

# NewsLetter

09/02/2025



## "The ATLL is Your Partner in Learning"

The Agency for Teaching, Leading, and Learning (ATLL) is excited to partner with Southwest Missouri School districts for their professional learning needs. If you have specific needs, please reach out to one of us and let the learning begin!

Please use the following link to view our [2025-2026 ATLL Staff Directory](#) of coaches and consultants ready to assist you!



## Mailing List

We are currently updating our constant contact mailing list. If you have staff that would like to be added to our mailing list, please have them subscribe [HERE](#).

## New Leadership

If you know of a new Superintendent, Administrator, SPED or Curriculum Director, or Professional Development Coordinator taking a position in your school district, please send their name and email address (if known) to Randy Luebbert and Ruben Berry so that we can update our records.

[RLuebbert@MissouriState.edu](mailto:RLuebbert@MissouriState.edu) and  
[RubenBerry@MissouriState.edu](mailto:RubenBerry@MissouriState.edu)

## Counselor Changes

If you are a counselor that will be retiring this year, or moving buildings/districts, or know of a new counselor starting in the 2025-2026 school year, please contact Laura Harris and Ruben Berry so that we may update our records.

[LauraHarris@MissouriState.edu](mailto:LauraHarris@MissouriState.edu)  
[RubenBerry@MissouriState.edu](mailto:RubenBerry@MissouriState.edu)

# Notes From Our Consultants

## Literacy

Register on Frontline for face-to-face cohorts ASAP. Manuals will be ordered six weeks prior to the first session. [2025-2026 Offerings](#)

DESE has extended funding related to SB 681 that includes reimbursement opportunities for your district. If you have been given stipends for training in LETRS or SOR, please click [HERE](#) to learn more. MO Read, Lead, Exceed is not extended to Early Childhood LETRS.

We can come to your district to do a LETRS training cohort! You're welcome to invite neighboring districts to join, aiming for a collaborative cohort of 25 participants.

## PBIS

Did you know that the ATLL can provide professional development for your staff at **no cost** to your district? [Youth Mental Health First Aid](#) teaches parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, school staff, and other caring adults how to help youth who may be experiencing mental health, substance use, or other crises.

Thanks to funding from MO DESE, over 3,000 public school employees have been trained in Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) since March 2022. Contact Jordan Politte or Andrea Rockney for more information and fill out the form located [HERE](#) when you're ready to bring this training to your district. Be sure to request the ATLL (SWRPDC) as your instructors.

[Menu of PBIS Offerings](#)

[Sign-up Form](#)

## MLDS

Attention ALL Leaders! MLDS Has a place for you! Let us help you support your leadership journey! We hope to see you in 2025-2026!

Please contact Randy Luebbert for more information and to sign up:

[RLuebbert@MissouriState.edu](mailto:RLuebbert@MissouriState.edu) or 417-836-4422

## GYO

Please check out the Grow Your Own Network video [HERE](#). We look forward to seeing you at a GYO Session!

## RYA

Don't get stuck on setting up your Registered Youth Apprenticeship program! Here are things I can help with:

- Assist with writing Standards and first work process
- Present to your stakeholders
- Serve as your point person until you get your feet on the ground
- Answer questions or come walk you through the process

417-836-4074

[BettyGlasgow@MissouriState.edu](mailto:BettyGlasgow@MissouriState.edu)

## MTDS

"LAST CALL for new teachers!!"

If you have new teachers that need to participate in the Beginning Teacher Assistance Program your last day to sign up is September 5!

Joanna Haskins - [JoannaHaskins@MissouriState.edu](mailto:JoannaHaskins@MissouriState.edu)

# Upcoming Workshops

## Literacy

**Designing Your Comprehensive Literacy Plan: A Framework and Self-Assessment for LEAs**  
**Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup> | 9:00am - 12:00pm**  
**Instructor: Jenny Dunagan**

This learning opportunity is designed for LEAs starting or developing a comprehensive literacy plan (CLP). The training helps districts understand literacy improvement purposes and effectively use Steps to Success Guidance materials to create K-12 literacy plans based on Comprehensive Literacy Needs Assessment results. This framework provides administrators and teachers with guidance on integrating literacy instruction with state standards and evidence-based practices for long-term student success. Enrollment requires partnership agreement and commitment to four trainings: two in-person and two virtual sessions over the school year. \*\*This training session will show six meeting times, but LEAs have a choice of two dates for the virtual meetings in December and April. We request district leadership and literacy leaders attend (minimum two per district).

This partnership agreement and commitment consists of: -scheduling and participating in the initial training on Frontline through your RPDC (a half day training) and using the contact information provided during the training to arrange additional support as needed. - committing to meeting with and communicating with your local literacy team on a scheduled basis to have the collaborative conversations needed to complete the Comprehensive Literacy Needs Assessment in order to advance the CLP progress. -accepting and scheduling RPDC check-in support (see virtual dates and times already provided in the Frontline information) as the literacy team works through the CLNA to develop a CLP to communicate progress and troubleshoot issues

[Register Here](#)

## RYA

**Registered Youth Apprenticeship Training 101**  
**Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> | 9:00am - 12:00pm**  
**Instructor: Betty Glasgow**

This training will enable any district to have the tools necessary to build its own Registered Youth Apprenticeship program, no matter the size of the community/district. During this workshop, you will learn the basics of how to implement and customize your own registered youth apprenticeship program. Let this workshop simplify the process of implementation for you!

[Register Here](#)

## MELL

**MELL Meet-Up - Reading instruction for Multilingual Learners**  
**Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup> | 11:30am - 3:00pm**  
**Instructor: Rhonda Hittenberger Ortiz**

FOCUS on reading strategies for MLs. Bring your lunch and connect with educators of English language learners. We will have a focus each meeting as well as time set aside to collaborate and talk with others who are doing what you do!

[Register Here](#)

# Upcoming Workshops

## SPED

**I am the Process Coordinator! Now What?**  
**Wednesday, October 1st | 9:00am - 3:00pm**  
**Instructor: Melynda Van Note**

Join me on October 1st and February 24th as we discuss how process coordinators can best support special education teachers. We will discuss organization for the PC and how they can organize their teachers, talk about process items such as referrals, REDs, assessments, interpretation of assessments, eligibility, and IEPs. Cost is \$70 and includes two days of training with lunch and parking provided. This is a two day commitment so please make sure you are available both of these dates when you sign up. Day two is February 24th.

[Register Here](#)

**Developing Quality Standards-based IEPs**  
**Monday, October 6<sup>th</sup> | 9:00am - 3:00pm**  
**Instructor: Melynda Van Note**

In the post-Endrew F. world, Individual Education Program (IEPs) teams must write IEPs designed to help students make meaningful progress. Learn the art of developing IEPs in which the present level of academic and functional performance forms a solid foundation for writing SMARTgoals connected to learning standards, describing specially designed instruction, and designing classroom accommodations and modifications. Additionally, participants will learn how to involve parents in the process and review all timelines that must be met to remain in compliance.

[Register Here](#)

**Cohort 2 Corrective Action Plan (CAP) Training**  
**Tuesday, October 7th | 9:00am - 12:00pm**  
**Instructor: Melynda Van Note**

Districts who were in Cohort 2 and completed their Special Education Self-Assessment Tiered Monitoring last year will be notified in mid-September of any Corrective Actions they received. This training is designed to provide professional development over the Standards and Indicators called out of compliance in our region. This will fulfill a training component of your CAPs and will assist you in being able to go back and provide professional development on the Indicators your district was called out on. This is a virtual training.

[Register Here](#)

**Special Education Eligibility: Making Quality Eligibility Determinations**  
**Wednesday, October 15th | 9:00am - 3:00pm**  
**Instructor: Melynda Van Note**

The focus of this workshop will be on the evaluation process from pre-referral to eligibility. We will look at how decisions are being made regarding which students to evaluate, how to determine what information needs to be gathered through assessments and then how to use that information in eligibility decisions. Information regarding the content of evaluation reports, based on the standards and indicators, will also be included.

[Register Here](#)

# Upcoming Workshops

## SPED

### Special Education Compliance Monitoring Self-Assessment Training

Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> | 9:00am - 3:00pm

Instructor: Melynda Van Note

This training is designed for districts who will going through self-assessment during 2025-2026 (Cohort 3). This will be a full day training designed to assist public agencies in preparation for their Special Education Tiered Monitoring review process. The training will describe the self-assessment process and the use of the IMACS 2.0 system. During the morning session, a DESE Compliance Supervisor will join us and we will go over the technical aspects of self-assessment and how to use IMACS 2.0 properly to complete the required activities. After lunch, we will go over the indicators that will be part of the self-assessment and discuss ways to ensure compliance with those indicators.

[Register Here](#)

### Special Education New Directors' Group

Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> | 9:00am - 3:00pm

Instructor: Melynda Van Note

The New Directors' Group will meet periodically throughout the school year to discuss a variety of topics and build relationships with other new directors. You will register for each session individually (10/23/2025, 01/22/2026 & 03/5/2026) so look for all three of the dates in Frontline to register for what you are able to attend. You do not have to attend all three - you may pick and choose based on your schedule. This enrollment is for the first training October 23rd, which will be a full day training held at MSU in Hill Hall Room 402 from 9:00 to 3:00. We will plan to discuss referrals, evaluation reports, eligibility. We will have a Q & A for any issues you are experiencing at the time.

[Register Here](#)

## MTDS

### MTDS Critical Thinking and Engagement

Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> | 9:00am - 3:00pm

Instructor: Joanna Haskins

Take your lesson design to the next level! Learn how to design tasks that promote engagement and critical thinking in your students while also designing your own individual learning as a teacher. This program offers continued support for \*early educators, \*those who are entering the profession through other means (such as alternative certification), or \*those navigating changes in content or grade-level. Join us if you are a teacher who wants to- learn research and evidence-based practices that promote critical thinking and problem-solving, -dive deeper into a topic of interest that you want to incorporate into your classroom, and -set growth goals for your students and for yourself.

[Register Here](#)



# Upcoming Workshops

## Behavior

### Teaching Behaviors in the Special Education Classroom

Thursday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> | 8:30am - 2:30pm

Instructor: Mikelle O'Neal

This full day workshop is designed to help special education teachers support students with behavioral needs. Teachers will gain insight on how to identify missing skills in the area of communication, regulation and social interactions. Strategies will be shared on how to find the time and resources for intentional instruction and practice in the area of missing skills. This workshop is designed for anyone supporting special education students. Registration and a light breakfast will begin at 8:30. Lunch and parking are included.

[Register Here](#)

### Navigating Behaviors at the Secondary Level

Monday, October 6<sup>th</sup> | 8:30am - 2:30pm

Instructor: Mikelle O'Neal

This full day workshop is designed to help secondary teachers support students with big behaviors. Teachers will gain strategies in the following areas: proactive classroom management, function based thinking, responding to students during and after behaviors, helping students regulate, and addressing missing behavioral skills. This workshop is designed for any secondary teacher supporting students with big behaviors. Registration and a light breakfast will begin at 8:30. Lunch and parking are included.

[Register Here](#)

### Reset Rooms

Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> | 8:30am - 2:30pm

Instructor: Mikelle O'Neal

This workshop will focus on the use of Reset Rooms in the school setting. Reset Rooms offer a designated space for students to de-escalate, regulate emotions, and practice self-management skills. Participants will learn how to establish an environment and structure that will successfully allow students to return to the education environment as quickly as possible. This workshop is designed for districts of all sizes and is targeted towards building and special education administrators, counselors, behavior interventionist, or other individuals interested in learning more about the use of Reset Rooms. Participants will also gain access to materials that will support the effectiveness of this intervention.

[Register Here](#)

### Function Based Thinking

Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup> | 8:30am - 2:30pm

Instructor: Mikelle O'Neal

This workshop will explore how all behavior is a form of communication and serves a purpose. Participants will learn the principles of behavior change, methods for teaching replacement behaviors, and strategies for weakening undesired behavior. Participants will explore the four functions of behavior (Sensory, Escape, Attention, Tangible), and interventions that address each function. The workshop format will allow participants to process a specific student, examine the function of behavior, and leave with strategies to begin to immediately apply. This workshop is designed for special education teachers, regular education teachers, paras, counselors, administrators and/or any team member working with students with challenging behaviors.

[Register Here](#)