



EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION
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May 9, 2012
Bulletin #P-14244-CLS/ESE

Contact Person:
Fartun Mohamud, Ed.D., PX 48627

Action By:
Information Only

TO: All Principals

FROM: Janis Andrews, Ed.D., Chief Academic Officer *JA.*

SUBJECT: PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

The Department of Exceptional Student Education (ESE) in collaboration with the School Counseling and Graduation Team is proud to announce the Peer Support Program professional learning opportunity. The Peer Support program is a specially designed set of courses that fosters the development of students' skills which enables them to successfully support their peers with significant disabilities. Peer Support Program implementation has been shown to increase curricular access, promote critical literacy skills, and improve social and communication opportunities for all students.

All schools are encouraged to send teams to participate in this exciting professional learning opportunity. Stipends for the one day workshop will be provided for participating teachers if they are implementing the program but do not normally work in the summer months.

Target Audience: Staff members (General Ed. and ESE teachers, Guidance Counselors, ESE Contacts, Principals and Assistant Principals, etc.) who will be able to manage/oversee the course requirements of the peer support program.

Participating schools will receive a complimentary copy of the Florida Inclusion Network/FLDOE manual, *The Power of Peers: A Guide to Developing a Peer Support Program for Students with Disabilities*. It is a comprehensive manual that includes sections for school team training; school team program planning; student/peer training; and program implementation and evaluation/data collection tools.

June 14, 2011
PEW Center
8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Registration is now available on Course Registration under the ESE Department.

Thanks for your support of inclusive practices. If there are any questions, please contact Fartun Mohamud, FIN Specialist, at PX 48627.

EWG:JA:KO:JS:FM:jb

Approved: 
E. Wayne Gent, Superintendent