Delaware Valley Special Education District News

The third marking period has come to a close, marking another milestone of hard work, growth, and achievement! The Special Education Department is welcoming our incoming Kindergarten students and their families from CDD, celebrating Autism Awareness Month, completing PASA testing and preparing for Special Olympics!

We are looking ahead to the final quarter of the school year. The end of the third marking period is an opportunity to reassess goals, celebrate progress, and continue fostering the skills necessary for long-term success. We are excited to share the highlights of this past term, along with upcoming events and resources to help ensure that all students finish the year strong. Thank you to all who continue to support our students' journeys—your partnership is invaluable!

WHAT'S IN THIS QUARTER'S ISSUE:

- District Happenings
- Electronic Signatures
- Upcoming Trainings
- Mental Health Resources



Attendance Matters

For our students, consistent attendance is absolutely vital to their growth, learning, and development. Every missed day means lost opportunities for essential support, structured routines, and individualized instruction tailored to their unique needs. Regular participation strengthens their academic progress, social skills, and emotional stability, helping them build confidence and independence. Without consistent attendance, they risk falling behind, losing crucial interventions, and struggling to reach their full potential.

Electronic Signatures

Electronic signatures in IEP Writer provide a secure and convenient way for parents to sign important student documents digitally. This ensures faster processing, reduces paperwork, and allows for easy access to sign forms from any device. By using electronic signatures, parents can stay engaged in their child's special education process any time, day or night.

All documents that require a signature will be sent via email from a web address of webserver@IEPWriter.com. Case managers will send out all documents after the IEP meeting to obtain signatures. Please see below for step by step directions of how to sign the documents. The documents that will be sent out for e-signature will include: permission to evaluate, permission to reevaluate, evaluation reports, reevaluation reports, invitations, IEPs, NOREPS, and MA consent. Should you have any questions or experience any difficulties please reach out to your child's case manager.

What is an e-signature? An e-signature is a digital representation of a person's signature, allowing for a quick, efficient and legal signing of documents without the need for ink.

How do I sign?

- 1. You will receive an email from webserver@IEPwriter.com
- 2. Open the email and click on the link provided in the body of the email, or copy the website address, and paste that in your web browser.
- 3. The first page will ask you for your email address.



4. The next page will ask you to click two boxes, one to sign procedural safeguards, then enter your phone number, the other box you check to sign the IEP, then click the box to confirm your signature.



5. Once you click confirm signature you have completed the process and can download the documents to save.

Upcoming Events



Practical Ways to Accommodate

May 21, 2025

Practical examples of accommodations for meaningful learning alongside peers.

To register for these workshops, RSVP to trainings@passnepa.org. All workshops begin promptly at 7 pm at the Milford Community House, 201 Broad St. Milford. If you need further information, please call 570-832-4000 or email trainings@passnepa.org

PAABLE

PA ABLE and Social Security
Disability Programs

Wednesday, April 16 – 12:00 PM

Experts will discuss how the PA ABLE Savings Program and Social Security Disability Programs work together. You'll hear from Diana Fishlock, outreach specialist for the PA ABLE Savings Program, and Frank Magni, Social Security Administration public affairs specialist.



College Career Night May 7, 2025 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. DVHS

OVR 101

May 27, 2025
5:30 p.m. -6:30 p.m.

DVHS Learning Commons

Explore the services that OVR has to offer
for individuals with disabilities; whether it

be post-secondary training, college or

career readiness.



Mertal Health Resources

As we approach the final quarter of the school year, we understand that this time can be particularly challenging for students. The end of the academic year often brings about anxiety and frustration, and as parents and guardians, it can be difficult to know the best way to support your child during this time.

Please know that we are here to support your child's success! It is not uncommon for students to manage their emotions throughout the school day and only express their anxieties at home. In these cases, school staff may not be aware of the challenges your child is facing. If you notice that your child is struggling, we encourage you to reach out to your child's case manager, school counselor, or school social worker as soon as possible. We are committed to providing the support your child needs to succeed.

Additionally, we can assist you in connecting with community providers for further support. We understand that accessing external counselors and psychiatrists can be difficult, but please don't hesitate to reach out—we are here to help.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. We will be holding another parent training during this time. Please be on the lookout for our flyers and emails closer to the date for more information.

While I may not be as readily available as the case managers, counselors, or social workers, please also feel free to contact me directly at dbixby@dvsd.org or 570-296-1810 if you need any assistance.

Together, we can work to ensure the success and well-being of your child.

Sincerely,

Diana Bixby, PhD

Director of Mental Health and Student Support Services Delaware Valley School District



Here are several reputable websites that provide valuable resources and information for parents regarding mental health:

1. Parenting Education and Support Website: www.parenting.org

PES offers practical parenting resources, including mental health support for parents, tips on how to handle emotional issues in children, and strategies for managing stress in both parents and children.

2. Mental Health America (MHA) Website: www.mhanational.org

MHA provides resources for parents, including information on mental health conditions, screening tools, and ways to support a child's mental well-being.

3. The Child Mind Institute Website: www.childmind.org

The Child Mind Institute provides helpful resources for parents about children's mental health, including guides on anxiety, depression, ADHD, and other conditions, as well as tips on how to get help.

4. The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Website: www.nimh.nih.gov

NIMH is a comprehensive resource for parents looking to learn more about mental health conditions in children and adolescents, with access to research, educational materials, and treatment options.

5. SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) Website: www.samhsa.gov

SAMHSA offers a variety of mental health resources, including information on preventing mental health and substance use issues, and how to find local treatment programs and services.

FOR MORE VISIT: https://www.dvsd.org/domain/1101