EAST CENTRAL ISD SPECIAL EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

Hello ECISD parents and guardians,

Welcome back to the 2023-2024 school year! We hope you had a fantastic summer break. As the new special education directors, we are excited and honored to be part of this wonderful community.

Allow us to introduce ourselves - we are Josh Kohutek and Marissa Perez, your dedicated special education directors. On behalf of the entire ECISD Special Education team, we extend a warm welcome back to school. We are thrilled to embark on this journey together and are dedicated to providing a supportive and inclusive learning environment for your children.

Throughout this school year, our focus will be on fostering an inclusive and nurturing environment where your children can reach their full potential. We believe that strong collaboration between parents, teachers, and staff is vital to achieving this goal.

We encourage you to share your thoughts, concerns, and ideas with us. Together, we can create a supportive learning environment that empowers every exceptional learner in our district.

We look forward to meeting each of you and working together to make this school year a resounding success. Let's embark on this journey together, as one united team.

Best regards,
Josh Kohutek and Marissa Perez
Special Education Directors, ECISD



Stay Connected

We have posted a community calendar that we update regularly as we receive training dates,programs,and events geared toward students with disabilities. Check it out!

http://bit.ly/3Xowcy7



Academics

August and the return to school can be made much easier with a little preparation. Our friends at **Reading Rockets** compiled these "Tips for Back to School". Here are some highlights:

- Organize and review your student's special education paperwork, including their latest evaluation and individualized education program (IEP). Note the date of the last IEP meeting (ARD) at the top. Your student's next ARD will be close to that date.
- Start talking about the return to school with your student and all of the great possibilities. Just talking about it can help with back-to-school "jitters" especially if your student is changing campuses.
- Attend school events. Be sure to attend *Meet the Teacher* and *Open House* to build relationships with your student's teacher(s) and school staff.

HAVE A WONDERFUL 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR!

Dyslexia

Stay current on research and news regarding dyslexia. Check credible sites such as the National Center for Learning Disabilities, Learning Ally, and The International Dyslexia Association for up-to-date information, and also attend webinars presented by learning disability industry leaders.Talk to any new teachers about your child's learning disability. Make sure they know the facts about dyslexia and understand that your child may need to do things a little differently.

Life Skills

Do you seek information to learn more about supporting your child? The Texas Education Agency houses links for a variety of resources. Check it out or contact me for more information. Dana Frankland Life Skills Instructional Specialist. dana.frankland@ecisd.net



secondary transition

Welcome back to school! An excellent activity to do before coming back to school is to complete a one pager about yourself. Use the one pager to introduce yourself to your new teacher(s). imdetermined.org has many family and student resources to build self determination skills.





BECOMING COLLEGE READY

Check out these checklists that have a variety of activities to do during each year in high school.

Freshman

Sophmore

Junior

Senior

Redirection/Behavior

The 2023-2024 school year is upon us!! This time of year can be stressful for families and students alike. This is a great opportunity to have some conversations with your student about the upcoming year. Preparing your students now can help them with this transition period. Students are entering a new school, class, new teacher, or just getting back into the swing of things. There are many resources to help those conversions and help build momentum so your student's transition is a successful one. The following link, Supporting Child And Student social, emotional behavioral, and Mental Health Needs. It's going to be a great year for growth and success!

We would love your feedback!

http://bit.ly/3MwFWUL