

# Special Ed Times at JSD

January 2026 Newsletter



JORDAN  
Special  
Education

## January Events

1-2: Winter Recess -  
No School

9:  
- HS/MS SCSC  
Singleton PLCs  
- District SEB

12: High School Team  
Leaders Meeting

16: Last Day of  
Quarter 2

19: Martin Luther King,  
Jr. Day Recess – No  
School

20: Grade Transmittal  
Day

## Note From Kim Lloyd, Special Education Director

This is the perfect time to pause and celebrate the progress your students have made so far this year! The work you're doing every day with students and families is making a real difference.

As we return from the holiday break, let's remember routines and structure are the foundation for student success. A quick review of expectations, consistent schedules, and clear procedures will help students feel safe, settled, and ready to learn again.

In the words of Ted Lasso, *"Doing the right thing is never the wrong thing."* By grounding ourselves in the basics—relationships, consistency, and routines—we're setting our students (and ourselves!) up for a strong second half of the year.

Thanks for all that you do! Together - we've got this!

## IMPORTANT NOTICES

- Progress Reports Due: Progress reports are due one week after the end of the quarter, January 16, 2026. Here is the updated [Progress Report Expectations Document](#). Please review and reach out to your Teacher Specialist if you have any questions.
- Specific Learning Disability (SLD) Category Training:  
Specific Learning Disability Classification Professional Development is being offered as a half day training this year for those who missed it last year. Please sign up at the following links and use code 1292 when submitting sub requests:
  - [2/3 AM Registration Link](#) 8:00 AM-12:00 PM
  - [2/19 PM Registration Link](#) 11:30 AM-3:30 PM
  - [3/3 AM Registration Link](#) 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

## ROTATING STATION

### JCDC Early Learning at a Glance

The Jordan Child Development Center (JCDC) supports children from birth to age five through Early Intervention (EI) and preschool services. EI is a parent-child training program for children birth to three that builds essential skills and empowers families. Many children then transition to our preschool program, which includes 36 classrooms in elementary schools and specialized communication classes at JCDC, serving over 1,600 children. EI currently serves over 900 children. Preschool classrooms are intentionally inclusive, with students receiving special education alongside typically developing peers. Once enrolled, children may receive specialized instruction and related therapies from early childhood special educators, speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, and other district specialists. Academic and social-emotional learning are guided by the evidence-based Frog Street Curriculum, and ongoing support and professional development are delivered by dedicated instructional coaches and specialists. Educators and staff are encouraged to connect with EI and preschool teams to ensure smooth transitions, continuity of services, and a strong start for our youngest learners.

## Teachers Toolbox

### RULEBOOK REMINDERS

#### Special Education Service Minutes

- Services must Reflect amount of Specially Designed Instruction provided to student
- Services must be listed by skills (not course name)
- Services minutes must be determined by need (not school's master schedule)
- Elementary services minutes should be listed as monthly
- Self-Contained Support Classes service minutes can be listed weekly
- Secondary service minutes can be listed weekly or monthly
- All service time on SCRAM should be listed as weekly minutes
- Service location must be either marked Special Education Class or General Education Class

See page 17& 18 [IEP Handbook](#)

### TEACHING TIDBITS

Check out these articles -

- [Executive Functioning Skills - Teach Planning and Prioritization](#)
- [Note-Taking is a Multistep Process](#)
- [5 Rich Math Activities That Elementary School Teachers Can Use Anytime](#)
- [How to Move From the "Main Idea" to "Background Knowledge"](#)

## Behavior Bytes

**1% Better**  
BEHAVIOR BYTE

### Visual Cues

Post or point to a reminder (like "Raise your hand to speak") instead of repeating directions. Saves energy and reinforces consistency.



1% changes for 100% results

# ALL-STARS SPOTLIGHT

Sammi Taylor  
Speech Language Pathologist  
West Jordan Middle School and  
Joel P Jensen Middle School

Sammi Taylor works as an SLP at West Jordan MS and JPJMS. She has been a true team player as she jumps in to work with and support students and is always willing to help and support other SLPs as well. She has supervised numerous CF SLPs and acts as a mentor as well. Her insight into her student's communication needs and consistently positive attitude make her an invaluable resource and SLP! Thank you for choosing to be part of our team.

Clinton Thurgood  
School Psychologist  
Bingham High School



Clinton is the school psychologist at Bingham High School. Clinton works with all students across the large population at Bingham and provides comprehensive services in counseling, behavior, and school-based mental health. He works closely with families and teams to ensure students get the supports they need. In addition to the services he provides at Bingham, Clinton also teaches Anger Management Classes at the Jordan Family Education Center (JFEC) for Parents and Adults. We are lucky to have Clinton on our team!

Rae Hoffman  
Paraprofessional  
Sunset Ridge Middle School

Rae's an amazing paraprofessional who works great with all of the kids and takes a positive attitude to school every day. She's always willing to jump in and support her school team and students wherever needed. Her energy and commitment to making her special education team better make a real difference for everyone. We're so lucky to have her as part of the Sunset Ridge team.

Barbara Lindsey  
Special Education Teacher  
Preschool



Barbara Lindsey stands out as a preschool teacher who consistently goes above and beyond for her students. She creates a warm, nurturing environment where every child feels valued and encouraged to learn. Her classroom routines are clear, consistent, and foster a sense of security, allowing students to thrive. Barbara is known for her creative activities that spark curiosity and excitement. Whether it's hands-on art projects, imaginative story times, or engaging sensory play, she finds unique ways to make each lesson meaningful and fun. Her thoughtful planning ensures that every activity supports student development and learning goals.

Deanne Call  
Special Education Team Leader  
Mountain Creek Middle School



Deanne is one of our most experienced teachers in Jordan School District. She has served with us in both the high school and middle school settings. She currently leads the Mountain Creek Middle School team with grace as they deal with a multitude of complex cases, always putting the kids first. She will be retiring this year and we wish her all the best! On to the next adventure!

Gabriel Parkin  
Special Education Teacher  
Hayden Peak Elementary



Gabe Parkin is a new teacher to Jordan School District. He has been working with several severe student behaviors. Although, he is new to teaching, he is serving students like a master teacher. He has submitted several strategies to work with these behaviors, to his school team. He has demonstrated how these can be run. He is adjusting student schedules to accommodate these new strategies. He is arranging for training for his aides. Gabe knows how to take initiative to work with his team for the benefit of his students. Gabe, we so glad to have you teach in the Jordan School District!