

Mary MacLennan
Kennebunk

Given the rise in the number of students in public schools, I think it is imperative that teachers, especially special education teachers, have all of the information and "tools for their toolbox" for working with students with ASD. Each child is unique and different in how they present and their behaviors. If you have seen one child with autism, you have seen one child with autism. This is why I think if we increase the number of courses, it will help provide special education teacher with the information that they need to work with these students.

I have taken the courses required for the Advanced Certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorders. It was four courses and only one of those counted toward my special education certificate. These four course provided me with a wealth of knowledge for my day to day work.

Increasing the count toward special education certification, I think would encourage special education to take more that the one course. I believe that this in the long run will benefit those students that are in our classrooms, especially those identified as a student with Autism Spectrum Disorder.