

SPECIAL EDUCATION BOARD REPORT

Holly Day, Director

October 4, 2021

- Current Openings:
 - Poland Community School Social Worker (currently being filled part time by a contracted provider)
 - Ed Techs across the District
- The Maine Department of Education is offering free training in reading programs and some of our staff are taking part in this training. They will receive both the training and the reading kits under this program.
- Maine's Restraint and Seclusion Law (Ch. 33) has some changes that go into effect on October 18, 2021. In summary, the law makes changes to the definitions of restraint and seclusion, and includes significant new limitations on when those interventions can be used. Physical restraint or seclusion can be used ONLY when three separate standards are met:
 - The student's behavior presents an "imminent danger of serious physical injury to the student or another person;"
 - Less restrictive interventions would be ineffective in stopping the behavior; and
 - The physical restraint or seclusion stops as soon as the imminent danger of serious physical injury ceases.
- Chapter 33 is a general education law, not specifically a special education law. We will use the start of October to educate staff about the changes to the law.