

Special Education Update Presented to the Board of Trustees

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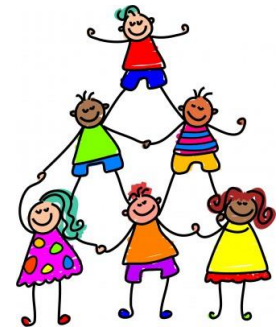
Agenda

- ▷ Requests for Information
 - Student Information by Disability
 - Caseload Information
 - Update on Special Education Audit

- ▷ Celebrations/Collaborations
 - Special Education Team Retreat
 - Staff Collaboration Meetings Update
 - SEDAC Update and 1st Meeting Review

Students by Disability

<u>Disability</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>
Autism	210
Deafness	5
Emotional Disturbance	28
Established Medical Disability	3
Hard of Hearing	16
Intellectual Disability	29
Multiple Disability	15
Orthopedic Impairment	10
Other Health Impairment	179
Specific Learning Disability	347
Speech or Language Impairment	272
Visual Impairment	2



Teacher Caseloads

- ▶ Twenty out of the 23 Resource Specialists are within the allowable number of students on their caseload per CBA; 3 teachers opted for the over-caseload stipend
- ▶ Special Day Class Teachers have class sizes within CBA requirements at both elementary and middle schools
- ▶ Preschool Special Education Teachers have 12 students or less on their caseloads (within CBA requirements)

Audit Update

- ▷ Auditors will resume interviews on Oct 28th - Oct 30th
 - Assistant Supts of Human Resources, Ed Services and CBO
 - George Hall/Meadow Heights and/or Borel: Principals, Psychologists, RSP teachers, Speech Therapists, selected General Education teachers
 - (1) Occupational Therapist
 - (3) Parents (2 volunteers and 1 SEDAC member)
 - Special Education Leadership Team
- ▷ Fiscal documents review

12 Areas of Audit Focus:

Sandee Kludt and Jack Lucas

1. Analysis of Special Education teacher staffing ratios/classroom averages
2. Analysis of continuing need of private service contracts
3. Issues regarding staff recruitment and retention
4. Comparison of number of administrators currently assigned to District in comparison to other districts of similar size
5. Analysis of communication between general and special education District departments
6. Analysis of Performance Indicator Review (PIR) findings in relation to Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) and recommendations to bring percentages in alignment with CDE requirements

12 Areas of Audit Focus (cont.)

7. Analysis of interest in moving towards more inclusionary practices
8. Analysis of due process activity in the District as well as alternative dispute resolution (ADR) processes being utilized to minimize legal costs
9. Review the trends in students with disabilities served by the district over a multiple year period and its impact on special education costs
10. Review seven years of District special education revenue and MOE expenditure data
11. Review special education expenditures by special education goal
12. Review and analyze seven years of excess cost calculation data

Celebrations/Collaborations

- ▷ Staff celebrations
 - NCPI and Benchmark training (9/20)
 - RSP teacher overload support hired

- ▷ School/Program celebrations
 - Staff development provided at GH to general ed and special ed staff
 - Follow-up PD at Laurel and Abbott
 - Wednesday voluntary PD - Inclusion
 - Intern program



Team Retreat

- ▷ October 15 and 16
- ▷ Team development and focus
- ▷ School and program support
- ▷ Goalbook training



Special Education Monthly Collaboration Sessions

- ▷ School Psychologists
- ▷ Speech and Language Pathologists
- ▷ Occupational Therapists/Physical Therapists/Adapted PE Teachers
- ▷ Resource Specialists/Special Day Class Teachers
- ▷ AAC/Assistive Technology
- ▷ SPED Leadership Team - membership

Next Steps

- ▷ Special Education District Advisory Committee (SEDAC) and Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

Establish process for membership, terms and expectations

- ▷ Remaining SEDAC meeting dates:
 - November 12, 2019 at 7:00 pm
 - January 14, 2020 at 7:00 pm
 - March 24, 2020 at 7:00 pm
 - May 12, 2020 at 7:00pm

Next Steps

- ▷ Budget presentation
 - December 2019
- ▷ Development of a therapeutic program-of-care
 - Elementary-aged students
 - Inclusive of behavioral and emotional supports
 - Potential family involvement component
 - Input from audit recommendations



Questions?

Thank You.

