MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
HR Directors
ADEPT District Contacts

FROM: Lilla Toal Mandsager
Director, Office of Educator Effectiveness and Leadership Development

DATE: May 19, 2020

RE: Special Areas Evaluation Pilot and Training Opportunities

Using feedback from statewide surveys, webinars, roundtables, and stakeholder advisory groups, revised guidelines for Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Professional Teaching (ADEPT) for Special Areas educators have been drafted for pilot in 2020–21. Feedback from pilot districts will be used to revise guidelines for presentation to the State Board of Education in 2021. The Office of Educator Effectiveness and Leadership Development plans to transition all districts to using the new evaluation instruments for school counselors, school librarians, and speech language professionals beginning 2021–22.

To ensure districts are ready for the transition to a new special areas evaluation process, the Office of Educator Effectiveness and Leadership Development will provide evaluator and train-the-trainer sessions beginning summer 2020. Evaluator training will be available in online modules for each special area model; however, evaluators will need district approval to register.

If your district intends to pilot the special area evaluation in 2020–21, the district must send at least one representative to be trained as a special areas trainer. Additionally, pilot districts should include the Special Areas Addendum as part of their Annual ADEPT Plan due July 1. Although district trainers will not be required to provide face-to-face evaluator training, they will need to be familiar with the evaluation models and training procedures. More information about the draft revisions can be found here.

More information on planned sessions is available below. Contact Beverly Flythe, bflythe@ed.sc.gov, 803-896-0318 with questions.
Special Areas Evaluation Training Opportunities

ADEPT for School Counselors, School Librarians, and Speech Language Professionals 2020
Evaluator training is required for any educator serving on an evaluation team for one of the special areas. These training modules will prepare participants to evaluate evidence of professional practice and to conduct evaluation conferences using the updated instruments. Evaluator training and registration will be available online in July.

ADEPT for Special Areas 2020 Train-the-Trainer training is required for district leaders in districts that plan to pilot a special areas instrument in 2020–21. The training will equip district leaders to enroll district evaluators in online training, to understand the evaluation instruments, and to implement a transition plan. Although we’ve grouped these trainings regionally, district leaders are welcome to register for any session. Each session will be virtual and will include a mix of synchronous and asynchronous learning. Participants will need a device with an internet connection, a camera, a keyboard, and a microphone.

A DEPT for Special Areas 2020
Train-the-Trainer, Midlands Focus
Virtual Session
July 10, 2020, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
Registration Link:
https://scde.formstack.com/forms/2020_special_areas_midlands1

A DEPT for Special Areas 2020
Train-the-Trainer, Pee Dee Focus
Virtual Session
July 13, 2020, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
Registration Link:
https://scde.formstack.com/forms/2020_special_areas_peedee

A DEPT for Special Areas 2020
Train-the-Trainer, Upstate Focus
Virtual Session
July 16, 2020, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
Registration Link:
https://scde.formstack.com/forms/2020_special_areas_upstate

A DEPT for Special Areas 2020
Train-the-Trainer, Lowcountry Focus
Virtual Session
July 21, 2020, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
Registration Link:
https://scde.formstack.com/forms/2020_special_areas_lowcountry

A DEPT for Special Areas 2020
Train-the-Trainer, All areas
Virtual Session
September 9, 2020, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
Registration Link:
https://scde.formstack.com/forms/2020_special_areas_midlands2