



18 Gail Court, Sparta, NJ 07871  
(973) 579-6980

Department of Non-Public Services

# News & Notes

## Non-Public Staff:

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Andrea Romano, Superintendent

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN...

### Speech:

New Jersey is still experiencing a state-wide shortage of Speech Therapists. We are in contact weekly with a number of agencies trying to secure additional therapists. We are looking forward to interviewing two candidates this week. Once we hire an additional therapist, missed Speech sessions from earlier in the year will begin to be made-up.

Our Speech Therapists strive to make each session impactful, yet fun. Using a variety of tools and techniques catered to each group's age and needs ensures each student stays focused and engaged in every session. Play-based therapy helps increase attention and build better and more positive interactions, especially with younger children.

### OT:

We are thrilled to welcome Noah, Martine, and Rachael to the SCESC Related Services Team this year!

Occupational Therapy focuses on working with children that have a physical, sensory, or cognitive disability. Developing fine motor skills is essential to preparing children for future everyday tasks.

### PT:

We are very fortunate to have two full-time physical therapists this year. Dawn and Lia are invaluable members of our Related Services Team and focus on helping children learn to successfully and independently perform gross motor skills and functional mobility skills.

## Meet the Therapists:



Jill Laufer, Speech Therapist  
Deann Hollander, Speech Therapist

Noah McGowan, COTA

Martine Kelly, Occupational Therapist

Rachael Tucker, Occupational Therapist

Lia Kondos, Physical Therapist

Dawn Kuncken, Physical Therapist



## Meet the Teachers:

Cathy Kohansby

Donna Iannelli

Nannette Turner

Kristen Dempsey

Justin Simmons



## Meet the Child Study Team:



Kathleen Grennan  
Dawn DiLascio

*The Commission provides support and programs to enhance student learning in the non-public school setting through funding under Chapters 192/193, Chapter 226 and IDEIA.*



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## From the Superintendent:

Non Public programs for students is just one of the services SCESC provides to our local school communities. We service small numbers of students to great numbers of students.

The programming that exists in Non-Public Schools include services for students who need compensatory education. Under Chapter 192, compensatory education is identified for a student through standardized testing given by the Non Public School. Service provisions are provided by normed test scores. If your child qualifies under the test scores or through a portfolio of submitted work, your child is eligible for 1, 30-minute session for language arts or math or both (2, 30-minute sessions). Home instruction and ELL instruction also fall under Chapter 192.

Chapter 193 programs include supplemental education. Students receive a 30-minute session weekly. This can encompass either language arts or math. Students will need to go through the process of being found eligible for special education. Not all of the same requirements apply to students in non-public programming that exist in traditional public schools.

Finding a student eligible for services can take up to 90 days. Our staff complete the process in a smaller time-frame but occasionally challenges exist. In addition, services can only be provided if the funding exists from the public school and the NJDOE.

Programming for 2022-2023 has not been without challenges due to staffing for speech and language and start dates with coming out of the pandemic. We are working with schools to ensure that services are being met. Should you have any questions, please contact me at [aromano@sussexesc.org](mailto:aromano@sussexesc.org). Thank you for understanding and being patient.

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