



**Northwest Educational  
Service District 189**

*Together We Can*

# Special Programs & Services Professional Development Offerings 2025-2026

## **Navigating Section 504: From Principles to Practice**

### **Event #196549**

Date: January 26, 2026

### **Event #196551**

Date April 30, 2026

Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Registration Fee: \$85

Participants will develop a conceptual understanding of Section 504 and the application of the process within school systems. The topics covered in this session will include:

- Review of the definitions related to Section 504 and The Americans with Disabilities Act;
- The 504 referral and evaluation process;
- The roles and responsibilities of each member of the 504 team;
- The similarities and differences between Section 504 and IDEA;
- Identification of students eligible under Section 504;
- Understanding the connection of student data to the development of accommodations;
- Review the ways in which health plans can connect to Section 504;
- Application of Section 504 procedures to case scenarios;
- Discussion of the applicable regulations regarding Section 504 and claims of discrimination or harassment;
- The connection between exclusionary discipline and the implementation of Section 504.

## **Teachers & Paraprofessionals Supporting Students with Diverse Learning Needs: Managing & Leading a Special Education Classroom**

Event #196836

Date: April 16, 2026

Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Registration Fee: \$100

This comprehensive full-day training equips teachers and paraprofessionals with essential strategies and skills to effectively support students with diverse learning needs in a special education classroom. Participants will explore best practices in classroom management and arrangement, providing individualized instruction and collaborative teamwork in running a classroom. This training emphasizes understanding each student's unique strengths and challenges, implementing effective organizational techniques, and fostering an inclusive learning environment. Attendees will also learn how to lead

and collaborate with colleagues and families to create a supportive educational community, ensuring all students have access to meaningful learning experiences. Through interactive activities, real-world scenarios, and practical tools, participants will leave empowered to manage and lead with confidence, promoting positive outcomes for students with special needs. Participants will leave with materials they have created during the training.

## **The Special Education Evaluation & Eligibility Process: An Overview for Educators**

Event #196554

Date: May 27, 2026

Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Registration Fee: \$85

This comprehensive training session is designed to equip educators with essential knowledge in evaluation procedures, eligibility criteria, and legal requirements involved in this special education process. Through practical strategies, scenarios, and collaborative activities, educators will enhance their ability to understand the concepts and requirements for teams to conduct evaluations collaboratively.

## **Coming Soon!**

### **Understanding IEPs: General Education Teachers' Role in the Process and Implementation**

*Proposed Date: March 31, 2026*

### **Demystifying Applied Behavior Analysis: Supporting Students with Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities**

*Proposed Date: May 5, 2026*

### **The Administrator and Designee Role in Facilitating the IEP Process**

*Proposed Date: August 6, 2026*



scan to register

Kristi Gunerius  
[kgunerius@nwesd.org](mailto:kgunerius@nwesd.org)  
360-299-4011