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On behalf of the Polk County Public Schools Learning Support Division, comprised on the Exceptional Student Education and Student Services departments, as well as on behalf of the Polk ESE Advisory committee,

**WELCOME to the Polk Symposium on Special Education!**

A variety of district personnel, community agencies, and vendors have gathered together today to provide you with valuable workshop presentations and resources targeted to supporting the needs of students with disabilities and their families, caregivers, and teachers. It is our intention that this annual event will connect you with the information you need to make informed educational choices for your child during IEP team meetings, at parent teacher conferences, with his or her healthcare providers, and as your child transitions into life after high school.

Today would not have been possible without our fantastic sponsors, our symposium planning committee, and Lakeland High School.

Thank you for attending!

*Dr. Kimberly K. Steinke*  
Assistant Superintendent, Learning Support

*Lisa Miller*  
Chair, Polk ESE Advisory

*Diane Taylor*  
Director, Exceptional Student Education

*Sandy Perlewitz*  
*Nathan Whaley*  
*Audrey Kelley-Fritz*

*Jim Maxwell*  
Director, Student Services

*Stephanie Gardner*  
*Tosha Littles*  
Symposium Planning Committee
POLK SYMPOSIUM ON SPECIAL EDUCATION
February 25, 2017

Schedule

8:00am    Registration and Agency/Vendor Fair
9:00am    Welcome
9:30am    Session Blocks (full schedule below)
12:30pm   Lunch and Closing

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<tr>
<th>Room Location</th>
<th>Session 1 9:30am-10:20am</th>
<th>Session 2 10:30am-11:20am</th>
<th>Session 3 11:30am-12:20pm</th>
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<tr>
<td>Room 55</td>
<td>Everything You Want to Know to Navigate the IEP</td>
<td>Everything You Want to Know to Navigate the IEP</td>
<td>Agency for Persons with Disabilities and Vocational Rehabilitation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Room 56</td>
<td>Teaching Good Behavior to Your Children</td>
<td>Teaching Good Behavior to Your Children</td>
<td>Teaching Students with Disabilities in the Least Restrictive Environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Room 57</td>
<td>Empowering Students to Prevent Bullying</td>
<td>Guardianship</td>
<td>Empowering Students to Prevent Bullying</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 58</td>
<td>Pathways to Graduation for Students with Disabilities</td>
<td>Supporting Behavior in School: What Parents Need to Know</td>
<td>Supporting Behavior in School: What Parents Need to Know</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

LHS Campus Map
Session Descriptions

Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) and Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) (Room 55 – Session 3)

Presenters: Mollie Brown-Ferrier and Johana Gonzalez

APD works in partnership with local communities and private providers to assist people who have developmental disabilities and their families. APD also provides assistance in identifying the needs of people with developmental disabilities for supports and services.

VR is an employment agency that helps individual with disability, prepare, obtain and maintain employment. Learn about services available for students with disabilities while still in high school.

Contact Information:
Mollie Brown-Ferrier  
Supported Employment Liaison, Central Region  
Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
200 N. Kentucky Ave, Suite 422  
Lakeland, FL 33801  
Off – 863-413-3377  
Email – mollie.brown-ferrier@apdcares.org

Johana P. Gonzalez, M.Ed., CRC  
Vocational Rehabilitation Supervisor  
Area 3 Unit 17A  
200 N. Kentucky Ave, Suite 310  
Lakeland, FL 33801  
Off - 863-680-5534  
Email - johana.gonzalez@vr.fldoe.org

Empowering Students to Prevent Bullying (Room 57 – Session 1 & 3)

Presenters: Cheryl Marino

Students with disabilities are often targeted by Bullies because they may lack the ability to respond, retaliate or even report. However, when someone intervenes on behalf of the victim, bullying stops in less than 10 seconds, 57% of the time. Even though most bystanders don’t like to watch bullying, less than 20% try to stop it. This often happens because they don’t know what to do. This workshop will provide simple strategies that students (and others) can use to safely intervene along with ways that schools can work to create a culture that promotes this. Contact information in back of program.

Guardianship (Room 57 – Session 2)

Presenter: Keith D. Miller, Esq.

Discussion of the guardianship laws (FS 744) and guardian advocacy laws (FS 393), the differences between the laws, what parents can do as their children reach 18 or are already over the age of 18, and time for question and answers.

Contact Information:
Keith D. Miller, Esq.  
Boswell & Dunlap, Attorneys at Law  
245 South Central Avenue  
PO Drawer 30  
Bartow, FL 33831  
Off – 863-533-7117  
Email - KDM@BOSDUN.COM

Everything You Want to Know to Navigate the IEP (Room 55 – Session 1 & 2)

Presenters: Disability Rights of Florida

Disability Rights will discuss navigating the Individual Education Plan (IEP) process for parents and caregivers of students in the exceptional student education program. Participants will learn the importance of drafting an accurate present level of performance that focuses on the appropriate supports and services, measurable goals and objectives. Accommodations to assist the student to access the curriculum, gain educational benefit and discussion of the importance of related services and assistive technology will also be covered. The presentation will allow for open dialogue between presenter and participants.
Pathways to Graduation for Students with Disabilities (Room 58 – Session 1)
Presenters: Diane Taylor, Samelia Davis, and Gregory Kent
Florida is now a one diploma option state. This workshop explains the changes in Florida law that provides new pathways for students with disabilities to earn a standard diploma.
Contact information in back of program.

Supporting Behavior in School: What Parents Need to Know (Room 58 – Session 2 & 3)
Presenters: Deirdre Joe-Sullivan and Sherry Scott
Appropriate behavior is required for children to be successful in school. In this session, you will learn how schools teach students to behave appropriately. You will hear about the basics of behavior and the types of plans schools use to support children with behavior challenges. You’ll also learn how you, as a parent or guardian, can reinforce your child’s good behavior in school and what to do if you have a concern.
Contact information in back of program.

Teaching Good Behavior to Your Children (Room 56 – Session 1 & 3)
Presenters: Jim Maxwell and Teri Crace
This workshop will focus on how parents can teach their children the behaviors that are essential to success in school.
Contact information in back of program.

Teaching Students with Disabilities in the Least Restrictive Environment (Room 56 – Session 3)
Presenters: Diane Taylor, Fraenda Satchel-Carter, and Samelia Davis
Least restrictive environment (LRE) isn’t a place, it’s a principle that guides your child’s educational program. When the team meets to discuss your child’s Individualized Education Plan (IEP), the team discusses your child’s areas of strength, areas of weakness, and present levels of performance. The team members also discuss how LRE will help your child learn based on their individual needs.
Contact information in back of program.
**ABC Tutoring Service**  
Contact: Lynda McCartney, Director, (863) 293-6172  
*ABC Tutoring is a full-service tutoring company that provides remedial and support help to PK-Adult students in reading, writing, spelling, math, test prep, etc. Each one-on-one tutoring session is designed to meet the specific needs of each student. We also provide information and resources to parents to help them understand the unique needs of their student so they can help them achieve success.*

**Agency for Persons with Disabilities**  
APD Lakeland Office: (863) 413-3377  
Contact: Mollie Brown-Ferrier, Supported Employment Liaison, Central Region  
Email: mollie.brown-ferrier@apdcares.org  
[www.apdcares.org](http://www.apdcares.org)  
*APD supports persons with disabilities in living, learning and working in their community. The disabilities recognized for service eligibility for APD are: Spina Bifida, Cerebral Palsy, Autism, Down syndrome, Prader-Willi, and Intellectual Disability.*

**Author of Private Eye, Romeo Riley The Series**  
Contact: April Whitt, ESE Teacher, (863) 558-2050  
Email: april.whitt@polk-fl.net  
*Meet “Romeo” the world’s first bumbling detective on wheels! The stories are fun, easy-to-read and feature all special needs characters!*  

**Behavioral Analysis Consultants of Mid Florida**  
Contact: Brody Miller, (863) 614-0048  
Email: brodymiller@zoho.com  
*Behavior Analysis Consultants of Mid Florida, LLC are a team of Board Certified Behavior Analysts who are dedicated to best practice, empirically supported behavior analysis services and professional customer service. Between us we possess over 60 years of experience serving adults, children and their families in many different settings who possess a variety of diagnoses and exhibit a wide variety of problem behaviors. In addition, we work to increase the verbal repertoire of children with language deficits.*

**Bright Feats Directory**  
Contact: Rori Becker, Owner, (407) 620-9355  
*Bright Feats provides free website and printed publications that feature our directory of resources for families with children with special needs. We help parents find therapists, pediatric physicians, educational resources and community providers to help their children succeed. Please visit [www.BrightFeats.com](http://www.BrightFeats.com) for more information.*

**CareerSource Polk**  
Contact: Eshia Smith, (863) 508-1100 ext. 3320  
Email: eshia.smith@careersourcepolk.com  
Locations: Davenport, Lakeland & Winter Haven  
*Connecting employers with qualified, skilled talent and job seekers with employment and career development opportunities in Polk County, Florida*
Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD)
Resource Office: (800) 333-4530
card-usf@usf.edu
The Center for Autism and Related Disabilities at USF is a community-based project that provides information and consultation to individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders and related disabilities. CARD-USF offers instruction and coaching to families and professionals through a training and assistance model. We provide direct assistance to families and technical assistance to schools.

Center for Independent Living
Contact: Jascinth Lawrence, Director of Contract Services
Winter Park Office (407) 623-1070 ext.129 or ext. 200 for the Lakeland office
Email: jlawrence@cilorlando.org
CIL, in partnership with the community, promotes inclusion of people with disabilities by eliminating architectural, communication and attitudinal barriers. CIL provides education, resources and training to enhance self-determination through informed choice.

Citrus Connection
Office: (863) 534-5500
Website: www.ridecitrus.com
Our Mission: To be a superior provider of transportation services that contribute to the economic growth and quality of life for the communities we serve.

Early Learning Coalition of Polk County
Contact: Melinda Tew, Program Manager/Inclusion Coordinator, (863) 577-2450 ext. 329
www.elcpolk.org
The Early Learning Coalition of Polk County is responsible for the administration of both the School Readiness and Voluntary PreKindergarten Programs here in Polk County. The Coalition’s mission is to prepare all children to enter school healthy, ready and eager for lifelong learning with the collaborative support of parents, families, educators, and the community.

Exceptional Student Education Advisory Council
Contact: Lisa Miller, (863) 698-6240
Email: lisa.miller@polk-fl.net
The Advisory Council for Exceptional Student Education is made up of parents, district personnel, and community stakeholders who work to improve the educational programs and services for students with disabilities.

Family Care Council
Contact: Manyvone Champavannarath, (863) 413-3387
Email: Manyvone.Champavannarath@Apdcares.Org
The Family Care Council advocates, educates, and empowers individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, partnering with APD to bring quality services to individuals for dignity and choice.
Family Network on Disabilities
Contact: Nikki Torres or Jessica Moody, (727) 523-1130 ext. 202 or 210
Family Network on Disabilities is a national network of individuals of all ages who may be at-risk, have disabilities, or have special needs and their families, professionals, and concerned citizens. The mission of FND is to strive for the complete integration and equality of persons with disabilities in a society without barriers. Our Youth Advocate program provides transition resources and support for youth and young adults with disabilities, ages 14 to 22, receiving special education and related services through direct one on one assistance, workshops via: face to face and online tutorials, webinar, Informational Tip Sheets, and information on Facebook and YouTube, Instagram, and our Youth App.

Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology (FAAST)
Office: (813) 844-7591
Email: faastcen@tgh.org
Assistive technology is any device used to increase or maintain ability in daily living. The FAAST Center in Tampa is an assistive technology demonstration center that allows individuals with disabilities to try out these devices. Our Mission: To improve the quality of life for all Floridians with disabilities through advocacy and awareness activities that increase access to and acquisition of assistive services and technology.

Florida Diagnostic Learning Resources Systems - Sunrise (FDLRS)
Florida Inclusion Network (FIN)
Contact: Dr. Poinsetta Tillman, Sr. Manager FDLRS/Sunrise, (863) 647-4258
FDLRS-Sunrise is one of 19 centers in Florida that provides professional development for teachers, support to schools and families.
The Florida Inclusion Network (FIN) collaborates with all districts and schools to provide customized services and supports ensuring all students with disabilities have the same educational, social, and future opportunities as their peers.

Florida Division of Blind Services
Contact: Robert Risavy, (863) 499-2385
Email: Robert.Risavy@dbs.fldoe.org
Division of Blind Services provides help for those with dual vision problems and schooling and job services.

Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Office: (863) 680-5534
Contact: Johana Gonzalez, Supervisor
Email: johana.gonzalez@vr.fldoe.org
Kathy Sangster, Senior Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor for Transition
Email: kathy.sangster@vr.fldoe.org
Charlene Vocelle, Senior Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor for the Deaf
Email: charlene.vocelle.vr.fldoe.org
A federally funded-state program that works with people who have physical, intellectual or emotional disabilities to help them prepare for, gain or retain employment.

Goodwill Industries- Suncoast, Inc
Life Skills Development Center
Contact: Karen Taylor, Transition Specialist, (863) 701-1351
Email: karen.taylor@goodwill-suncoast.com
Goodwill Industries/Suncoast train individuals with disabilities for community employment.
Inspiring Interpreting Inc
Contact: Barbara Ledford, (863) 255-8144
Email: inspiredinterpretinginc@gmail.com
We are inspired by the needs of the Deaf community to provide professional interpreters who can facilitate communication effectively. Our interpreters interpret between American Sign Language and English in a variety of settings including educational, medical, business, social services, government and performing arts.

Interagency Council for Adult Transition Services (ICATS)
Contact: Kathy Sangster, (863) 680-5534
Email: Kathy.sangster@vr.fldoe.org
Polk County Resource that provides information on services to assist persons with disabilities in the transition toward gainful employment. ICATS networks with community resources to provide information and goal development to further opportunities in employment, education and success in independence for individuals with disabilities.

Learning Resource Center of Polk County, Inc.
Contact: Cathie Wright, (863) 688-9477
Email: cathiew@lrcpolk.com
www.lrcpolk.com
Learning Resource Center of Polk County, Inc. is a non-profit United Way agency that helps students maximize their learning potential. LRC offers a wide variety of programs and services; One-to One Tutoring, SAT/ACT Preparation, Study Habits, etc. to children and adults throughout Polk County.

Merrill Lynch Wealth Management
Contact: Larry Foster, (863) 904-3310
Email: larry.foster@ml.com
PIA Program Portfolio Advisor, and Financial Advisor NMLS #906848
Mr. Foster will give information and answer questions about Special Needs Trusts and The ABLE Act.

Noah's Ark
Contact: Jack Kosik, (863) 687-0804
Email: admin@NoahsArkFlorida.org
Noah’s Ark addresses the concerns of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. They provide weekly activities, advocacy, family support, and affordable housing.

Peace River Center
Contact: Luis Rivas, (863) 512-1280
Email: LRivas@peacerivercenter.org
The mission of Peace River Center is to improve the mental health of individuals in our community. Services offered by Peace River Center include Crisis Stabilization Unit, Outpatient Counseling, Psychiatric/Medical, Adult Residential Treatment, Case Management, Substance Abuse, Domestic Violence and Rape Recovery programs, and 24-hour Crisis Hotline services.
**Polk County School Board – Hearth Project**  
Contact: Dee Dee Wright, Homeless Liaison, (863) 534-0755  
Email: deedee.wright@polk-fl.net  
*The HEARTH Project and Polk County Public Schools are dedicated to assisting homeless and in-transition families and children by eliminating barriers to school enrollment, attendance, stability, and overall academic success. We work to ensure that children experiencing homelessness have the same opportunities for educational success as housed students in Polk County.*

**Polk County School Board – Hospital / Homebound Program**  
Contact: Lisa Carr, Hospital Homebound Lead Teacher, (863) 534-0930 X 10309  
Email: lisa.carr@polk-fl.net  
[http://www.polk-fl.net/districtinfo/departments/learningsupport/ese/hospitalhomebound.htm](http://www.polk-fl.net/districtinfo/departments/learningsupport/ese/hospitalhomebound.htm)  
*For more information regarding the program please contact Lisa Carr.*

**Polk County School Board- Multiple Pathways/Workforce Education**  
Contact: Marc Hutek, Assistant Superintendent, (863) 519-8437  
Email: marc.hutek@polk-fl.net  
*The Mission of this department is to educate students to be responsible, productive, competent contributors to the workforce. Workforce Education offers assistance, information and guidance on:*  
- Academies and Pre-Academies  
- Programs such as Agriscience, Business, Diversified, Family & Consumer Sciences, Health Science, Industrial, Marketing, Public Service and Technology  
- Services which include Adult Education, Farmworkers, GED, and Career Pathways  
- School Enterprises in business, childcare, culinary, fashion, and technology.

**Polk County School Board - Office of Acceleration and Innovation**  
Contact: Carolyn Bridges, Senior Director of Acceleration and Innovation, (863) 534-0631  
Email: carolyn.bridges@polk-fl.net  
*The focus of the Office of Acceleration and Innovation is to provide a range of high quality and academically rigorous alternatives to any student who wishes to participate in these programs. Magnet and Choice enrollment is completed, as is high school International Baccalaureate (IB) offerings, via a fair and impartial lottery system or as directed by district policy, state or federal law. These choice options not only enhance student learning opportunities; but also support the district’s goal for a desegregated district that complies with the continuing requirements of the Unitary Status Agreement. Enrollment into other accelerated options are further defined by individual program and detailed at [http://www.polk-fl.net/districtinfo/departments/schoolbased/schoolchoice/](http://www.polk-fl.net/districtinfo/departments/schoolbased/schoolchoice/).*

**Polk County School Board - Prekindergarten Services**  
Contact: Gregory P. Kent, Senior Manager, (863) 534-0934  
Email: gregory.kent@polk-fl.net  
Contact: Matti Friedt, Director Preschool Programs, (863) 648-3051  
Email: matti.friedt@polk-fl.net  
*Focused on Growth: Class of 2030 and 2031  
The mission of Polk County Schools is to provide a high quality education for all students.*
Polk County School Board - Related Services  
Contact: Teri Crace, Senior Manager, (863) 534-0930  
Email: teri.crace@polk-fl.net  
Related services are provided for students with disabilities, to allow them to be more successful in school. Those services can include speech/language therapy, occupational and/or physical therapy, audiology services, and interpreting services.

Polk County School Board - Student Services  
Contact: Jim Maxwell, Director of Student Services, (863) 534-0923  
Email: jim.maxwell@polk-fl.net  
Student Services believes in nurturing the well-being of the whole child. Every day, we support and facilitate academic, behavioral, physical, and social-emotional development so that all students can reach their maximum potential. Student Services professionals include bullying prevention specialists, school nurses, school psychologists and school social workers who assist schools with concerns related to attendance, behavior issues, bullying, crisis intervention, evaluation and testing for ESE eligibility.

Polk County School Board – Transition Programs  
Contact: Gregory P. Kent, Senior Manager, (863) 534-0934  
Email: gregory.kent@polk-fl.net  
The School District of Polk County operates a post-secondary transition program exclusively for students who have graduated with an IEP. Programs are housed throughout the County at fifteen (15) sites including four comprehensive high schools, three special education centers and eight off-campus, community-based sites. Participants complete an application process spelled out on the District’s website and once admitted, may participate through the school year in which they turn 22. Participants are assigned to a location based upon their home address and their level of independent functioning.

Polk County Schools Regional Title I Parent Informational Resource Centers & Parent University  
Contact: Denise Atwell, District Title 1 Parent Involvement Coordinator, (863) 519-3603  
Email: denise.atwell@polk-fl.net  
**Goal of the Parent Centers:**  
Our goal is to educate, equip, and partner with our students and their support systems by offering a wide variety of relevant and effective programs and resources that will make a positive impact on the individual and the community. By building strong parent-learning communities we will increase student achievement in our schools.

**Goal of Polk’s Parent University:**  
The goal of Polk’s Parent University is to increase parent involvement in the schools and empower parents to raise children who are successful in school and in life. Parent University is a way in which our school district, businesses, and other community organizations can provide education to parents. Our philosophy is that parenting, like other types of education, is an ongoing and lifelong learning process.

**Goal of the Books Bridge Program:**  
The Books Bridge program is designed to bridge learning from school to home for families and students. Currently, three Books Bridge busses outfitted as mobile classrooms serve all of Polk County, providing free books and information to build home libraries and literacy knowledge.
Polk State College
Contact: Melissa Futia, Coordinator of Disability Services, (863) 669-2895
Email: mfutia@polk.edu
Polk State College is a quality driven institution, transforming lives through the power of education by providing access to affordable associate and baccalaureate degrees, career certificates and workforce employment programs, delivered by diverse, qualified faculty and staff. The College is dedicated to providing equal access and equal opportunity for all services made available by the College, conducting all programs and activities without discriminating against a person because of age, disability, gender, religion, race, color, national origin, creed, ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status or marital status. Students with disabilities, covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should contact Kim Pearsall by email at kpearsall@polk.edu; or by phone at 863-669-2309.

Polk Training Center, Inc.
Contact: Sherrie Holbrook, Executive Director, (863) 956-1620
Susan Matthews, Teacher
Email: Sherrie: sherrie@polktrainingcenter.org
Susan susan@polktrainingcenter.org
Mission: To provide employment and continual learning opportunities for adults with disabilities; providing appropriate instruction and accommodations to facilitate success in individual independence and community-wide service. Vision: Producing a student who has excelled to their highest individual potential by training, connecting to resources, and providing funding of their facility and program through the success of their own efforts.

Serving Children and Reaching Families (SCARF)
Contact: Billie Jo Owens, (321) 236-1540
Email: billiejo.owens@scarffl.com
www.scarffl.com
The mission of Serving Children and Reaching Families is to give at risk children and families the opportunity to reach their full potential by breaking down barriers, increasing community support and maximizing personal growth.

Social Security Administration
Contact: Ruqayyah Nicholas, District Manager
www.socialsecurity.gov
Office: (877) 604-9387
The Social Security Administration (SSA) provides benefits for disabled children and adults.

Special Needs Ministry at First Presbyterian Church of Lakeland
Contact: Alyss Ruster, (863) 368-0099
Email: Alyss@fpclakeland.org
We provide a safe and loving place for people with developmental delays to come and worship and to study God's Word. We offer programs on Sunday mornings during worship and Sunday school. We also offer summer camp and a 16 and up bible study. Lastly we offer Buddy Break a free respite program for parents one Saturday a month. All programs are run by trained staff and volunteers.
Special Olympics Florida-Polk County
Contact: Shelley Henry, County Director, (863) 934-0261
Email: shelleyhenry@specialolympicsflorida.org
Office: (863) 815-6671
www.specialolympicsflorida.org/polk
Special Olympics Florida provides year round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

Sunrise Community of Polk County, Inc.
Contact: Heather Davis, Director of Operations, (863) 680-2817
Email: hddavis@sunrisegroup.org Visit us on the web: www.sunrisegroup.org
Sunrise Community of Central Florida is a private not-for-profit 501 (C) 3 organization that has provided residential and adult day training services for adults with developmental disabilities (i.e. autism, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, and intellectual delay) since 1983. Sunrise Community of Central Florida serves over 200 people with developmental disabilities in Polk, Highlands, Hardee, Volusia and Seminole counties and provides information and additional services to 3,000 people annually. We offer a myriad of services under the program categories of residential services, adult day training, and transportation. Services include assisting every person to develop skills for greater independence at home and in the community. Sunrise has 17 group homes within Polk, Highlands, Hardee, Volusia, Pinellas and Seminole Counties. Four to eight individuals reside in each home. The homes are located in residential neighborhoods and are customized to meet the needs of each resident.

Supervisor of Elections
Contact: Supervisor of Elections Main Office, (863) 534-5888
Email: info@polkelections.com
Assisting residences of Polk County with voter Registration, address changes, name change, absentee requests, party affiliation.
# 2016-2017 ESE School Support

**Dr. Kimberly Steinke**, Assistant Superintendent of Learning Support  
**Diane Taylor**, ESE Director  
**Anastasia Sands**, District Staffing Specialist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bartow Airbase Staff – Route B – Main Phone Number: (863) 534-0930</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Teri Crace</strong>, <strong>Senior Manager</strong> – CPI Training, Hospital Homebound, Specially Designed/Adaptive Physical Education, Vision Impairments, Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy (Phone: 534-0930)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gregory Kent</strong>, <strong>Senior Manager</strong> – Prekindergarten for ESE, Transition Programs and Services (Phone: 534-0930)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr. Poinsetta Tillman</strong>, <strong>Senior Manager</strong> – FDLRS/FIN (Phone: 647-4258)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Dr. Jennifer Reading, TRST** – Intellectual Disabilities, Alternate Assess.  
**Emily Mistretta, TRST** – Gifted Services  
**Tracy Dasher, SEDNET Project Manager** – Mental Health  
**Denisse Santos, TRST ESE** – Autism, Alternate Assessment

### North Central Area
- Phone: 499-2826 or 54582  
- FAX: 499-2822  
- **Stephanie Gardner**, Senior Manager  
- **Bartow Airbase Staff – Route A**  
- **Faye Luster**  
  - Blake Elem Acad  
  - Fresh Start Lakeland  
  - Karen Siegel Academy  
  - Lake Alfred Elem  
  - Lakeland Sr./Harrison  
  - Lawton Chiles Mid Acad  
  - Pace for Girls  
  - Stambaugh Mid  
- **Betsy Merritt**  
  - Auburndale Sr.  
  - Cleveland Court Elem  
  - Doris Sanders Lrng. Ctr.  
  - Lena Vista Elem  
  - Lincoln Ave Elem Acad  
  - Polk City Elem  
  - REAL Acad. at DS  
  - REAL Acad. at Aub HS  
- **Polk County Special Education**  
  - **Fanny Edwards**  
    - Auburndale Central El  
    - Boswell Elem  
    - East Adult  
    - Lake Gibson Mid  
    - Lake Gibson Sr.  
    - North Lakeland Elem  
    - Padgett Elem  
    - Rochelle SOA (PK-8)  
    - Wendell Watson Elem  
    - West Adult  
- **Dr. Fraenda Satchel-Carter**, **Senior Manager**  
  - **Alturas Elem**  
  - Bartow Mid  
  - Eagle Lake Elem  
  - Ft Meade Mid/Sr  
  - Lake Region Sr  
  - Pinewood Elem  
  - Stephens Elem  
  - Wahneta Elem  
- **Kathryn Lutiger**  
  - **Karen Hyman**  
  - **Katie O'Neill**  
  - **Monica DeSantis**  
  - **Donna Dufour**  
  - **Tracy McCants**  
- **Mary Robertson**  
  - Bartow Sr/IB/Summerlin  
  - Floral Av Elem  
  - Gause Elem (6-12)  
  - Highland City Elem  
  - Jean O’Dell Learning Ctr  
  - Spessard Holland Elem  
  - Spook Hill Elem  
  - Union Mid Academy  
- **Katie Reinhart**  
  - **Kathleen Wright**  
  - **Mona Lytle**  
  - **Monifa Neal**  
  - **Brenda Caretta**  
- **Joyce Preston**  
  - Charter Schools, Transition Sites, Hospital/Homebound, Polk Acceleration Academy  
  - ESE District Office/Bartow Airbase  
  - **Sabrina Mitchell**  
  - Private Schools - SE Area ESE Office  
  - 863-534-7480  

For **Home Education**, all **Virtual School options**, and **Private School coming to public school for services**, contact the staffing specialist/area office for the student’s zoned school.
**Student Services**

*Student Services believes in nurturing the well-being of the whole child. Every day, we support and facilitate academic, behavioral, physical, and social-emotional development so that all students can reach their maximum potential.*

**Administration & Contact Information**

(All phone number area codes are 863)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jim Maxwell</td>
<td>Director of Student Services</td>
<td>534-0958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shannon Gillespie</td>
<td>Senior Manager of Social Work Services</td>
<td>534-0024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Responsibilities: School Social Workers, Attendance, Juvenile Court Liaison</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Home Education</td>
<td>534-0960</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>534-0028 (fax)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sherry Scott</td>
<td>Senior Manager of Psychological Services</td>
<td>534-0928</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Responsibilities: School Psychologists; Student Evaluations; Crisis Intervention Team</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audrey Kelley</td>
<td>Senior Manager</td>
<td>291-5355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Responsibilities: Prevention, Health, and Wellness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deborah Badertscher</td>
<td>Senior Coordinator of Mindful Schools Grants</td>
<td>534-0930</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Responsibilities: Grant Implementation in 6 Target Schools</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathy Boek</td>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>291-5355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Responsibilities: Safe and Drug Free Schools</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esperanza DeJesus Cheryl Marino Denise Sepulveda</td>
<td>Anti-Bullying Team (Social Workers)</td>
<td>534-0930</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
On behalf of the Polk County Public Schools Learning Support Division, comprised of the Exceptional Student Education and Student Services departments, as well as on behalf of the Polk ESE Advisory committee, thank you for participating in the Polk Symposium on Special Education!

For more information please visit
www.polk-fl.net/parents/ese