

# North Metro GNETS Newsletter



August 2019

## Director's Corner

Welcome Back to School North Metro GNETS Parents, Students, Staff, Leadership, and Stakeholders!

I hope each of you had an opportunity to relax, release, and get some much-needed restorative rest. A new school year represents new beginnings, fresh starts, new professional relationships, and new opportunities to learn and grow as students and professionals in our North Metro GNETS Program.

Over the course of this past school year, the district team and I heard your concerns and we worked diligently over the summer to abide by your requests to reduce the amount of compliance related paperwork while also maintaining the best quality education for our students and families who are our first priority. Check... done!

Students and families, I heard your concerns regarding our teachers having more actively engaged, rigorous, standards-based, real-world, project-based classrooms, that increase student outcomes. This year, teachers and administrators will be provided with more job-embedded, professional development using the behavior skills training (BST) model to meet this need. Additionally, curriculum experts and stakeholders will be assisting our teachers by providing them with more actively engaged, specially designed instruction, and modeled lessons that will help improve student outcomes. Check...done!

Stakeholders, thank you for continuing to support North Metro GNETS, our students, staff, and families and the work we do to meet the academic, behavioral, and therapeutic needs of our students. I'm truly appreciative of our collaborative relationships, our shared vision of high expectations for our students, our shared responsibilities in helping our students move from good to great, and your fiscal support. Without you, we would not be able to provide the abundance of services that we offer to our students and families.

Team as you prepare to be Day 1 ready to meet, greet, and serve our students, remember the strength of our North Metro GNETS team is each of you as individual team members. The strength of each of you as individual team members makes up our amazing team. *"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much".* – Helen Keller. Thank you for being a remarkable part of the North Dream Team. Now, let the new school year begin and let's do whatever it takes to help our students be self-sufficient, independent, confident, career-ready, diploma earning, contributing members of our community. Students, you can do anything you put your minds to. You've got this! I believe in you. Continue to practice mindfulness and trust and believe in yourselves. I look forward to working with each of you again this school year! Welcome Back!

*Cassandra Allen Holifield, PhD*

<https://nmgnets.org/>

## Trauma Informed Care! Stay Healthy for the 2019 - 2020 School Year!

How can you stay healthy during the 2019-2020 school year?

- Stay rested
- Get your steps in
- Build positive relationships with your co-workers and students



## August:

- Complete FY 20 North Metro GNETS Strategic Plan Overview Training & Beginning of the Year (BOY) Self-Assessment
- Complete FY 20 North Metro GNETS Staff Orientation refer to the BOY Sign-Off Sheet
- Enroll students into Edgenuity due August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- Hold first PBIS meeting due August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019
- Complete all student packets due this month
- Complete TKES, LKES, & Contributing Staffs' Orientation & Annual Performance Goal Setting
- Mail Professional Qualifications (PQ) ESSA Letters to Parents as appropriate

## Mindset Trainers:

- Send your new hires to the upcoming mindset trainings



- Send any medical notices to [Melinda.Wright@mresa.org](mailto:Melinda.Wright@mresa.org)

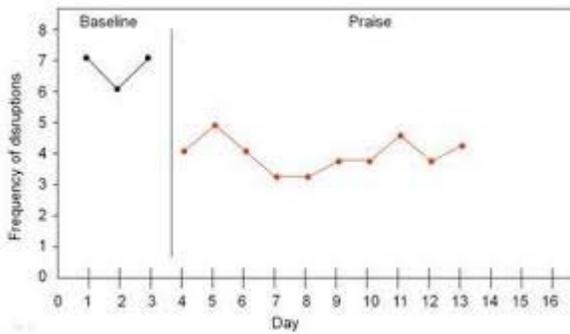
### ***Upcoming Due Dates:***

- Beginning of Year Checklist due September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- Complete Compliance Directors due September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- Start FBA BIP modules for new staff due October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019
- Start and complete IEP modules for new and veteran staff due September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019

## **Curriculum and Instruction and Compliance**

High Leverage Practice of the Month - HLP1 Collaborate with Professionals to Increase Student Success.

Collaboration with other teachers, paraprofessionals, and support staff is necessary to support students' learning toward measurable outcomes and to facilitate students' social and emotional well-being across all school environments and instructional settings. Collaboration with individuals or teams requires the use of effective collaboration behaviors (e.g., sharing ideas, active listening, questioning, planning, problem solving, negotiating) to develop and adjust instructional or behavioral plans based on student data, and the coordination of expectations, responsibilities, and resources to maximize student learning.



## Behavior Specialist

Tips of the Month:/

- Build relationships and identify preferred items for each student.
- Review all your student's BIPs and familiarize yourself with the materials and procedures (i.e., behavior momentum, token board, choice board, etc.).
- Review FBA/BIPs to be sure that FBAs are no more than 3 years old. If so, make a note so the team can begin the FBA process.
- Low Incident classrooms, create/update classroom staff and student schedules for rotation purposes.

## Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports

PBIS this month is focusing on Building Positive Relationships with your students and families!

- North Metro GNETS challenges you to make one positive contact with every parent and/or guardian you see!
- North GNETS challenges you to TALK to your students (tune into their interests; ask questions; listen; and keep the conversations going)!

The tip of the month is to set and review behavior expectations. **Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be a Role Model.** Review these with your students and ensure you have an expectation matrix per setting in your building.