

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2021

SPED SCOOP

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

PROGRESS REPORTS ARE DUE DECEMBER 17TH

DLM - Teachers should have all of the PNP and First Contacts completed at this point. Students should be utilizing the practice tests in KITE Student Portal and/or **N2Y Checkpoints/Benchmarks**.

N2Y/ULS - December run dates are: **Nov. 29 to Dec. 17th**
Remember there are no Checkpoints in Dec.
Benchmarks are to be completed **Dec.13 to 17th**.
January run dates are: **Jan.4 to 28th, excluding 17th**
January Checkpoint Pre-Test is **Jan. 4th**

SPED Teachers with Pre-K and/or KDG Kiddos: Please remember that according to new laws, a student's Early Childhood Exit Outcomes **MUST** be completed before a child exits PK prior to entering KDG. For students already placed in KDG without completed Early Childhood Exit Outcomes, these **MUST** be completed before the child's 6th birthday. If you need any assistance or questions regarding Entrance and Exit outcomes, please don't hesitate to contact me at **405-587-0433 or TLKinsey@okcps.org**. Thank you! ☺

Monitoring links-

Progress Monitoring Data chart (copy and paste in link)

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/116H3g8Xok9Q5AHHimPqaR94VqGrK66WZ/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=102056483072314778526&rtoref=true&sd=true>

Istation Accessibility Features (copy and paste in link)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Z07MRcK3D5Xpg7rLh_T3S5U2wzdVkmqb/view?usp=sharing

A NOTE ABOUT BEHAVIOR: **Case Managers**-If your students have behavior plans or goals, please make sure you are keeping progress monitoring documentation. **Examples** of progress monitoring documentation can include data collection, checklists, behavior logs, and 9-week progress reports for goals with observation.

Special Services has purchased **aimswebPlus** for secondary schools to use for progress monitoring. **aimswebPlus** can track student progress in the educational needs areas of Math, Reading, and Written Expression, and most assessments are done on the student's Chromebook. If you are still needing **aimswebPlus** training, please reach out to ShaRetta Enyim.

"People are like gifts, some are beautifully gift wrapped, others not, but it's always what is on the inside that matters." - Zybil Rogan



An Important Note from Erin

Happy Thanksgiving! I hope you had an incredible week off with your family and friends. We don't have much time left before the end of the year and I know that everyone is ready for this break. We know you deserve it!! I was given the opportunity to celebrate some of our amazing teachers, paras and related service staff members with the Award of Excellence from the Special Education office. I loved being able to thank them for all of the hard work they do every single day. Make sure you read through the newsletter on how you can nominate someone you work with! Just think, someone may nominate you!!

I am excited to let our teachers and staff know that our office will be partnering with GoalBook to help support teachers with designing learning goals and instructional plans to respond to how students learn and their individual needs. We will be working with certain sites to pilot this program from January through May. We are hopeful that we can empower teachers to identify learning barriers and apply effective strategies so that all students can access the general curriculum.

Our office is also working closely with the Climate Specialists in the district to help create strategies and interventions for student's so we can help eliminate suspension when necessary. Our goal is to keep students in school as much as possible and be able to give teachers the tools they need to work with these students. If you are interested in providing strategies or interventions on alternatives to suspension, please reach out to your coordinator.

Again, I want to thank you for all that you do! We have had a great first semester and I am excited for the next!



SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT....

Last year, we all experienced the feeling of aimlessly floating around in a world that was unknown. It was scary, difficult, and left us fearful of what was still to come. This year, it is time to refocus and reconnect with our world and with others. We know that COVID-19 has caused academic loss in our students. We don't have a procedural manual for the time we are living in and the answers are still not clear, but we are OKCPS and that won't stop us. We can do this! Let's gather our resources on the table, put our minds together and tackle our new challenges one day at a time.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE AMAZING EDUCATORS NOMINATED IN OCTOBER

Mary Hope-Every year Mary Hope is DILIGENT in getting our Re-Evals done ASAP ... recognizes the teachers for completing them ... also assists with required paperwork ... is always ready to answer any and ALL questions we may have ... YOO HOO for Mary ...

Dina Stewart-Dina is an SLP serving the E3 students of OKCPS. There has never been a position like hers before and therefore Dina is paving her own way and showing incredible initiative. She has exhibited creativity, flexibility, and determination in figuring out how to best serve E3 students across OKCPS schools.

Martie Lilly-She is an amazing team mate. She is always ready to lend a helping hand. She works hard to improve students' lives and does so with a great attitude.

Jill Rose-She is simply amazing! She has transformed our MD program from a run-down babysitting club into an interactive and fun haven for our scholars. They love coming to school and they LOVE Ms. Rose and how much she obviously cares about them and their success!

Linda Dudley-As a first-year teacher at this district, she has made sure to guide me through everything. She is always open and willing to provide assistance inside and outside of school. As the special education department head, she is constantly advocating for us, special education teachers, to ensure that our voices and concerns are being heard. Not only does she provide us with assistance in regards to our duties in school, but she also makes sure to create a professional, safe, and caring bond with each of her teachers, which extends far beyond the school setting. Ms. Dudley is truly an amazing team-player and a great representation of Capitol Hill High School, and OKCPS overall!

Tama (Leah) Decker-she works with our students who require a sign language interpreter. It seems that she is often in several places at once. Not only does she interpret for students, she makes herself available to assist with parents who need sign language interpretation. Tama joins us for Facebook Lives and other special occasions so that our parents and students can fully participate. She is always smiling and is a pleasure to have in our building.

Debbie Cox-is a veteran Special Education teacher and her knowledge is invaluable. She is pushing into classrooms and teaching alongside Regular Ed teachers. Debbie serves on our MTiSS team and provides experience and expertise when the team is working to find solutions. Debbie also serves on our leadership attending special trainings and participating in school improvement efforts. On top of all of this she is instrumental in making our arrival and dismissal run smoothly. Debbie is a critical member of our Buchanan team.

Kara McCullah-is Buchanan's school psych. She is an amazing member of our team. Her expertise in RTI has been integral in starting our MTiSS process. She is a problem solver and a true team player. Kara always keeps the best interest of students at the forefront of decision making. She is a pleasure to have in our building.

Nicole Mercer-has the energy of 5 people! She is truly a child advocate and works hard to help students find success. She is a positive role model and forms excellent relationships with students. We are lucky to have her at Buchanan.

Kari Davis-McNeely (2 nominations) who serves as the COTA at Willow Brook Elementary School. The children whom Mrs. McNeely serves absolutely adore her. She is loving and caring and genuinely cares for our special needs' population.

She is extremely helpful to me, giving me innovative and creative ways to enhance my children's fine motor skills. She is as knowledgeable as she is professional and I recommend her without reservation.

Kari is a wonderful friend, excellent team player, and the most dedicated colleague in my education career. Kari always puts the child's need first and goes out of her way to assist the instructional team meet the goals set for the individual student. Mrs. McNeely is prompt, professional, and excellent at what she does, this is why I am nominating her for Special Education Recognition.

To nominate someone: **Copy and paste this link -**
<https://forms.gle/L559VFzjJ9V6cwU47>



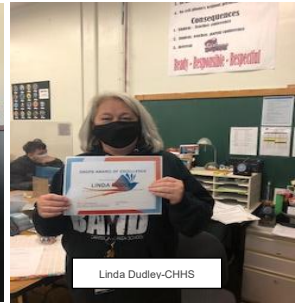
CONGRATULATIONS EDUCATORS!



Tama (Leah) Decker-Buchanan Elementary



Dina Stewart-District



Linda Dudley-CHHS



Nicole Mercer-Buchanan Elementary



Kara McCullah-Buchanan Elementary

MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES OKCPS FAMILY CONNECT

<<https://sites.google.com/okcps.org/family-engagement-okcps/family-connect>>

Edplan Parent Survey Link

<http://oklahomaparentscenter.org/survey/>

The Request Process for Spanish Translation Services:

Request IEP translation when needed by going to the Special Education Services at the OKCPS website under Special Education-select Spanish Translation/Interpretation

ATTENTION: If you are needing Parent Consent, Meeting invitation, and Parent's Rights in Spanish these helpful forms can all be found in Edplan at the bottom of the website, under the files tab. They are easy to fill out in the English versions.

Project Search recruitment is starting soon, be on the lookout for that application.

National School Psychology Awareness Week Nov 8-12th, thank you School Psychologists for all you do for kids. Sped Staff please give a shout out to your School Psychologist this month.

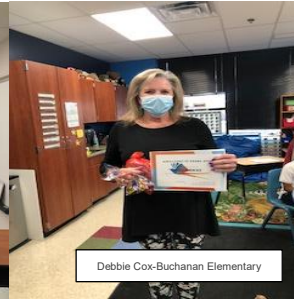
Friendly Reminder-Case Managers,

Please notify OT's & PT's when a new student is enrolled with Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy Services as soon as possible so that there will not be lag in providing services. Thanks for your cooperation in advance.

Our prize winners drawn from October's nominations are:



Martie Lilly-Hillcrest Elementary



Debbie Cox-Buchanan Elementary



Jill Rose FD Moon



Kari Davis McNeely-Willow Brook Elementary



Mary Hope-SEHS

WISHING YOU A HAPPY AND SAFE
HOLIDAY SEASON!

