



## Welcome to the Department of Equity, Inclusion, Intervention and Inspiration

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**Late Spring 2023 Newsletter**

**Volume 8, Issue 2**

### **As always this newsletter hopes to be a resource to you and your family~**

We know that navigating the many emails with information and resources available to you can be challenging. We hope this season's newsletter is something that you can come back to over and over again to find information that is important to you and your child.

**Have you wondered about the professional development our staff receive or the areas of growth they have prioritized?** Below you will find a sampling of the focus for our departments this year. **Enjoy!**

**~Thank you for supporting our professional growth~**

### **Resources for Parents**

[District Calendar](#)  
[School Counseling](#)  
[Curriculum and Instruction](#)  
[Special Education Process and Information](#)  
[Equity Information for the District](#)  
[Spotlight weekly updates from Michelle Bent](#)  
[Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying](#)

### **School Handbooks**

[LHS Handbook](#)  
[HMS Handbook](#)  
[MPM Handbook](#)  
[BHE Handbook](#)  
[Collins Handbook](#)  
[Harrison Handbook](#)  
[Hillside Handbook](#)  
[MPE Handbook](#)  
[RHE Handbook](#)

## **Celebrations in Professional Development**

*The Staff in LPS spend hours upon hours in professional growth~ find just a few of the topics that have transformed our schools this year!*

### **Equity**

Implicit Bias  
Beyond Binary - Supporting LGBTQIA+ Students in the Common App  
BIPOC Affinity Group Book Club: A Reflection on "School Counseling to Close Opportunity Gaps a Social Justice and Antiracist Framework for Success"  
Evaluating students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing  
Neurodiversity  
NJ Bar Association-Equity in Schools  
Self-Care for Better Mental Health in Schools from a School Counselor's Perspective  
Social Justice  
Understanding Microaggressions  
Using Kit Lit to engage students in conversations about equity, diversity, inclusion, anti-racism, and anti-bias



### **Mental Health, SEL, and School Climate**

Barrel Children: Who Are They and How Do We Support Them in the School Setting?  
Cannabis Legalization and the Impact of Emerging Drug Trends  
Character & SEL - How Character Gives SEL It's Why  
Facilitating the School Climate Change Process Using the New Jersey School Climate Improvement (NJ SCI) Platform  
Feeling Crispy? The 3-R's for School Counselor Self-Care: Reflect, Release and Recharge  
Human Trafficking and the School Counseling Response  
Mental Health First Aid (MHFA)  
NJSCA Fostering Resilience Webinar  
Positive Behavior Supports  
Public School Counselors demonstrating Resilience in Tough Times  
Racial Trauma workshop with the Center on Child Wellbeing and Trauma  
Sara Harberson - *Links on Social Media*  
Self-Care for Better Mental Health in Schools from a School Counselor's Perspective  
Strategies to Assist Middle and High School Level Counselors with Navigating Mental and Emotional Struggles of Their Students  
teen Mental Health First Aid (tmHFA)  
The College Tour - podcast  
Traumatic Loss Coalition for Youth of Essex County meetings and trainings  
Various topics including:  
Resilience DBT and Eating Disorders  
Youth Trends in Substance Use  
Navigating the Emergency Room  
Trauma Attuned Classrooms  
Webinar - College Board/JED webinar on *Mental Health Resources and Realities for High School Students*  
Webinar - Child Mind Institute on *How to Talk to Children about Mass Shootings*  
Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA)

### **Instruction, Intervention, and Pedagogy**

Assistive Technologies  
Data driven decision making  
IMSE-OG  
Math, Math, Math  
Overview of early reading assessment and subsequent development of G/O  
Positive Behavior Supports  
Promoting Pragmatic Language in the classroom  
Schoolology  
Social-Emotional Learning  
STEAM in the Classroom  
Teaching math skills through fun, everyday activities  
Tools of the Mind - for Pre-K learners  
Engaging ALL Learners



### **Transitions**

2-4 Year College Program Connections  
A Closer Look at Direct-Admit Programs  
College rep visits, military visits, college campus visits, online virtual tours  
"College Steps" - Transition Process for Secondary Staff  
Colleges & Universities that Offer ASD Supports  
CT, PA and NY College Office of Disabilities  
DDD - Division of Developmental Disabilities Aging Out Timeline  
Dr. Leonard Moore on Race and Culture in College Admissions  
DVRS Overview  
LRE Statements and Decision Making Process  
Managing Expectations of the Junior Year: Guidance on Research for the Post-Secondary Process for Students with Disabilities  
Medical and Recreational Marijuana for Mental Health and Healthcare Professionals  
Member of the University of Georgia Advisory Board (2 year commitment to the university)  
NACAC (National Association for College Admissions Counseling) Conference  
NJ Schools: Office of Disabilities  
NJ Tips Presentation: Transportation  
Optional Campus Tour  
Post-Secondary Transition for Students with Disabilities  
The Future of the ACT/SAT Optional and Test-Blind/Score-Free Admission  
The P Factors in the College Search and the College Admission Decision Making Process  
Transition to Life  
When Students Don't/Won't/Can't Talk: Strategies That Jumpstart Communication so Students Find Their Voice  
Why Us?: What Colleges are Looking for in Supplemental Essays and What Students Reveal About Themselves

## Parent Events that are Happening for the Spring of 2023~

\*Where available at the time of the publishing of this newsletter, Zoom Links are embedded for each remote event.

\*All other event locations and information can be found on each school's website.

### April 2023

**April 12, 6:30 p.m.**

SEPAC Building Meeting  
Collins Elementary School

[Zoom](#)

**April 12, 6:15 p.m.**

MPM to HMS Transition Night for  
Parents of Students with a Disability  
Heritage Middle School

In-Person

**April 12, 7:15 p.m.**

MPM to HMS Transition Night for  
All Parents  
Heritage Middle School

In-Person

**April 24, 6:00 p.m.**

SEPAC Building Meeting for  
Parents of Students with a Disability from MPM & HMS  
Mount Pleasant Middle School & Heritage Middle School

[Zoom](#) Meeting ID: 885 6282 5475 Passcode: 882871

**April 27, 7:00 p.m.**

Livingston High School College, Career and Transition Fair for  
All Parents

Livingston High School Fitness & Wellness Center

In-Person

### May and June 2023

**May 3, 7:00 p.m.**

Post-Secondary Process for the First Time  
Livingston High School Auditorium

In-Person

**May 18, 2:30 p.m.**

PRIDE Parent Workshop  
Enhancing Social & Emotional Skills

[Zoom](#) Meeting ID: 882 9101 1440 Passcode: 904116

**May 22, 6:15 p.m.**

5th Grade Parent Orientation to 6th Grade for  
Parents of Students with a Disability

Mount Pleasant Middle School

In-Person

**May 22, 7:00 p.m.**

5th Grade Parent Orientation to 6th Grade for  
All Parents

Mount Pleasant Middle School

In-Person

**June 7, 3:30 p.m.**

Collins SEPAC Meeting  
Collins Elementary School

In-Person

**June 8, 7:00 p.m.**

Senior Awards and Scholarship Program  
Livingston High School

In-Person

\*Past events with resources linked~

**March 2023** \*shared in the prior newsletter

**March 2, 6:30 p.m.**

[SEPAC Building Meeting for Parents of Students with a Disability](#)  
Livingston High School

**March 2, 7:30 p.m.**

[Community Advisor Meeting](#)  
Livingston High School

**March 13, 7:00 p.m.**

[Helping Your Teen Cope with Stress, Anxiety, and Social Challenges](#)  
Livingston High School

**March 14, 7:30 p.m.**

[SEPAC Building Meeting for Parents of Students with a Disability](#)  
Burnet Hill Elementary School

**March 16, 6:00 p.m.**

[New York, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania Colleges & Universities Post-Secondary Schools with Disability Programs for Parents of Students with a Disability](#)  
Livingston High School

**March 16, 7:00 p.m.**

[College Admissions Panel](#)  
Livingston High School

**March 20, 6:00 p.m.**

[SEPAC Building Meeting for Parents of Students with a Disability](#)  
Riker Hill Elementary School

**March 20, 6:00 p.m.**

[SEPAC Building Meeting for Parents of Students with a Disability](#)  
Harrison Elementary School

**March 23, 2:30 p.m.**

[Exiting PRIDE: What to Expect?](#)  
PRIDE Parent Workshop

**March 28, 7:00 p.m.**

[SEPAC Building Meeting for Parents of Students with a Disability](#)  
Hillside Elementary School

**March 30, 6:00 p.m.**

[Colleges & Universities Support Services for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder for Parents of Students with a Disability](#)  
Livingston High School

**March 30, 7:00 p.m.**

[Class of 2024 - The Post-Secondary Application Process for All Parents](#)  
Livingston High School