

Special Education

Board Priorities Update

Matt Zemo - Director

Emily Dunlap - Assistant Director

November 1, 2022



THE WHY

We believe in:

UNITE

- A student accessing their home campus.

EMPOWER

- A student having access to a full-continuum of services.

INSPIRE

- A meaningful partnership with parents and the community.



Enrollment Over The Years

Year	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
District Enrollment	8,132	8,166	7,968	7,834	7,740
SE Students	704 = 8.66%	764 = 9.36%	796 = 9.99%	786 = 10.03%	836 = 10.81%

Approximately 19% increase over 5 years



2022-23 Board Priorities & Administrative Goals

Uphold the Value of Special Education

- Analyze and allocate resources, staff and instructional delivery models to promote efficiency within the special education program to ensure growth of students with disabilities
- Expand curricular resources, research-based instructional strategies and assessment tools to enhance learning opportunities to ensure growth of students with disabilities
- Address recommendations in the Special Education Department Action Plan
- Provide opportunities in all extra and co-curricular activities for students with disabilities



2022-23 Board Priorities & Administrative Goals

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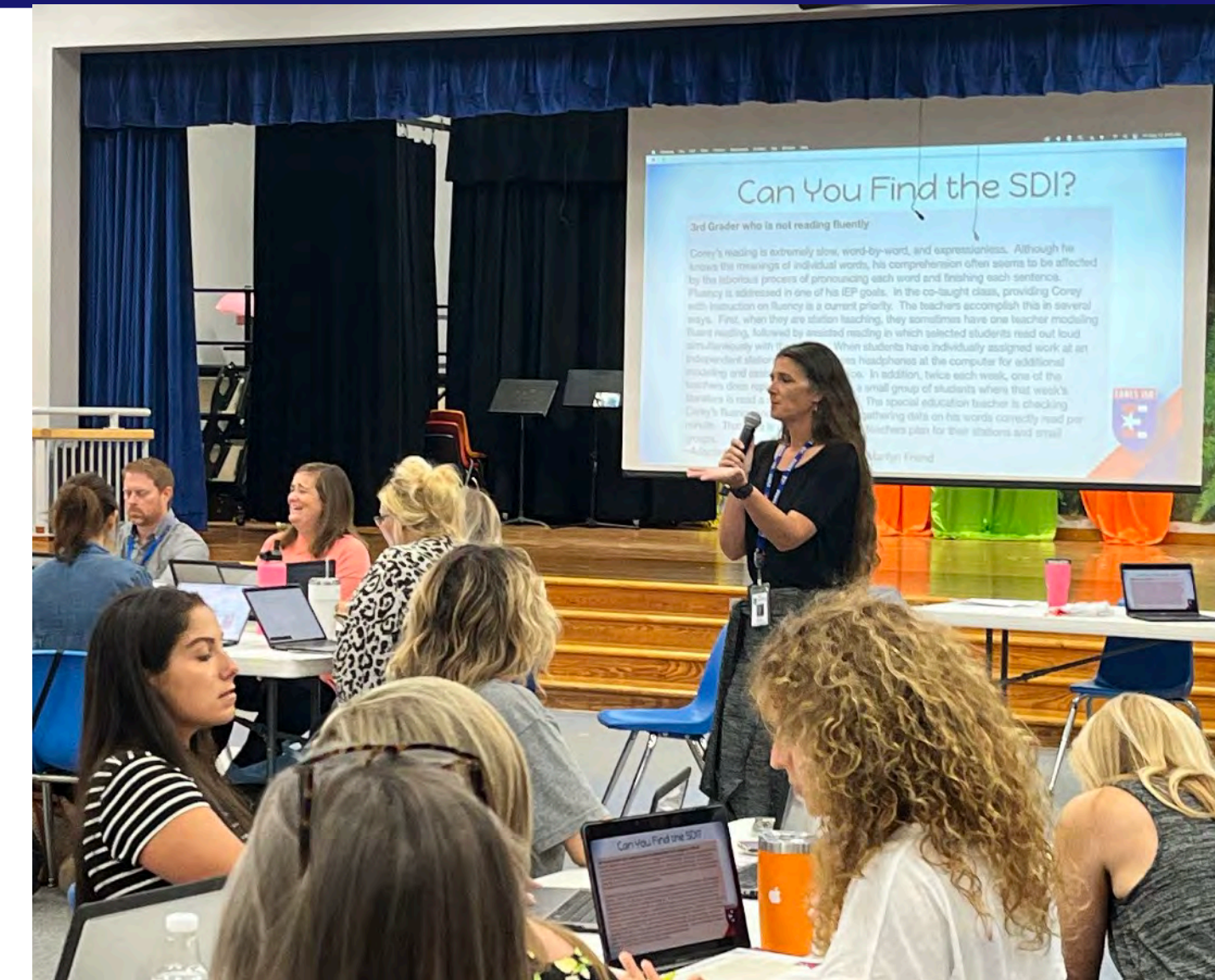
Inclusive • Individualized • Integrated



2022-23 Coordinated Set of Activities

Programming


- UDL instructional rounds with CIA & campuses
- Co-Host regional transition fair
 - Increase inclusive practices & information WHS College Fair
- Increase transition planning starting at Early Childhood level
- New Teacher ongoing professional learning
- Best instructional practices on master scheduling w/ campus administration
- Partner w/ HR to develop:
 - Teaching Assistant to Teacher program & Licensed Specialists in School
 - Psychology Internship program
 - Develop explicit recruitment & retention strategies



Transition Data

Programming

Secondary Transition - Indicator 13



**As each student's folder/IEP is reviewed, check the appropriate response for each item:
Yes, No, or N/A (Not Applicable).**

	Yes	No	N/A
1. Are there appropriate measurable postsecondary goals in the areas of training, education, employment, and, where appropriate, independent living skills?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Are the postsecondary goals updated annually?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Is there evidence that the measurable postsecondary goals were based on age-appropriate transition assessment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Are there transition services in the IEP that will reasonably enable the student to meet his or her postsecondary goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Do the transition services include courses of study that will reasonably enable the student to meet his or her postsecondary goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Is (are) there annual IEP goal(s) related to the student's transition service needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Is there evidence that the student was invited to the Admission, Review, and Dismissal Committee (ARD) meeting where transition services were discussed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8. If appropriate, is there evidence that a representative of any participating agency was invited to the Admission, Review, and Dismissal Committee (ARD) meeting with the prior consent of the parent or student who has reached the age of majority?			
Note: N/A is an acceptable response for the following reasons only. Check one if applicable. <input type="checkbox"/> It is not appropriate to invite an agency. <input type="checkbox"/> There is no documentation that the parent's or adult student's consent was given.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2020 Indicator 14 - Post-Secondary Outcomes

Response Rate	42%	24%	22%
Higher Ed	79%	23%	24%
Competitively Employed	89%	55%	53%
None of the above	11%	31%	35%



Staff Recruitment & Retention

13-Month Hiring Cycle

Interview Stats:

- *Applicant Screened 12 hours**
- *Interview Scheduled 24 hours**
- *References Checked & Submitted to HR 48 hours**



Staff Recruitment & Retention

Hiring Strategies

- **Centralized Hiring Process**
 - Efficiency, Trust, & Knowledge
- **From the Heart**
 - Passion & purpose for serving students
- **Support**
 - Coordinated scope & sequence of training

**Fully Staffed
w/
Professional
Positions**



Our Amazing Staff

Instructional Staff	133 Teachers	68 Teaching Assistants
Related/Insructional Services	13 LSSPs (+ 2 Interns) 9 Speech Therapists 5 Occupational Therapists 1 Physical Therapist 2 Assistive Technologists	2 Visually Impaired 1 Orientation & Mobility 1 Deaf & Hard of Hearing 1 Music Therapists
Administation & Instructional Support	2 Central Administrators 4 Coordinators 1 Evaluation Supervisor	3 Behavior Specialists 2 Educational Partners

54% of Special Education staff have been hired since 2019



2022-23 Board Priorities & Administrative Goals

Uphold the Value of Special Education

- Expand curricular resources, research-based instructional strategies and assessment tools to enhance learning opportunities to ensure growth of students with disabilities

Inclusive • Individualized • Integrated



2022-23 Coordinated Set of Activities

Curriculum

- Continue providing professional development in the area of reading
 - Reading Academies, Reading by Design, & others
- Update the district UDL implementation plan w/ CIA team
- Explore differentiated K-8 math curriculum resources
- Full implementation of MAPS/PATH Secondary Curriculum
- Implement new work-based learning course at WHS
- Explore functional math and reading instruction at ATS
- ATS PLC Team & Individual Goal - Focus On Vocation

ATS Student w/ New Paid Position



2022-23 Board Priorities & Administrative Goals

Uphold the Value of Special Education

- Address recommendations in the Special Education Department Action Plan

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Department Progress Report

Accessible Online!



EANES ISD SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

PROGRAM REVIEW

ACTION PLAN

LAST UPDATED: June 2022



Parent Feedback - Post ARD Survey

Results reflected: 2021-Present (227 responses)

Question	Average (1-5 scale)
Do you feel that you are considered an equal partner in planning your child's IEP	4.71
Do you feel that the school regularly communicates with you regarding IEP progress and concerns	4.41
Overall, how do you feel about the Special Education services your child receives?	4.55



Parent Partners



Front: Cristal Carrasco (EE), Emily Dunlap (Assistant Director), Matt Zemo (Director), & Rhonda Stout (WHS)

Back: Tabitha Rose (HCMS), Vaidehee Gokhale (BCE), Susan Stotzer (WHS), Traci Lepak (WRMS), Laura Avery (ATS), Lana Bernberg (VVE), Chris Hanson (BPE), & Angela Davis (CCE)



Parent to Parent Engagement

Uphold the Value of Special Education

- **Meet & Mingle** - September 2022
- **Parent Partners Individual Outreach**
- **Progression Meetings**
 - ECSE to Kindergarten - January 2023
 - 5th to 6th - January/February 2023
 - 8th to 9th - January/February 2023
 - 12th to Adult Transition Services - December 2022
- **Best Buddies** Friendship Walk - April 15, 2023
- Destination Life **Transition Fair** - March 2023



2022-23 Coordinated Set of Activities

Uphold the Value of Special Education

- Provide opportunities in all extra and co-curricular activities for students with disabilities

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2022-23 Coordinated Set of Activities

Inclusive Practices

- Explore more parent to parent support opportunities
- Collaborate with Parent Partners to develop a new supports for other parents
- Continue to use post-ARD survey data to design parent training and support
- Maintain inclusive programs and practices
- Provide additional information regarding college options for students with disabilities (Office of Students with Disabilities & IDD programs)
- Implement Best Buddies curriculum/lessons at all elementary campuses
- Unified
 - Robotics, Spirit Team, Softball, & Swimming
 - Best Buddies implementation at Elementary, Middle Schools & ATS
- Continue to Host the Central Texas Best Buddies Friendship Walk



Inclusive Practices

Best Buddies - Guaranteed Viable Experience

- Elementary - All 6 Campuses
- Middle Schools - started spring 2022
- WHS - Texas New Chapter of the Year, Going on Year 4
- ATS & UT Longhorns Match Party in September 2022



Inclusive Practices

Unified Softball - New in 2022!



**Unified Softball vs Best Buddies Scrimmage
October 29th**



Inclusive Practices

Unified Robotics & Spirit Team



Westlake Spirit Team

Unified Robotics - Middle & High School



Inclusive Practices

**Unified Swim Team
Coming Soon!**



Our Kids



“A hero is an ordinary individual who finds the strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles.”

Christopher Reeve



Questions and Discussion

