

Descriptions of the 2021 Director Academy Presentations

Wednesday, 6/23/2021 and Thursday, 6/25/2021 from 9AM to 12:30PM

Improving the IEP Meeting Process

Presenters: Key2ED is a national authority on IEP Facilitation on facilitating family and school partnerships

Cassie Velasquez, M.Ed, MDR Managing Partner

This will be a 6-hour presentation on Improving the IEP meeting process. The outcomes for the presentation would be:

- Improved collaboration among IEP participants
- Improved communication using reflective listening
- Shared understanding of problem-solving tools
- How to conduct a Virtual Facilitated IEP
- Reducing conflict amount IEP participants

Wednesday, 6/23 from 1:30PM to 3:30 PM

Orthographic Processing: Facts, Theories and Myths About Dyslexia/Reading Disorders

Presenters: Gorham Public Schools' school psychologist-specialists Lisa Howe, Nicole Jutkiewicz, and Hilarie Fotter Kennedy

Orthographic Processing is a “buzzword” right now in special education, but it’s a concept that’s been familiar to school psychologists for a while now. We all know the 5 pillars of reading, but where does orthographic processing fit in? While most students pick up these skills through the general curriculum, others struggle. Many schools are exploring ways to incorporate orthographic processing skills into their students’ instruction, but literature and information specifically on this can be time consuming and hard to find. Join Gorham public school psychologist-specialists as they walk you through what Orthographic Processing is, how teachers can recognize if a student might be struggling with these skills, ways for specialists to measure and assess it, what kind of interventions are believed to be most effective in teaching skills, and how to document it on the SLD form.

Thursday, 6/24 from 1:30 to 3:30

Updates from Maine Department of Education, Special Services

Presenters: Erin Frazier, Director of MDOE Special Services and Colleagues

Friday, 6/25 from 8:30AM to 11:30 AM

Special Education Law Updates – A Year In Review 2020-2021

Presenters: Eric Herlan, Esq. and Colleagues