



# Special Ed Times at JSD

May/June 2025 Newsletter

## May Events

2: Zoom PD  
5: HS Team Leaders Meeting  
9: District Singletons SCSC PLCs (MS & HS)  
16: Open Office hours for Elementary  
22: SLP Professional Development  
26: Memorial Day Recess- No School  
28-29 Unified Sports Day

## June

3-5: High School Graduations  
6: Last Day of Qtr. 4  
9: Teacher Check-Out

## Note From Kim Lloyd, Special Education Director

As the end of the academic year approaches, it is important to take a moment to reflect on the journey we have shared. This year has been marked by both challenges and triumphs, and it is your unwavering dedication that has guided our students through this journey.

Thank you for your belief in the potential of our students, for your dedication to their families, and for the supportive community you have built among your team members. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed and are deeply appreciated.

As summer approaches and we only have those last couple of weeks in which we need to be mindful of maintaining consistency in our routines and structures, this will assist in a smooth closing of the year. Take pride in the success of your students' achievements, big and small, they are moments to celebrate and cherish.

Before you know it, summer will be upon us and it will be time for rest and rejuvenation. I wish you many opportunities to relax, spend time with those you love and maybe embark on an adventure or two that inspires you! It is essential that each of us takes time for self-care and to recharge!

Thank you for all that you do and the inspiration you provide for your students and colleagues.

## Important Notices

The password for the forms page will change on July 1, 2025. These forms and resources are exclusively for Jordan School District's Special Education teachers, staff, and providers. Please ensure this information is not shared with individuals outside of Special Education. The new password will be **SpedTeam#25**

## Teachers Toolbox

### Teaching Tidbits

Check out some great articles from Edutopia!!

- [Science-Backed Studying Techniques](#)
- [6 Foundational Ways to Scaffold Student Learning](#)
- [Using Differentiation to Challenge All Students](#)
- [Activities to Spark Students' Curiosity in the Classroom](#)
- [5 Ways to Teach Students the Skill of Active Studying](#)
- [An Instructional Approach That Boosts Student Confidence in Math](#)

A **Special Education PD** course has been created for you to view the recordings of our different PDs over the year. Teachers can self-enroll in the course by clicking on the following link: <https://jordanpd.instructure.com/enroll/TYDLCH>. Each training has its own module. Within each module, you are given two choices:

- The re-licensure option will require you to complete a quiz after looking at/viewing all the materials. Once you complete the quiz with 75% or better, your certificate will be emailed to you for your records.
- The viewing option allows you to look at/view some or all of the materials. There is an exit survey at the end to collect feedback to help us if you still have questions.

### Current modules -

- Start of the Year "To Do" Reminders
- The Great 8 Classifications
- Data to Direction
- The Elephant in the Room - Let's Talk Study Skills
- District Support and Resources to Support Student Progress
- ESY Purpose, Options, and Documentation
- Special Education and MLs – Looking Beyond the Myth
- Making FBA and BIP Writing Easy as Pie!!
- End of the Year "To Do" Reminders

The final optional, Special Education Zoom Professional Development for the year will be held on May 2nd at 1:30 and will cover End of Year Procedures. Please sign up using the PD Catalog link - [End of the Year "To Do" Reminders](#)

### TRANSFER OF STUDENT FILES

All files to be transferred within the district must be hand-delivered to the receiving school. All files must be in compliance before they are transferred. Teams should use the [File Review Checklist](#), to verify that files are in compliance. Files must be given to the receiving special education team and not left with the receiving school's secretary, in a closet, or vacant room.

- Service logs (SLP, OT, PT, Guidance, Personal Care), must be entered into Embrace DS. If you did not complete your logs in Embrace, they must be signed and placed in the student's special education file, and uploaded into Embrace.
- Student Lists (for resource teachers) should be given to incoming schools so that teachers know who will be coming to their schools in the fall and have knowledge of areas of eligibility.
  - Team Leaders may contact Brenda Cruz to activate a function in Embrace that will allow access to students attending users schools next year.
- Self-Contained Support Classrooms will not have a full student list until August.
- Inactive Files should be transferred to the school the student will or would attend next year.
- IEPs/Re-evals due prior to October 1, 2025 must be updated by the sending school before being delivered to the receiving school.
- The [Transfer of Special Education Files form](#) must be used to track all student files being transferred.

### LOCATION OF STUDENT FILES

The records manager must ensure all files are located within the school. Make sure your principal knows where all special education files are, that filing cabinets are locked, and keys are properly tagged. Occasionally, district staff may need access to student files during the summer. To facilitate this, place a set of file cabinet keys in a sealed envelope labeled "Special Education File Keys" and store it in your team leader's mailbox at the school. This will streamline access to files if needed during the summer.

### IEP SERVICES/SCRAM INFORMATION

- Ensure all IEP Services and SCRAM information are up-to-date and accurate. Use the Embrace SCRAM form for any changes. Remember, SCRAMs should only be changed with an IEP team decision.

### PROGRESS REPORTS

- Progress Reports must be provided to parents at the same time student report cards are issued.

### YEAR-END SUMMARY

- Complete a year-end summary on any students leaving the district.
- A summary of the student's academic achievement and functional performance (Exit Summary) is required for any student whose eligibility ends due to graduating with a regular diploma or aging out of public education, and who will no longer qualify for FAPE.

### NEW TEACHER MATERIALS AND UATT LIBRARY

Loaned materials from the New Teacher Professional Library or UATT must be returned. Please contact:

- [Susan Sudbury](#) for New Teacher Materials or
- [Cheri Blue](#) for UATT materials. After inventory is completed, items will be available for check out for ESY.

**Please reach out to your Teacher Specialist if you have any questions.**

### Transition Corner

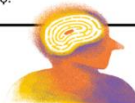
On Wednesday, February 26, 2025, the Jordan School District Transition Fair was a huge success, and we couldn't have done it without you! Thanks to your efforts in spreading the word, we had an incredible turnout, with students from all of our high schools, virtual school, and several middle schools, as well as our post-high students, attending the event.

With 75 families in attendance and 30 outside agencies sharing valuable resources and support, the fair provided meaningful opportunities for students and parents to connect, plan, and prepare for the future. The positive feedback we received highlights just how impactful this event was. We also want to extend a huge thank you to Chick-fil-A and Swig for their generous donations, which helped make the event even more enjoyable for everyone who attended. We truly appreciate your help in advertising and encouraging students and families to attend. Your support made all the difference, and we look forward to working together to continue providing these important opportunities in the future!

### Behavior Byte

## Mindful CLASSROOM PRACTICES

“Just as physical exercise builds muscle, mindful awareness practice builds attentional focus and flexibility.”



#### Benefits of Mindfulness

- Reduced stress and anxiety
- Improved emotional regulation
- Increased self-awareness
- Enhanced focus and concentration
- Improved sleep quality
- Reduced pain and discomfort
- Reduce reactivity
- Increases tolerance to frustrations
- Increases problem solving skills

#### What is it?

##### Mindfulness Is...

##### Non-judgmental observation:

Paying attention to thoughts and feelings without labeling or criticizing them.

##### Focus on the Present:

Bringing awareness to the current moment, rather than dwelling on the past or worrying about the future.

##### Acceptance:

Accepting thoughts and feelings as they arise, without trying to suppress or change them.

A mindful student is actively aware of their present moment experience, including their thoughts, feelings, and physical sensations, without judgment, often demonstrated by taking conscious breaths, noticing their surroundings, and checking in with their emotions before reacting to a situation, allowing them to respond calmly and thoughtfully, especially during stressful situations like tests or difficult conversations.

1

Create opportunities for students to practice daily mindfulness

2

Practice and model mindfulness yourself

3

Use mindful practices to adjust the energy of the class



# CELEBRATING OUR RETIREES

As we wrap up another fantastic year, it's time to celebrate and bid a fond farewell to our incredible retirees who have dedicated their careers to supporting our students. Your passion, dedication, and unwavering support have made a lasting impact on countless lives.

You've been more than just educators; you've been mentors, friends, and role models. Your laughter, wisdom, and heart have enriched our team and our students' journeys. As you step into this exciting new chapter filled with relaxation and adventure, know that you'll always be a cherished part of our special education family.

Thank you for your years of service and for bringing joy and inspiration to our community. We'll miss you dearly, but we wish you all the happiness in your well-earned retirement!

**Kim Wadsworth**  
Speech & Language Pathologist  
Mountain Shadows

Kim has spent her career nurturing students' communication abilities with compassion and skill. Her tireless efforts and individualized approach have paved the way for countless success stories. We are grateful for her and wish her a fulfilling and relaxing retirement.



**Myra Shenk**  
Speech & Language Pathologist  
Oakcrest Elementary

Myra has been a vital part of our school community, helping students overcome communication challenges with expertise and empathy. Her dedication to fostering effective communication skills has empowered students to thrive both academically and socially. We thank her for her outstanding service and wish her a wonderful retirement.



**Joie Rebentish**  
Special Education Teacher  
South Jordan Elementary School

Joie has dedicated her career to creating an inclusive environment where every student feels valued and supported. Her commitment to individualized education plans and her ability to connect with each student have transformed many lives. We celebrate her years of service and wish her a joyful and enriching retirement.



**Julie Russell**  
Resource Teacher  
Elk Meadows Elementary

Julie has been a beacon of support and inspiration in our special education department. Her unwavering dedication and passion have helped countless students reach their full potential. As she embarks on her retirement journey, we celebrate her remarkable contributions and wish her endless joy and relaxation.



**Dr. Cheryl Pribble**  
School Psychologist  
Midas Creek Elementary

There are a host of reasons that Dr. Cheryl Pribble is fondly referred to as the "Child Whisperer" at Midas Creek Elementary. She would hands down WIN any steps contest in the building because she is always on the move! Cheryl has led with empathy, wisdom, and kindness as she has diligently worked to support students with emotional and behavioral concerns throughout her years at MCE. Her impact will be felt well beyond her departure and she will be greatly missed by students, parents, teachers—and most especially her Special Ed team.



**Deanne Godwin**  
Special Education Teacher  
Mountain Ridge High School

Throughout her career, Deanne has empowered students with unique learning needs to achieve their personal and academic goals. Her positive influence and dedication to inclusive education have made a significant difference in our school. We wish her all the best in her well-deserved retirement.



**Val Lunnen**  
Special Education Teacher  
Mountain Ridge High School

Val has been a cornerstone of our special education team at Jordan District, known for her compassionate approach and tireless commitment to her students. Her innovative teaching methods and caring nature have left a lasting impact on our community. We extend our heartfelt gratitude and best wishes for a fulfilling retirement.



**Trish Alessi**  
Speech Language Pathologist  
Herriman Elementary

With a career dedicated to speech and language development, Trish has been instrumental in helping students find their voices. Her innovative strategies and patient guidance have made a lasting impact on our school. We honor her contributions and extend our best wishes for her next adventure.



**Nancy Merrick**  
Adaptive PE Teacher

After years of dedicated service, Nancy, our district wide Adaptive PE teacher, is retiring. Her passion, creativity, and tireless dedication have inspired countless students to overcome challenges and celebrate their abilities. We are deeply grateful for the inclusive environment Nancy created, ensuring every student could participate and thrive. Her legacy of encouragement and empowerment will be felt for years to come.

**Becca Janis**  
Early Intervention

For over 30 years, Becca has been a cornerstone of the Jordan Child Development Center Early Intervention Program, embodying dedication, compassion, and a profound commitment to nurturing children and their families. As an occupational therapist, she has consistently prioritized the needs of those she serves above her own, demonstrating an unwavering capacity for acceptance and kindness. Her influence extends beyond her immediate work; Becca is a revered mentor, sharing her talents and knowledge with colleagues, educators, and administrators, thus ensuring her legacy of care and excellence continues. Known for her remarkable ability to connect with others, Becca instills confidence and trust, creating environments where children feel safe to grow and flourish. Through her empathy and presence, she has touched countless lives, offering a steadfast and gracious support system for her coworkers. Becca's impact is immeasurable, and as she approaches a well-deserved retirement, her legacy will endure, a testament to her exceptional contributions to early intervention and the countless lives she has enriched.