

Special Education Update

JANUARY 27, 2022

Executive Summary

01 - Review content presented in October 2021

02 - Program Updates & Implications

03 - Fiscal Updates & Implications

04 - Staffing Updates & Implications

05 - SEDAC report

Review of October 2021 Update to the Board

01 Program Updates & Implications - Inclusion, RSP/SDC sequencing, Agency BT's, Enrollment increase in students qualifying for Special Education

02 - Fiscal Updates & Implications - NPA and NPS contracts, agency hires, settlements/payouts to families and legal fees, and transportation have significant related costs

03 - Staffing Updates & Implications - Agencies, excessive contractors, department duties were undefined

PROGRAM UPDATES & IMPLICATIONS

Inclusion:

SPED Leadership and the 20-21 Inclusion Team (site principals, inclusion TOSA) have shared their experiences and challenges to date.

A committee is being assembled to move forward with understanding the financial and structural (professional development) implications of inclusion practices in SMFCSD.

A thorough analysis will facilitate possible successful implementation.

PROGRAM UPDATES & IMPLICATIONS

RSP Classes & Special Day Classes:

The district operates programs at sites throughout the district. We are examining the location of programs, and have defined a priority for students to be able to attend a classroom in the complex where they reside. The district will open new SDC classes in 22-23 to facilitate this change.

We have reorganized the support teams, so that each middle school complex has a designated Coordinator and Program Specialist.

Resource (RSP)	Special Day Classes (SDC)
RSP available at all school sites, K-8	Preschool <i>All Multicategorical</i> Beach Park Brewer Island Fiesta Gardens George Hall Lead
	Elementary <i>Mild/Moderate (M/M)</i> <i>Moderate/Severe (M/S)</i> Foster City M/M (2) George Hall M/M (3) Laurel M/S (2) Meadow Heights M/M (2) Parkside M/M (2) Sunnybrae M/M, MS (3)
	Middle School Abbott M/M, M/S (4) Bayside M/M, M/S (2) Borel M/M (2) Bowditch M/M (1)

Behavior Support

We are in the process of building a Behavior Support Team with the following additions:

1) Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) is a graduate-level certification in behavior analysis. Professionals certified at the BCBA level provide behavior-analytic services.

2) Registered Behavior Technician (RBT) is a paraprofessional certification in behavioral analysis.

Option for current Para's to become RBT's (coursework offered in the the summer)

3) Paraprofessional III

Paraprofessional III's will have higher levels of behavioral knowledge and expertise, and will receive training from our newly designed training team.

NPA - Therapeutic Learning Consultants	\$71,392.00
NPA - Therapeutic Learning Consultants	\$46,113.00
NPA - Trumpet Behavioral Health	\$99,280.00
NPA - Trumpet Behavioral Health	\$101,020.00
NPA - Trumpet Behavioral Health	\$102,190.00

NPA contracts range from \$14,790-\$102,190 per year, per student. Our plan to develop our own Behavior Team and invest in internal layers of support and training will provide more stability and accountability.

Equity for Dual-Identified Students (Students who are English Learners, with an IEP)

SPED Leadership has identified this as an area of concern and priority.

Led by a Coordinator, a team has been assembled to investigate and make recommendations to the leadership team beginning with the California Practitioners' Guide for Educating English Learners with Disabilities (CDE 2019)

Work will include:

1. Thorough review of CDE Handbook for dual-identified students
2. Review of district data
3. Focus group interviews with staff
4. Develop recommendations

Professional Development

January 4, 2022 All District Professional Development -

Morning session was differentiated by provider type.

Afternoon session: AALRR presented to the entire SPED staff on writing legally defensible IEPs.

Special Education Institute:

Rationale: Team members need to have an explicit understanding of Special Education background information in order to prepare for welcoming students with special needs into their schools.

Goal: All school building stakeholders will leave with the necessary information to effectively support students with special needs.

New Teacher Ed Specialist Training

Rationale: This training is a proposed solution in order to support new teachers in areas of special education compliance where they are collectively displaying needs based on observation data and IEP reviews completed by the Program Specialists.

Goal: (1) The goal for this Training is to retain our novice teachers through supporting the observable gaps. **(2)** Prepare newly hired Ed. Specialists for district expectations in special education.

Course	Description
IEP Writing	Attendees will understand and apply techniques for legally compliant and comprehensible IEPs
IEP Meeting Facilitation	Attendees will examine the best strategies for executing effective one-part IEP meetings.
Legal Obligations	Attendees will discuss federal and state legal commitments to families regarding Special Education.
Case Management	Attendees will review and understand the application of the SMFC Case Management expectations.
Data Collection	Attendees will be introduced to 3 data collection strategies to incorporate in order to monitor IEP goal progress
Differentiation	Attendees will practice differentiating grade level ELA and Math standards for their students.
Behavior Management Strategies	Attendees will interact with several positive behavior management strategies that will support the learning of all students within their classrooms.

Fiscal Updates and Implications

NPS Contracts 2021-22

# of students	Amount
1	\$ 41,736.00
4	\$ 457,967.00
3	\$ 378,132.00
4	\$ 286,316.00
10	\$ 1,086,694.00
1	\$ 52,769.00
1	\$ 36,314.00
1	\$ 71,379.00
2	\$ 101,058.00
3	\$ 307,282.00
30	\$ 2,819,647.00

Per Student Avg.

\$ 93,988.23

Fiscal Updates and Implications

NPA Totals 2021-22

Emp Positions	Total
OT, PT, SLP	\$ 463,690.00
AT	\$ 2,545.00
1:1 BT Services	\$ 208,582.00
Mental Health Services	\$ 209,600.00
PT	\$ 18,312.00
Para	\$ 43,875.00
RSP, SLP, OT	\$ 2,756,240.00
1:1 BT Services	\$ 1,173,474.00
OT	\$ 55,800.00
Paras and BT's	\$ 52,975.00
1:1 BT Services	\$ 21,176.00
Para	\$ 191,231.00
SLP Comp Services	\$ 4,130.00
SLP Comp Services	\$ 20,950.83
Para, BT, RSP, SLP, OT	\$ 6,177,798.00
1:1 BT Services	\$ 983,810.00
1:1 BT Services	\$ 302,490.00
	\$12,686,679.27

STAFFING UPDATES AND IMPLICATIONS

Current staffing status:

Paraprofessional Classified vacancies: 14

Classroom Certificated vacancies: 2 (1 RSP, 1 SDC Mod/Severe 3-5)

Other Certificated Specialists: 3 (1 SLP, 1 OT, 1 Psychologist)

Special Education District Advisory Committee (SEDAC) report:

Past Meetings & Community Education Events

January 18th - Community Education Presentation on Inclusion by [Common Ground Society](#)

December 7th - Open Conversation about Communication and Special Education

November 9th - Session on IEP Eligibility Areas & IEP “Nuts & Bolts”

Upcoming Meetings & Community Education Events

- March 1st - Community Education Presentation on Special Education Law and Parents’ Rights by [IEP Collaborative](#)
- April 12
- May 17

Community Needs

- Based on surveys and conversations there is interest in receiving information on the transition from Elementary to Middle School and Middle School to High School specific to the unique needs of students receiving Special Education Services.

Thank You!

Heather Morgan
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