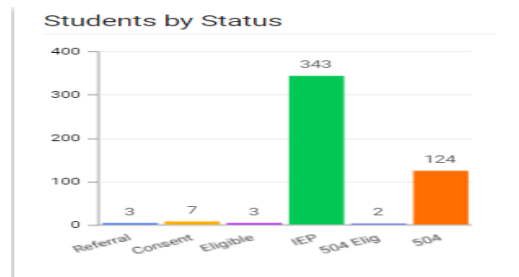




Monthly Board Report
Emmett School District
December, 2023

Special Education Demographics:

- According to our IEP platform (Edplan), 343 Students are receiving Special Education as of December 5, 2023. As usual, there is some flexing of numbers as students are exited and entered.



Staff Openings:

- 1 Certified Position
 - Carberry Special Education Teacher/Behavior Specialist Focus
- 2 Paraprofessional positions to fill as of 12/05/23
 - EHS
 - Carberry
 - We are currently considering additional Para support needs and may hire additional supports as needed.

Department Projects:

- November has been a busy month. The Early Learning Collaborative was able to sponsor our two ECSE Preschool Teachers as they joined a local group to attend the National NAEYC Conference the week before Thanksgiving. (National Association for the Education of Young Children. We were grateful to be included in this national gathering for professional development focused on our youngest learners.
- We are in the final stages of the State Department General Education File Review as we have finished our internal file review, submitted names to the state, and are now in the process of (Special Education Support and Technical Assistance) joining one of our Admin meetings in November and we are excited to incorporate SESTA into our Professional Development coming up in February. We are also exploring the possibility of more targeted building level SESTA training during some of our collaboration times.

Staff Highlights:

We have incredible staff working in our special education programs and classrooms. Each month we would like to highlight a few of them.



Misty Gatfield, Special Education Teacher at EHS

- How long have you been with ESD?
 - I have been with the Emmett school district for 10 years
- Tell us about your Job (Who, What, Where, How)?
 - I work with the tier 3 students in the resource room at the high school
- Why did you pursue the career you have today?
 - I have always wanted to be a teacher. A majority of my family have been teachers, especially with the higher need population. My mom has worked as a para pro for the Boise school district. My aunt taught at the alternative school in Boise. Now my sister also works as a tier 3+ teacher at Carberry.
- What is your favorite part of your job?
 - Having small class sizes means I get to know my students better than most teachers. This means that for a lot of my students, I can figure out how they are feeling with a glance and get them to open up to me more. So I know more about them than most teachers. One is getting adopted by his step father and even asked me to be there to celebrate.
- Tell us about your family.
 - My husband and I adopted my son, Charlie, two years ago. He is now fully into being a toddler, who loves *Bluey* and all vehicles (trucks, construction, farm, and trains). We have 3 dogs, two cats, and two guinea pigs.
- Describe an interesting hobby or pastime that you have.
 - Every Friday my husband and I volunteer at PAL (our local animal shelter) where we work with the dogs.
- What's something surprising that not many people know about you?
 - I have my own library in my house
- When did you first know that you wanted to pursue a career in this field?
 - I knew when I was in high school that I wanted to be a teacher
- What's something that you've always wanted to try or learn?
 - I have always wanted to write and publish my own book



Heather Kluesner, SpEd Para at Butte View Elementary

- How long have you been with ESD?
 - I just started this year with ESD.
- Tell us about your Job (Who, What, Where, How)?
 - I am a special education paraprofessional at Butte View Elementary.
- Why did you pursue the career you have today?
 - My mom was an occupational therapist, and so really it just came naturally for me, special Education is where I feel comfortable.
- What is your favorite part of your job?
 - My favorite part of my job is how quickly you can change a child's day, outlook or just to be that one person a child looks forward to seeing.
- Tell us about your family.
 - I am married with 2 children. I come from a big family.
- Describe an interesting hobby or pastime that you have.
 - Most of my interests and hobbies revolve around my children, with sports and school stuff, but also we live on a cattle ranch. We run 1,200 momma cows, so that also takes up a lot of time.
- What's something surprising that not many people know about you?
 - Something most don't know about me is I thrive on always learning new things.
- When did you first know that you wanted to pursue a career in this field?
 - I decided to pursue a job at the school when I was asked to just help out in our small country school in Kinsey, MT. It turns out I really loved working with the kids and being some kids' person, like the person they are excited to see every day.
- What's something that you've always wanted to try or learn?
 - There really isn't one specific thing I want to learn about. I just like learning about all kinds of new things, I read or hear something and then I feel the need to research and learn all I can about it.