



2024

***October Professional
Development Conference***

***Transition within the
Special Education Arena***

**Friday, October 4, 2024
Bristol Event Center
Bristol, CT**

2024 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2024

SPEAKERS

Missy Wrigley – SERC

Responsible for Transition Planning – Oh My! – What Do I Do Now?

During this session participants will review the Best Practices within the secondary transition planning process. In addition, we will network together to identify how we are moving transition planning from simple compliance to Quality Transition Planning. It is only with quality planning that we can ensure that all students achieve their identified post-school outcomes.

Missy Wrigley lives in the Quiet Corner of Canterbury, Connecticut. During her final year of college at the University of Rhode Island, Missy Wrigley participated in an internship working with young children with autism. There she found her passion for working with students with disabilities. After receiving her Masters and Special Education Teaching certification from the University of Connecticut, Missy spent 20 years providing specially designed instruction in grades 4 through 12. Her last 12 years of teaching were spent developing a transition course for high school students with disabilities and those at risk, grades 9-12.

Missy became a consultant within SERCs Transition Initiative in 2008. In her work, Missy's No. 1 objective is ensuring that all students with disabilities obtain the skills needed to successfully achieve their post-school goals. This inspires Missy to collaborate closely with her colleagues at the CT State Department of Education as well as with other stakeholders across the state to support the development of effective secondary transition planning and services. Missy has served as co-facilitator of the CT State Transition Task Force and as a CORE team member of the CT Transition Community of Practice. Missy also offers a variety of other services as a consultant and is passionate about all aspects of education. She has developed and contributed to publications and initiatives ranging from specially designed instruction to equitable practices in family engagement. Missy is an endorsed Step by Step for Inclusive Schools Trainer, MAPS/PATH Trainer, LifeCourse Ambassador, and a Courageous Conversations about Race Affiliate. When not working, Missy enjoys spending time with her family and sitting in her garden paradise with a good book!

Laura Luna - CSDE

CSDE Update: Public Act 23-137 Secondary Transition Requirements

The CSDE will provide a brief summary of the new legislatively required secondary transition requirements for the State Department of Education as well as Local Education Agencies. During the session, the CSDE will also provide guidance and information related to training materials, resources and data collection to address these new requirements.

Laura Luna is an Associate Education Consultant with the Bureau of Special Education. Before joining the Connecticut State Department of Education in June 2024, Laura's public education experience includes working as a special education administrator/assistant principal in Ledyard, an out-of-district liaison in Norwich, and a school social worker in Groton. Laura's educational background includes an undergraduate degree and Master of Social Work from UConn and a sixth-year certification through Sacred Heart University.

Jennifer Sullivan - Fast Forward College Coaching

Executive Functioning and Metacognition: Improving Students' Learning Outcomes

Executive functioning skills are crucial for enhancing students' academic performance, confidence, and effort. From kindergarten through middle and high school, these skills are essential for mastering tasks that allow students to demonstrate their learning. As academic demands increase, students who struggle with executive functions may experience frustration and decreased self-confidence, leading to reduced effort. Participants will explore how metacognitive strategies can complement practical executive functioning tools to help students better manage their learning processes, increase confidence and motivation as well as improve their overall performance.

Jennifer Sullivan is the owner of Fast Forward College Coaching, providing executive functioning support for high school and college students both in-person and virtually throughout CT. Jennifer is an accomplished author having written and co-written three books: *Sharing the Transition to College*, *Sharing the Transition to College Workbook*, and *College is Like a Video Game: Press Play*. With over 20 years of experience in education, including a decade working in a college transition program in CT, Jennifer speaks locally and nationally on topics such as executive functioning skill building, transition, supporting first-generation college students, and navigating learning support and accommodations in college. Jennifer's dedication extends beyond individual coaching; she is committed to helping educators, families, and organizations refine their strategies and build robust support networks for neurodiverse communities.

Additionally, Jennifer serves as a Charting the Lifecourse Ambassador in Connecticut and partners with thought leaders in CT districts to refine and develop innovative strategies to support every student.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2023

AGENDA

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 8:00 am – 8:45 am | Registration/Continental Breakfast
Visit with Vendors
Location: Century Ballroom Lobby |
| 8:45 am – 9:00 am | Introductory Remarks & Welcome
ConnCASE President Aimee Turner
CSDE Update
Room: Century Ballroom |
| 9:00 am – 10:00 am | Presentation:
<i>Responsible for Transition Planning – Oh My! –
What Do I Do Now?</i>
Missy Wrigley, SERC
Room: Century Ballroom |
| 10:00 am – 10:15am | Coffee Break/Visit with Vendors
Location: Century Ballroom Lobby |
| 10:15 am – 11:15 am | Presentation (cont'd)
Room: Century Ballroom |
| 11:15 am – 12:00 pm | <i>Fireside Chat: Representative Jeffrey Currey</i>
Room: Century Ballroom |
| 12:00 pm – 12:45 pm | Buffet Lunch
Location: Century Ballroom/Lobby |
| 12:45 pm – 1:15 pm | Presentation:
<i>CSDE Update: Public Act 23-137 Secondary
Transition Requirements</i>
Laura Luna, CSDE
Room: Century Ballroom |
| 1:15 am – 1:30 pm | Coffee Break/Visit with Vendors
Location: Century Ballroom Lobby |
| 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm | Presentation:
<i>Executive Functioning and Metacognition:
Improving Students' Learning Outcomes</i>
Jennifer Sullivan, Fast Forward College Coaching |
| 3:30pm | Adjourn |

THANK YOU !

Dear 2024 Conference Attendees:

We would like to thank you for attending the 2024 October Professional Development Conference sponsored by ConnCASE. We are always very thrilled to bring you the most up to date information on what is affecting our industry today and hope you had an educational and enjoyable day! We continue to improve professional development in the area of education with your support. If it was not for YOU, education would not be what it is today.

Also, we would like to hear from you! Evaluations were included in your attendee confirmations and will be available on our website. Please take a few minutes to fill them out and return them by emailing us at info@conncase.org.

Have a wonderful and relaxing rest of your day and thank you for your continued support!!

Regards,

Nicole O'Connell
ConnCASE PD Chair

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Diamond Sponsor



Gold Sponsors



Table Sponsors



2024 – 2025 ConnCASE Executive Board Members

Executive Committee

President:	Aimee Turner, Wallingford Public Schools
Past President/ Legislative Co-Chairperson:	Kathie Gabrielson, Stafford Public Schools
President-Elect/ Professional Development Chair:	Nicole O’Connell, Naugatuck Public Schools
Secretary:	Shamim Patwa, Mansfield Public Schools
Treasurer:	Patti Hess, Tolland Public Schools

Board Members/Representatives

**Regional Representatives
Region 1 Representatives:**
Barbara McLean
Canton Public Schools

Katherine Matz
Easton, Redding & Region 9

Region 2 Representatives:
Wendy Cote
Tolland Public Schools

Rebecca Lopes
Putnam Public Schools

Region 3 Representatives:
Jenn Hoffmann
Hartford Public Schools

Katie Krasula
Simsbury Public Schools

Region 4 Representatives:
Elizabeth Battaglia
Madison Public Schools
(Mentoring Chairperson)

Region 5 Representatives:
Jennifer Keane
Region 13 Public Schools

Mary Edo
Orange Public Schools

Meghan Pogonelski
Oxford Public Schools

Region 6 Representatives:
Tracy Edwards
Weston Public Schools

Michael Rizzo
Westport Public Schools
(Mentoring Committee)

**Representatives
CASE Representative:**
Yvette Goorevitch

SAC Representative:
Josh Martin
East Haddam Public Schools

RESC Representative:
Kevin Keating
ACES

CAPSEF Representative:

Karen Helene
Benhaven School

Building Administrator Liaison:

Joseph Lucibello
West Haven Public Schools

Related Services Liaison:

Tom Brant
Amity Public Schools

Executive Director:

Yvette Goorevitch

Association Executive:

Allyson J. Brunetti
info@conncase.org

SAVE THE DATE:

2025 Legal Issues Conference
March 6 - 7, 2025

Keynote Speaker:
Attorney Deanna L. Arivett
Arivett Law Firm

Hilton Mystic
Mystic, CT

Registration will be open soon!