

2023-2024 ATTRACT – PREPARE – RETAIN



JOIN IN CONVERSATIONS WITH FELLOW SPECIAL EDUCATION PERSONNEL AND BUILD CONNECTIONS WITH OTHERS WHO SHARE SIMILAR JOB RESPONSIBILITIES.

Emotional Support Teacher Networking Series

This learning community will provide emotional support teachers and classroom team members with research-based practices to support their implementation of both behavior and academic supports for students. Each session will begin with an author or guest speaker who will introduce participants to articles/podcasts that will enhance their understanding and use of proactive strategies to address student behavior. Networking will take place after the presentations so teachers can dive deeper into each topic and discuss ways to apply the information presented.

Establishing Cooperative Learners Through Engagement and Fun Learning Opportunities

October 18, 2023 (6:00 PM – 7:30 PM)

Emotional support classrooms present special challenges, with learners operating at sometimes dramatically different academic levels and each having different emotional needs. One student may thrive on banter while another requires a more straightforward teaching style. Different students have fun in different ways and there is no single curriculum that meets every student's social-emotional needs. All students benefit from activities that actively engage them, from feelings of competence or the development of learner repertoires, but the strategies required to achieve these outcomes will vary by student. During this networking session, we will focus on replicable strategies for positively engaging learners while accounting for individual differences. Opportunities to discuss teaching protocols and classroom systems will be available.

Presenter:

Mr. Steve Ward, MA, BCBA has been working in the field of Behavior Analysis since 1995, and is currently co-owner of Whole Child Consulting, LLC.

Minimizing Coercive Interactions and Maximizing Relationships: Tools for Classroom Teachers

January 17, 2024 (6:00 PM – 7:30 PM)

Emotional support teachers are faced with numerous responsibilities and numerous challenges. Some of the biggest challenges are simply controlling the problem behavior of students, which all too often get in the way of other educational challenges. This session will focus on evidence-based strategies for managing problem behavior that rely on minimizing coercive interactions and minimizing attention for problem behavior (not ignoring the student), while focusing attention on even the smallest appropriate behavior. The presenter will also discuss how to prompt/motivate students while minimizing the chances of agitating them. Teachers will learn how to deny reinforcers (saying “no” gracefully while maintaining your relationship) and three ways that we can “control” others (which is how we are all controlled). Opportunities to discuss teaching protocols and classroom systems will also be provided.

Presenter:

Dr. Merrill Winston has worked in the field of Applied Behavior Analysis for over 35 years. He is currently the owner of Winston Behavioral Solutions. He has served as a consultant in schools, group homes, private homes and large residential facilities.



Step by Step Guide to Implementing Positive Behavior Support Plans

March 20, 2024 (6:00 PM – 7:30 PM)

This session will present an analysis of positive behavior support plans that includes the critical components to consider when writing the plan. Behavior plans should consist of antecedent interventions to reduce motivation to engage in the problem behavior, a socially appropriate alternative behavior that will be taught to replace the problem behavior, and strategies for how staff will prevent the problem behavior from contacting reinforcement when it does occur. Practical interventions for teaching appropriate communication and paring instruction with improving conditions will be discussed. A focus on identifying the function, or functions, of problem behavior and then designing a plan that includes instructional goals to teach appropriate replacement behavior will be emphasized. Opportunities to discuss teaching protocols and classroom systems will also be provided.

Presenter:

Dr. Willow Hozella is responsible for overall delivery and integration of behavior analytic services into learning and behavioral programming within every program setting at May Institute.

Applying Behavioral Science and Evidenced-Based Social Skills K-8 Curriculum

May 15, 2024 (6:00 PM – 7:30 PM)

During this session, a district wide K-8 model of implementation of the evidence-based social skills curriculum, Accept, Identify, Move (AIM): A Behavioral Analytic Curriculum for Social-Emotional Development in Children, will be highlighted. Emphasis will be placed on effective instruction methodologies, school-wide positive behavioral interventions and supports (PBIS), self-monitoring checklists, implementation of positive behavior support plans and behavioral skills training for increasing staff performance. Opportunities to discuss teaching protocols and classroom systems will also be provided.

Presenter:

Curt Springer is a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst who works for the Butler Area School District as the Assistant Director of Behavioral Services.

Audience: Emotional Support Teachers

Registration and Contact Information:

To register for this networking series, go to: <https://www.pattan.net/events/>

For questions related to registration, contact:

Ashley Eckenrode, PaTTAN Central, aeckenrode@pattan.net

For questions related to content, contact:

Ashley Harned, PaTTAN Central, aharned@pattan.net

Continuing Education Credits: Act 48, BACB

Individuals attending these virtual sessions must login individually, on time, using a computer or iPad, stay the duration of the events, and complete the evaluations by the designated deadlines to be eligible to receive continuing education credits.