

LYON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Staff Travel Report
to
School Board of Trustees*

Your recent request to travel has been approved. Within two weeks of the date of the conference, the following report is due in the office of the Deputy Superintendent.

Please Download & **TYPE** the following information.

Staff Member:	<u>Elizabeth Gelmstedt</u>	School:	<u>Dayton High</u>
	<u>Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities</u>	Staff Assignment	<u>CLS</u>
Conference:	<u>Do not use acronyms</u>		
Location of Conference:	<u>Long Beach, California</u>	Dates Attended:	<u>January 14-17, 2026</u>

General Overview: Do not use acronyms

I attended the Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities (DADD) Conference in Long Beach, California. This conference provided valuable professional development focused on improving educational outcomes for students with autism and other developmental disabilities. The sessions emphasized evidence-based practices, inclusive instructional strategies, and current research aimed at supporting diverse learners. Educators, specialists, and organizations shared practical approaches that can be directly applied to classroom instruction, student supports, and transition planning.

The conference also included an exhibitor hall that showcased instructional materials, technology tools, and resources designed to increase accessibility and student engagement. These opportunities allowed for hands-on learning and meaningful conversations with vendors about how their products can support student achievement across academic, social, and functional domains.

How will this impact student learning in a positive way?

The information gained from the conference will positively impact student learning by strengthening instructional practices and increasing access to curriculum. Sessions highlighted the importance of individualized instruction, differentiated learning opportunities, and the use of data to guide decision-making. These strategies support academic growth, improve engagement, and help meet the unique needs of students with disabilities.

Exhibitor resources also directly support student learning and achievement. SORA provides audiobooks and eBooks that allow students who struggle with decoding, fluency, or attention to access grade-level content, improving comprehension and fostering independence. Attainment offers modified, standards-aligned curriculum materials that support functional academics and life skills for students with significant cognitive disabilities, ensuring meaningful participation in learning. Additionally, DCDT (Division on Career Development and Transition) shared valuable information related to transition planning, career readiness, and postsecondary opportunities, which supports secondary students in developing skills needed for independence and success beyond school.

How will I implement what I learned and how will I share

this information with my colleagues?

I will implement what I learned by incorporating evidence-based instructional strategies and utilizing newly discovered resources to better support student learning. This includes integrating accessible technology such as audiobooks, using modified curriculum materials aligned to student goals, and strengthening transition planning for secondary students. These practices will help ensure instruction is individualized, engaging, and aligned with student needs.

To share this information with colleagues, I will provide informal and formal opportunities for collaboration, such as team meetings, professional learning discussions, and shared resources. I plan to discuss key takeaways from the conference, demonstrate useful tools and applications, and share vendor information so colleagues can explore these resources further. By collaborating with staff, we can collectively implement strategies learned at the conference to enhance instruction and improve outcomes for students with disabilities.

Other Comments:

Rachel Stewart
Site Principal/Supervisor Approval

Stacy L Cooper, EdD
Deputy Superintendent Approval

1/28/2024
Date

1/28/24
Date