



**Española Public Schools**

Striving for Excellence



December 2023



## Student Services Department Newsletter

*"Kindness is like snow—it beautifies everything it covers."*

- Kahlil Gibran

**Multi-layered System of Supports (MLSS)** aim to identify struggling students early and give them the support they need to thrive in school. The goal of utilizing interventions is for the school to intervene, or step in, and start helping before a student falls further behind. Teachers should provide targeted teaching, interventions, in order to help struggling students catch up. A big part of the MLSS process involves closely monitoring student progress. This way, the school can see which students need more academic support. MLSS isn't a specific program or type of teaching. It's a proactive approach: MLSS measures students' skills and uses this data to decide which interventions to use. Accommodations remove learning barriers in the classroom to provide every child with equal access to learning. An example is offering an audio version of classroom text for a student with dyslexia or visual supports for children with ASD. Modifications are changes to what a child is taught and expected to do in class. For example, a student who struggles with spelling may be tested on a different set of words than his peers. Accommodations can be through Response to Intervention (MLSS) and don't have to be in a program such as special education or 504 to receive accommodations.



We are actively looking for Special Education Teachers, Educational Assistants, and Ancillary Staff. Apply at:

<https://espanola.tedk12.com/hire/index.aspx>

### Contact Us:

Julie Gutierrez, Director  
505-367-3341  
505-901-2370

Melissa Valencia,  
Assistant Director  
505-367-3358  
505-901-2611

Yolanda Esquibel, Admin  
Assistant  
505-367-3321

Lisa Duran, Medicaid  
505-367-3342

Martha Herrera, Records  
505-367-3376

Fax #  
505-367-0031

### Important Dates to Remember:

- Dec 1-80th Day
- Dec 8-No School-Professional Work Day
- Dec 8-Child Find at LNKC
- Dec 22-Preschool-Winter Celebration
- Dec 23-Jan 7 - No School-Winter Break
- Jan 8-Staff Returns-Professional Work Day
- Jan 9-Students Return





## Ancillary Spotlight

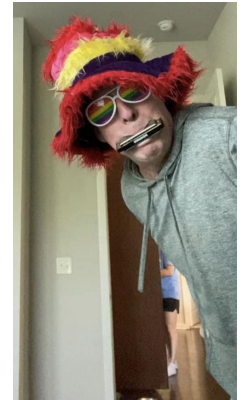
Our ancillary spotlight is with Mr. Donald "Bart" Rankin, Physical Therapist for the Espanola Public Schools. Mr. Bart is our teletherapist who engages students online for their PT therapy sessions.

As the Espanola Schools' physical therapist, he evaluates students' physical abilities and designs exercise programs to help improve their strength, balance, coordination, etc., because, as we know, academic performance improves with improved physical ability.

Mr. Bart incorporates music, puppets, noise-makers, and play-along action videos & games, to keep students' attention. Mr. Bart hopes they have fun, because learning through play is important for children.



Mr. Bart creates fun and interactive ways to provide physical therapy services to children through telepractice (the virtual world). He demonstrates different movements with a puppet for his clients. It's physical therapy disguised as FUN! The only difference is the screen in between them.



**THANK YOU**  
Thank you Bart for being an important part of our team!



Mr. Bart came to Espanola to meet his students and their case managers, in person, at the beginning of the school year. He got to see what a beautiful community we live in and was able to visit all the schools within our district and meet most of his students and their case managers. .