

SCHENECTADY CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

530 Liberty St.
Schenectady, NY 12305

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Administrative Announcement

Appointment of Ben Thackston as Assistant Director of Special Education

We are pleased to announce that on August 5, 2026, the Board of Education officially approved the appointment of Ben Thackston as our new Assistant Director of Special Education, effective August 10, 2026.

Thackston brings over 15 years of dedicated experience in special education, student advocacy, and administrative leadership across Capital Region school districts. He served as School Psychologist and District Chairperson for 504, CPSE, and CSE teams at Stillwater Central School District from 2019-2026. Prior to that he worked for four years as a Preschool Evaluator, leading comprehensive evaluations for local children through the Committee on Preschool Special Education at Access Therapy Group. From 2012-2015, Thackston served as a School Psychologist in the Glens Falls City School District. He began his career in New York education as a teaching aid at Shaker Junior High School from 2009-2011.



Originally from the metro-Atlanta area, Thackston first came to New York during the summers of 2007 and 2008 to work at the Double H Ranch in Lake Luzerne, permanently relocating in 2009. Outside of school hours, he is an active community member who serves on the Ballston Community Public Library Board of Trustees and has worked as a Saratoga County election inspector for six years.

Thackston earned an M.S.E. in School Psychology from The College of Saint Rose and Educational Leadership Certification from Saint Rose and Russell Sage College.

He enjoys playing the piano and spending time at his home in Ballston Spa with his significant other and their two Shih Tzus, Oliver Todd and Gloria Grace.

Please join us in giving Mr. Thackston a warm welcome.