

ESSA Accountability Learning Series

Translating NYS Accountability Policy into Strategic Leadership



This comprehensive six-workshop professional learning series equips school and district leaders with actionable insights to navigate New York State's ESSA Accountability system. Each workshop provides information and strategies designed to help administrative teams make sense of complex metrics and drive meaningful school improvement.

Leaders are welcome to register for individual sessions that best apply to their role, district needs, or accountability status, or attend the full series for continuous learning and support.

Workshop #1: ESSA Accountability 101: A Foundational Primer

Date & Format: Friday, October 30, 2026 | 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM | **In-person**

Audience: Leaders who are new to NYS ESSA Accountability, or those seeking a basic refresher.

Description: A practical onboarding workshop designed to give administrators who are newer to ESSA a clear, low-stakes baseline in NYS Accountability rules. We will demystify core metrics and learn how indicators drive support model designations. Leaders will leave with the baseline literacy and confidence needed to contribute meaningfully to district data conversations.

Workshop #2: Decoding ESSA Accountability Data: Technical Navigation & SIRS Verification

Date & Format: Thursday, November 5, 2026 | 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM | **Virtual**

Co-Presenter: Peter Desjardins, Program Administrator for Student Data Services in the RIC

Audience: District Data Coordinators, Data Analysts, and Central Office Data/Technical Leads

Description: A practical working session for district technical leads focused on the backend mechanics of NYS reporting. Participants will audit key SIRS/L2RPT reports, review BEDS Day continuous enrollment logic, and break down static versus rank-based cut point calculations. Technical leads will leave with an actionable verification checklist to ensure district data related to ESSA Accountability is accurate.

Workshop #3: ESSA Accountability Executive Launch: Deepening Capacity & Strategic Action

Date & Format: Friday, November 6, 2026 | 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM | **In-person**

Audience: District Administrative Teams

Description: Designed for district leadership teams, this session reframes ESSA Accountability into an internal engine for student-centered improvement. Through anchored reflections, structured protocols, and collaborative data inquiry, administrative teams will inspect data to uncover leverage points across the district. Leaders will establish a shared organizational lens and align strategic resources to ensure every student thrives.

Workshop #4: Preliminary ESSA Accountability Designation – A Strategic Briefing

Date & Format: Thursday, December 10th | 9:00–10:30am | Virtual

Audience: District Administrative Teams

Description: A strategic briefing following NYSED’s release of preliminary district designations. Participants will learn how to audit preliminary determinations and navigate immediate next steps. Leaders will leave with an actionable plan for proactive internal communication with Boards of Education, leadership teams, and community stakeholders prior to public releases.

Workshop #5: Navigating ESSA Accountability Requirements for Schools Identified for TSI, ATSI, or CSI Support Models

Date & Format: Thursday, February 4th | 8:30–11:30am | In-person

Audience: Leaders of schools officially identified for TSI, ATSI, or CSI Support Models, and district administrators overseeing targeted support plans

Description: A targeted working session dedicated to teams navigating finalized TSI, ATSI, or CSI support model mandates. Participants will receive clear, practical guidance on fulfilling state requirements while enhancing student-focused, evidence-informed decision-making.

Workshop #6: ESSA Target Setting, MIPs, & Proactive Growth for Schools & Subgroups Under LSI & PTSI Support Models

Date & Format: Wednesday, February 24th | 8:30–11:30am | In-person

Audience: District and building leaders with schools officially identified for an LSI Support Model, including those with subgroups flagged for PTSI

Description: A forward-looking working session that connects NYS Measures of Interim Progress (MIPs) and Long-Term Goals (LTGs) directly to local planning. Participants will analyze state targets to strengthen ongoing district improvement efforts, ensuring system-level growth that naturally resolves PTSI flags and prevents future declines in subgroup performance. Leaders will leave with practical strategies to align accountability metrics with resource allocation and program decisions.

Workshop Formats, Locations, & Per-Workshop Cost:

- **In-person workshops: \$100 per person**
 - ISC-Sequoia: 750 Waverly Ave., Holtsville, NY 11742
- **Virtual workshops: \$75 per person**
 - A Zoom link will be emailed the week of the workshop.



Register Now on Frontline

<http://webreg.esboces.org>



Lead facilitator **Lauren Lewonka** is an Administrative Coordinator for School Data Bank Services (SDBS) at Eastern Suffolk BOCES, within the department of Educational Support Services (ESS). With 20 years of experience in education, Lauren works with schools and districts to make sense of complex data and accountability systems. In her role with SDBS, Lauren translates data into clear, practical insights and coaches educators in the application of evidence to guide instructional planning and inform decision-making.