

# North Metro GNETS Newsletter



September 2019

## Director's Corner

Monthly North Metro GNETS Eggs and Issues Updates

Team North Metro GNETS,

Welcome to September 2019! It's hard to believe that a month of school has already passed and September is here. As we continue to move from "Good to Great", I want to take some time to thank each of you for all that you do to celebrate the successes of our students and their families. However, I want to do more than just say "thank you". As your North Metro GNETS Director, I want to celebrate you publicly by recommending that you apply for the 2019 CEC/G-CASE Ambassador Award. If you are selected, you will serve as a Special Education Teacher Leader and Ambassador at the G-CASE 2019 Fall conference in Savannah, Georgia. Ambassadors will receive conference registration and travel expenses as appropriate. Ambassadors will assist with conference registration and provide support throughout the conference. Additionally, you'll get to participate in a statewide conference and receive the most current Special Education updates upfront and in person. The application deadline is September 30, 2019 and below is the registration link. You are outstanding leaders and I'd like to celebrate you at this state conference. All North Metro GNETS Teacher Leaders are encouraged to apply. You've got this!

2019 CEC/G-CASE Ambassador Application [Click here](#)

North Metro GNETS teachers and paraprofessionals, please know that I didn't forget about you. You are such an integral part of our students' successes. You are on the frontline everyday meeting our students' academic, behavioral, and therapeutic needs, and I thank you. I want to celebrate you publicly by recommending that you apply for the 2019-2020 Theodore Smith Scholarship Award. This award allows Special Education teachers or Special Education paraprofessionals to continue the pursuit of excellence with two scholarship opportunities of \$1000 each. In addition to the \$1000 for higher education, paraprofessionals who are not CEC members will receive a one-year free CEC membership. The application deadline is October 25th, 2019 and below is the registration link. You are the backbone of North Metro GNETS and I'd like to celebrate you by sharing this scholarship opportunity with you. I know you have everything it takes to be a recipient of this scholarship. I believe in you, so please apply. 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!

2019/20 Theodore Smith Scholarship [Click here](#)

*Cassandra Allen Holifield, PhD, RBT*

<https://nmgnets.org/>



### September 2019:

- Complete FY 20 North Metro GNETS Strategic Plan Overview Training & Beginning of the Year (BOY) Self-Assessment, and Performance Goal Settings by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- Complete FY 20 North Metro GNETS Staff Orientation refer to the BOY Sign-Off Sheet
- Student Roster Verification – print a copy of all teachers' schedules and include a copy of the student roster for each teacher. Ask the teacher to verify the accuracy of the roster. Then they must sign and date the student roster verifying its accuracy. If changes are needed to the roster, make those changes, and then ask the teacher to sign off. Student Roster Verification must be completed at the beginning of each semester. Roster verification must be included in the TKES Evaluation Notebook as an artifact.

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

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

- Stay hydrated
- Get a goodnight's rest
- Exercise at least twice a week
- Practice yoga or mediation
- Maintain an honest comfortable work environment and build positive relationships with staff and students



- Beginning of Year Checklist due September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- Complete Compliance Directors due September 30<sup>th</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. Organize and develop your Annual TKES, LKES, and Contributing Staff Evaluation Notebook (keep under lock and key)
- Begin collecting all NM GNETS Strategic Plan Artifacts
- ASPIRE Logs due September 20, 2019. (SSW)
- ASPIRE Student Pre-surveys due September 20, 2019 (SSW)
- WhyTry Pre-assessment due September 30, 2019

### **Mindset Trainers:**

- Next Mindset training September 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> at Oglethorpe
- Mindset Training October 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> in Forest Park
- Fidelity checks will be conducted at your sites in October

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

- 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 October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019
- Start and complete all Compliance Director Modules by October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019

- PBIS- SAS and TFI are due on Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019

# Curriculum and Instruction and Compliance

## High Leverage Practice of the Month:

HLP2 Organize and facilitate effective meetings with professionals and families.

Teachers lead and participate in a range of meetings (e.g., meetings with families, individualized education program [IEP] teams, individualized family services plan [IFSP] teams, instructional planning) with the purpose of identifying clear, measurable student outcomes and developing instructional and behavioral plans that support these outcomes. They develop a meeting agenda, allocate time to meet the goals of the agenda, and lead in ways that encourage consensus building through positive verbal and nonverbal communication, encouraging the sharing of multiple perspectives, demonstrating active listening, and soliciting feedback.

HLP3 Collaborate with families to support student learning and secure needed services.

Teachers collaborate with families about individual children's needs, goals, programs, and progress over time and ensure families are informed about their rights as well as about special education processes (e.g., IEPs, IFSPs). Teachers should respectfully and effectively communicate considering the background, socioeconomic status, language, culture, and priorities of the family. Teachers advocate for resources to help students meet instructional, behavioral, social, and transition goals. In building positive relationships with students, teachers encourage students to self-advocate, with the goal of fostering self-determination over time. Teachers also work with families to self-advocate and support their children's learning.

## High Leverage Practice of the Month:

Begin IEP Checklist 8 weeks prior to IEP due date. This will allow plenty of time to conduct a new FBA if needed and still make sure the draft IEP is completed 2 weeks prior to the IEP date.

# Behavior Specialist

## Tips of the Month:

- Continue to build relationships with students and identify preferred items for students.
- Begin scoring FBA/BIPs and complete BIP fidelity Walkthroughs for students who have IEPs in September/October

# Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports

**Continue to Build 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 Metro GNETS challenges you to TALK to your students (tune into their interests; ask questions; listen; and keep the conversations going)!

Reinforce any small appropriate behavior! “Be the change you want to see in the world.”

Complete TFI at your next PBIS meeting if you have not completed!

We will have the first North Metro GNETS District PBIS Meeting on September 24<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 11:30 am at the BRIDGE!

## **MINDFULNESS MEDITATION OF THE MONTH....**

