

2025 Dyslexia MTSS/RTI Symposium Sessions

October 4, 2025

This districtwide event will bring together educators and specialists to share strategies, resources, and best practices to support student success. Don't miss this opportunity to learn and collaborate!

HCISD
Dyslexia and
MTSS/RTI
SYMPOSIUM

**FREE
EVENT**



**BREAKOUT
SESSIONS**

Keynote Speaker Nancy Hannagan

OCTOBER 4, 2025
HARLINGEN SCHOOL OF
HEALTH PROFESSIONS
8 AM-12 PM

For more information contact call 956-430-9798 or
email Shannon.Reyna@hcisd.org



Keynote: Nancy Disterlic Hannagan, Founder of *Dyslexia Connects*

The Impact of Dyslexia: More Than a Reading Disability

Dyslexia is a neurobiological learning disability marked by difficulties in word recognition, spelling, and decoding—often unexpected in light of other cognitive abilities. While this definition guides research-based instruction, today's session looks beyond it. We'll explore the real-life impact of dyslexia on students, families, and educators, and highlight the importance of developing a comprehensive management approach for students with dyslexia.

Workshop ID#390200

Location: Commons Area

8:00 am-9:00 am



<http://apps.esc1.net/ProfessionalDevelopment/hcisd/Registration/Workshop/390200>

Session 1

How to Administer Dyslexia Therapy with a Coaching Approach

This session expands traditional instruction to introduce a coaching model that empowers students with dyslexia. Through hands-on activities, visual connections, reading conversations, and time management strategies, educators will learn how to help students build self-awareness and manage dyslexia with confidence and purpose.

Nancy Hannagan, CALT

Workshop ID#390204

Location: Commons Area
9:10 am-10:00 am



<http://apps.esc1.net/ProfessionalDevelopment/hcisd/Registration/Workshop/390204>

Classroom and Home Structure for Special Needs Students

To facilitate overall structure and consistent routines, reiterate the value of setting limits, and recognizing that regulated behavior can be learned across all ability levels.

Mike Garza

Workshop ID#390241

Location: Room 105
9:10 am-10:00 pm



<http://apps.esc1.net/ProfessionalDevelopment/hcisd/Registration/Workshop/390241>

[Session Handout](#)

The Importance of Fine Motor Skills and the Positive Impact that it has in the Classroom

Fine motor skills are vital for classroom success, as they support handwriting, cutting, and other hands-on tasks. Strong fine motor development boosts confidence, independence, and focus, leading to greater participation and a more positive learning experience.

Cynthia Anzaldúa, OT

Workshop ID#390221

Location: LGI 218
9:10 am-10:00 pm



<http://apps.esc1.net/ProfessionalDevelopment/hcisd/Registration/Workshop/390221>

[Session Handout](#)

Session 2

How to Understand Dyslexia so Your Child Can Focus on Strengths

Students with dyslexia often struggle to understand and express their learning challenges. This session equips parents with tools to foster meaningful conversations and partner with teachers in a coaching model—helping children build confidence, independence, and ownership of their learning.

Nancy Hannagan, CALT
Workshop ID#390207

Location: Commons Area
10:10 am-11:00 am



<http://apps.esc1.net/ProfessionalDevelopment/hcisd/Registration/Workshop/390207>

Understanding the Relationship Between Speech Sound Disorders and Dyslexia

This presentation aims to provide educators and parents with a clear understanding of the connection between Speech Sound Disorders (SSDs) and Dyslexia, including their key differences, how to monitor speech and literacy milestones, and when further evaluation is needed to ensure appropriate support for students.

Nelda Escareno, SLP
Workshop ID#390233

Location: LGI 218
10:10 am-11:00 am



<http://apps.esc1.net/ProfessionalDevelopment/hcisd/Registration/Workshop/390233>

Creating Engaged Independent Readers with Learning Ally

Explore Learning Ally as a solution that provides students with equitable access to all the books they need and want to read. Students with a reading deficit can access curriculum-aligned textbooks, literature, popular fiction and more. This human-read audiobook library also includes a suite of educator tools and resources to help struggling readers.

Tammy Schmidt-Swope, CALP
Bethany Prechel, CALP
Workshop ID# 390555

Location: Room 105
10:10 am-11:00 pm



<http://apps.esc1.net/ProfessionalDevelopment/hcisd/Registration/Workshop/390555>

[Customize Your Audiobooks](#)
[Presentation](#)

[Scavenger Hunt](#)

[Activation](#)

Session 3

Early Childhood Literacy Development

This session highlights the essential components of early literacy and provides strategies to support young children becoming confident readers and writers.

Jennifer Esparza, LDT, CALT-QI

Workshop ID#390210

Location: Commons Area

11:10 am-12:00 pm



<http://apps.esc1.net/ProfessionalDevelopment/hcisd/Registration/Workshop/390210>

[Session Handout](#)

Understanding Dyslexia: Identification, Instruction, and Support

This session explores what dyslexia is, how it affects students, and the supports available to help them succeed. Attendees discover how early screening, structured literacy instruction, and classroom accommodations make a difference. Services offered through Section 504 and special education will be discussed.

Anaiz Vielma Sosa, LDP, CALT

Workshop ID#390218

Location: LGI 218

11:10 am-12:00 pm



<http://apps.esc1.net/ProfessionalDevelopment/hcisd/Registration/Workshop/390218>

[Session handout](#)

Empowering Voices: Advocating for Accommodations in Postsecondary Education

This session highlights strategies to help students with special needs build self-advocacy skills to request and use accommodations in college and career programs.

Virginia Morin, CALP

Natalie Cortez, CALP

Workshop ID# 390543

Location: Room 105

11:10 am-12:00 pm



<http://apps.esc1.net/ProfessionalDevelopment/hcisd/Registration/Workshop/390543>

[Session Handouts](#)