

# 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>Stanley Ohler</u>	School:	<u>Transportation</u>
Conference:	<u>Handle with Care Instructor</u>	Staff Assignment	<u>Alt. Driver Trainer</u>
Do not use acronyms			
Location of Conference:	<u>Phoenix, AZ</u>	Dates Attended:	<u>4/30/2026</u>

### *General Overview: Do not use acronyms*

This accelerated one-day program validates the proficiency of current instructors, ensuring continued mastery of both de-escalation theory and physical safety standards. The recertification focuses on maintaining the high-fidelity application of the Handle with Care curriculum through the following pillars:

1. Philosophy & Compliance Refresh Safety & Dignity: Reaffirming the core commitment to therapeutic rapport and the "least restrictive" intervention philosophy. Policy Updates: Reviewing any updates to legal standards, reporting requirements, and organizational liability.

2. Advanced Verbal & Non-Verbal Mastery Rapid Defusion: A refresher on high-level verbal strategies to de-escalate crisis situations before they require physical involvement.

Refining Presence: Auditing non-verbal cues and body language to ensure instructors model a calm, non-threatening professional stance.

3. Physical Intervention & Safety Audit Technical Proficiency: A rigorous "skills check" on physical intervention methods to ensure zero-harm execution.

Corrective Coaching: Identifying and correcting "skill drift" to maintain the safety and integrity of the physical holds.

4. Master Instructor Training Delivery: Demonstrating continued ability to teach, observe, and certify school staff effectively.

Evaluative Skills: Refining the ability to provide constructive feedback to staff trainees during their initial certification cycles.

### *How will this impact student learning in a positive way?*

This recertification validates my continued proficiency in training school staff to interact safely and appropriately with students with special needs. By reinforcing the Handle with Care philosophy, this training ensures our site maintains a proactive culture of safety, reducing classroom disruptions and supporting a therapeutic learning environment.

Recertification Objectives:

Crisis Cycle Audit: A review of the escalation–de-escalation cycle, sharpening the ability to assess student distress in real-time and model the appropriate level of intervention for staff trainees.

Verbal De-escalation Mastery: Refinement of calm, therapeutic dialogue techniques. This validates the instructor's ability to teach verbal strategies that successfully neutralize crises before physical intervention is required.

Tension–Tension Reduction Cycle: Verification of the ability to recognize and respond to both internal and external distress signals, ensuring staff can identify the "pre-crisis" state effectively.

Safety & Physical Skill Validation: A rigorous proficiency check of all approved physical intervention techniques to ensure they are performed with 100% safety compliance and zero-harm fidelity.

Instructional Competency: Demonstration of the skills necessary to lead staff trainings, ensuring a consistent, high-standard approach to behavior management across the school site.

*How will I implement what I learned and how will I share this information with my colleagues?*

As a recertified Handle with Care Instructor, I am renewing my commitment to sharing advanced behavioral management strategies with employees across the district. My primary objective remains the maintenance of a high standard for verbal de-escalation, ensuring staff utilize patience, empathy, and evidence-based communication to resolve crises.

**Continued Training & Implementation Goals:**

**Skills Maintenance:** I will continue to facilitate Handle with Care certification and refresher courses, ensuring staff maintain the tools necessary to prioritize the safety of students and themselves when verbal interventions are exhausted.

**Ongoing Staff Support:** I will provide updated guidance and de-escalation materials to district personnel, fostering a consistent, unified approach to student behavior management.

**Coordinated Intervention Standards:** I will continue to lead training on verbal de-escalation techniques, while collaborating with the Special Services Department to ensure all physical intervention training is conducted with 100% fidelity for designated staff.

**Promoting a Therapeutic Environment:** By renewing my instructor status, I aim to further embed a calm, respectful, and therapeutic response culture across the district, reducing disruptions and enhancing student support.

*Other Comments:*

This recertification was an essential and highly valuable experience to ensure my instructional skills remain sharp. Maintaining my certification allows me to continue providing the district with high-fidelity training in both verbal and physical intervention techniques, ensuring our safety protocols never "drift" from the established standard.

**Strategic Objectives for the District:**

**Universal Verbal Proficiency:** I remain a strong advocate for all student-facing staff to complete the verbal component of Handle with Care. This recertification has reinforced my ability to teach staff how to recognize the early stages of the tension-tension reduction cycle, allowing for proactive intervention before safety is compromised.

**Safe Physical Standards:** The refresher on physical techniques ensures that I am delivering the most current, safety-vetted methods to staff who require this level of support, prioritizing the well-being of both the student and the educator.

**Promoting Site-Wide Consistency:** By renewing my instructor status, I am committed to fostering a safer, more supportive learning environment. This program remains an excellent resource for promoting a culture of respect, consistency, and therapeutic intervention across all school sites.



Site Principal/Supervisor Approval



Deputy Superintendent Approval

5/5/26

Date

5/13/26

Date