School-Level Special Education Committees

Please note the following and take appropriate action.

Per the recent NYCPS-UFT Memorandum of Understanding, effective in the fall 2023 term, a school-level special education committee will be established in district 1-32 and district 75 schools.

- District 1–32 Schools: The school UFT chapter leader(s) shall select a special education committee which shall meet with the principal two times per year (fall and spring). The committee and principal shall discuss special education compliance issues, including but not limited to teacher and paraprofessional programming, and, when possible, resolve special education compliance issues.

- District 75 Schools: The committee shall meet two times per year—once at the beginning of the year and once at the end of the year. The committee shall discuss (a) issues regarding available space and staffing at the main school and each cluster site to support students in crisis and (b) special education compliance issues, including but not limited to teacher and paraprofessional programming, and, when possible, resolving special education compliance issues at the school level. This committee may request assistance from the district representative and the superintendent as needed.
Principals should meet with the UFT chapter leader(s) during the first week of school to acknowledge and lend your support in establishing this committee by working with the UFT chapter leader(s) to review calendars and identify a potential date for the fall meeting.

Note that the DOE and UFT will jointly create a training on special education rules and regulations to be approved by Chancellor Banks or a designee. The training shall be provided each fall to all staff in-person at a time when students are not in attendance on or before Election Day. Staff who cannot attend the in-person training shall have access to a self-paced training. More information on the training resources will be shared in a future edition of Principals Digest.

For UFT contract questions, contact your senior field counsel. For special education compliance questions, contact your district administrator of special education (DOE login required).