moffatt@maine.gov](mailto:Anthony.Moffatt@maine.gov).

1. Resource Topics:
2.  Find updates at this link featuring Accessibility Policy, Freedom of Information Act, Legal Policies and Disclaimers and Privacy Policy. Also Commonly Asked Questions, Title VI Guidance for Recipients and Data and Language Maps as well as Dept of Justice Links. <https://www.lep.gov/sites/lep/themes/lep/logo.png>
3. **ReachMyTeach** A computer science and math teacher in Portland, ME identified a need for a more effective communication system to reach his students and their families. A student who was proficient in coding and game development, saw this as an opportunity for a senior year project. Together they created ReachMyTeach. Parents are now able to communicate in their preferred language: teachers can provide timely updates to all families: and schools are able to support family engagement. Communication that reaches everyone, every time. Eliminates language barriers: Seamless, instant, translation of messages and attached PDF’s and on-demand live video interpretation. For more information: [Features - ReachMyTeach](https://info.reachmyteach.com/features)
4. **High Leverage Practices –** 22 HLPs spread across 4 domains

Website

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[**https://ceedar.education.ufl.edu/high-leverage-practices/**](https://ceedar.education.ufl.edu/high-leverage-practices/)

1. **HLP Leadership Guides**

These guides are intended for school leaders (Administrators, Teacher Coaches, Mentors, etc.) to support their teams in effectively implementing the High Leverage Practices in the classroom.

The resources found in each of the 22 guides were developed to help leaders incorporate the HLPs into professional development, teacher evaluations, observation feedback and critical support resources for their teams.

The guides include:

Tips for school leaders to support teachers

Questions to prompt discussion, self-reflection and observer feedback

Observable behaviors for teachers implementing the HLPs

References and additional resources on each HLP

<https://highleveragepractices.org/hlp-leadership-guides>

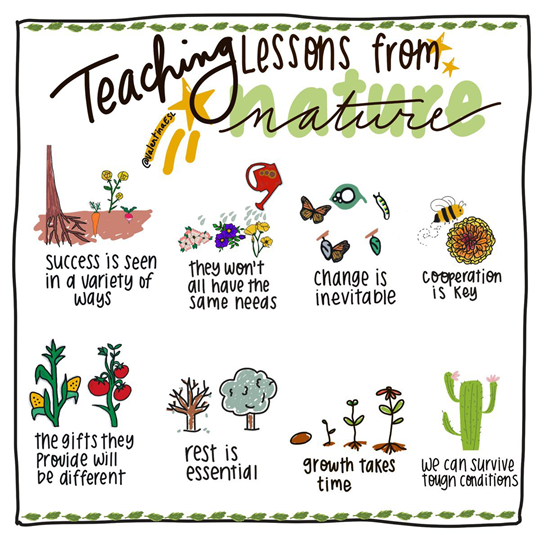
1. **Intensifying Reading Interventions by Making Instruction More Explicit** - TEACHING Exceptional Children - …with no evidence that reading interventions that take place in smaller groups (e.g., one-on-one vs. groups of three) or for longer periods of times consistently result in better student learning (Donegan & Wanzek, 2021; Gersten et al., 2020; Wanzek et al., 2013). Therefore, other ways to intensify interventions are needed. “This can be accomplished by adjusting how often the features of explicit instruction are present and how intensively the features are delivered within an existing intervention. Teachers need additional ways (beyond dosage) to intensify instruction. Making instruction more explicit is one way to adapt instruction to make it more effective for students with intensive needs. In the taxonomy of intervention intensity, L. S. Fuchs et al. (2018) summarized four other ways to adapt instruction, including quantitative adjustments (i.e., dosage) and qualitative adjustments (i.e., alignment, attention to transfer, and behavioral support). We recommend their article and the resources available through the National Center on Intensive Intervention (https://intensiveintervention.org/training/course-content) for individuals who would like to learn more about different approaches to intensifying instruction. Graphical user interface, text, application, email

   Description automatically generated<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/00400599241242124>
2. **Strategies for Bringing 'Desirable Difficulty' Into Learning by MindShift** - Desirable difficulties increase challenge in a way that is useful and pedagogically appropriate. Examples of strategies that fall into this category include retrieval or self-testing, spacing out practice, variation in practice, self-explanation when reading notes, and interleaving. These factors make classroom tasks such as reading, discussions and project work more effective, but in the process, the tasks become subjectively harder, and students tend to make more errors.

The reason that these strategies work so well is because they mimic real life. In other words, the more similar we make the learning/practice situation to the real thing, the better information and skills can be retained and later used. A greater correspondence between the practice situation and later use makes it easier for learners to transfer what has been learnt.

We should therefore ensure that these things are used for all learners, and they can be used straight away and at all ages. There isn’t a group of pupils for whom being able to retain and apply what they study over the long term is unimportant! We shouldn’t see these strategies as dispensable, able to be dropped if students are finding things too challenging. What can be changed is the level of challenge, and this is surprisingly straightforward. However, it is best to tackle one strategy at a time.

https://www.kqed.org/mindshift/63738/strategies-for-bringing-desirable-difficulty-into-learning

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**Mother Nature is one of the best teachers. 🌱  
  
Thanks to** [**@ValentinaESL**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.email.kqed.org%2F%3Fqs%3D091b8ca830fd51e08fb6b0a700fcac93b375133dec68ae36a89195832ceb6c7bd8689082138c886f61f23c8c6ac534407e410b1a1323c2da&data=05%7C02%7Csarah.ferguson%40maine.gov%7Cf9f2fb8d397e44cfd3c108dc77f734b3%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638517150849429019%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=vV5eMfT49rn653sVzbu1UnS70X%2FdljBT1OZDrUV8UgA%3D&reserved=0) **for this sketchnote. You can learn more about Valentina Gonzalez’s work at**[**Reading & Writing with English Learners**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.email.kqed.org%2F%3Fqs%3D091b8ca830fd51e0d7175933107c28081e0f6ddbb0628a91cb7552ddb8ebeb93b208f92fccb447f70e33dc47bd53fc0272a45f75461f78c5&data=05%7C02%7Csarah.ferguson%40maine.gov%7Cf9f2fb8d397e44cfd3c108dc77f734b3%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C638517150849434796%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=IEV5IxWeXFImEjTZKBKPHfF7eG3PU%2B0ZkxhXtzL4F%2BM%3D&reserved=0)**.**

**New Items in the Padlet:**

Why Students Forget-and What You Can Do About It Edutopia 9/20/2027 Youki Terada

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

Additional Links:

Cost Study Flyer [Cost Study Flyer.pdf](https://stateofmaine-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/personal/gaye_erskine_maine_gov/Documents/Desktop/Flyers%20and%20Info%20from%20agendas/Cost%20Study%20Flyer.pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=BBlchX) [The American Institutes for Research.docx](https://stateofmaine-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/personal/gaye_erskine_maine_gov/Documents/Desktop/Flyers%20and%20Info%20from%20agendas/The%20American%20Institutes%20for%20Research.docx?d=wb4bee37c85be4ea6899aefc737c0b6f3&csf=1&web=1&e=p5lg7W)

**ableU**

**Profession on demand professional development**:

[ableU Professional Development by AbleNet.pdf](https://stateofmaine-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/personal/gaye_erskine_maine_gov/Documents/Desktop/Flyers%20and%20Info%20from%20agendas/ableU%20Professional%20Development%20by%20AbleNet.pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=Km0fxc)

[MaineCare in Education\_ New Resources and Updated MaineCare in Education 2024 Guide.pdf](https://stateofmaine-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/personal/gaye_erskine_maine_gov/Documents/Desktop/Flyers%20and%20Info%20from%20agendas/MaineCare%20in%20Education_%20New%20Resources%20and%20Updated%20MaineCare%20in%20Education%202024%20Guide.pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=xR9NQ9)

**PINE TREE CAMP** [2024 Camp Overview.pdf](https://stateofmaine-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/personal/gaye_erskine_maine_gov/Documents/Desktop/Flyers%20and%20Info%20from%20agendas/2024%20Camp%20Overview.pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=1yf4Hm)

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