**Exceptional Student Services Communiqué - August 2019**

**Preparation for every student for success in college, career and life**

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**ESS Highlight**

Welcome back! We are excited to continue with the ESS Communique each month.

As we start a new year, with new students and families, new staff, and a new perspective, let’s take a moment to celebrate the vast resources at your fingertips…

- **Have a student with challenging behaviors?** Call your Behavior Intervention Specialist, Social Worker, School Psych or Student Prevention Intervention Specialist!
- **Have a student missing class?** Call one of the above and/or the Community Liaison!
- **Have a student struggling with executive functioning skills, social pragmatics, note taking or other aspects of learning?** Call your PDS, ESS Facilitator, OT, BIS, or SLP for tips.
- **Have a student who may benefit from assistive technology?** Call your OT, PT, SLP, ESS Facilitator and Manager to brainstorm next steps!

#ThisIsWhoWeAre – Collaborative, Creative, and Conscious of working together to help all students!

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**Curriculum and Assessment**

Practical, CBT, Foundations of Algebra, Transition Programs (such as Upward and Onward and Transitioning Learners to College), and SUCCESS Seminar have moved to TEAMS this summer. Microsoft Teams is the hub for team collaboration in Office 365 that integrates the people, content, and tools our PLCs need to be more engaged and effective. Please reach out to Dr. Reimers if you need to be added to a TEAM for access to your content area.

We are working diligently to meet the 1% Cap for Alternate Assessment. This year we will be hosting professional development opportunities for Facilitators, Teachers, and Psychologists in the area of eligibility determination for alternate assessment.

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**Compliance Corner**

We understand how overwhelming start of the school year can be – adjusting student schedules, reading IEPs, managing intakes, and completing TR forms for students.

- **Accuracy and attention to detail does matter!** (Dutch Bros) To keep your students safe, supported well, and in the right places, please make sure:
  - Students know how to get around your campus and where key people and offices are
  - Accurate addresses and phone numbers are listed on TR forms
  - Health aide services are documents correctly and shared with the aides performing the ADLs
  - TR forms are fully reviewed with the family to make sure aide support, wheelchair access, BIFs, and other critical information is noted
  - (gift card to the first person who calls Wendy)
  - Qualified providers sign IEP cover sheets to accept and approve all MIFs reimbursable services for new students to PUHSD

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**Upcoming Events and Training**

**August 14th - 7:30 PLC Travel Day**! Come one come all to our ESS PLC first of four for the year at Carl Hayden! Continue the amazing work and dialogue from Curriculum Day 😁

**September 4th - 8 – 11:30 – Balanced Literacy with Dr. Musselwhite.** If you are a teacher in a CBT, THRIVE or STRIVE program and want to increase student engagement and literacy, contact Wendy to come to this small group focused training and work with Dr. Musselwhite all year! This will be our last year having Dr. Musselwhite in our classrooms soooooo….get it while you can!

**August is National Immunization Awareness Month.** August is National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) is an annual observance held in August to highlight the importance of vaccination for people of all ages. Our nurses, health assistants and registrars are busy inputting this now for new students!

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**Transition Tips**

Post School Outcome Data surveys are being addressed for the next month by our job developers! New questions are being asked of 2016 graduates as required by the ADE. We will report back to you the results so you can see the fruits of your labor with our amazing students!

Work with your students to learn what they want to do, what their strengths, interests, hopes and dreams are. Learning profiles will help you engage students in the classroom while also helping with age appropriate transition assessments for your upcoming IEPs!

Got questions? Ask your job developer for information!

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**Advocacy**

Your work is Hard! We want you to be healthy for yourself, for your family and friends, and for our students. They need you every day!!! We are advocating that you take care of you. How do you do this? Be mindful. Read on…

**Mindfulness and Self-care**

How do you show up as your best self every day? It is a new school year and the time to set new habits. Now is the time to think about how to take care of your individuals needs so that you are available for your student and colleagues.

What helps you to feel your best? Do you need to have a mindful bedtime, take a daily walk, or connect with a neighbor colleague frequently? We all need something unique to be our best. We are also all here to support one another in achieving the best work environments. Have a great August back with your students! Take a couple minutes for yourself every day.

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**ACHIEVING READINESS IN COLLEGE, CAREER & LIFE**

**Building a Strong School Community**

- Be Compassionate
- Be Collaborative
- Be Committed
- Be Courageous
- Be Creative
- Be Conscious

**Creating a Culture of Excellence**

**Developing an Innovative Portfolio of Schools**