

2024-2025 Budget Proposal Special Education

David Knaster, Assistant Superintendent

Cynthia DeFina, Ph.D., Supervisor of Secondary Special Education

Alexandra DeCicco, Supervisor of Elementary Special Education

Andrew Vanderbeck, Supervisor of Special Education - Transition Services

2023-2024 Highlights

- New Supervisor of Special Education - Transition Services
- Shared School Social Worker - Selover School
- Extended School Year/Camp XL (record high enrollment)
- Supplemental Instruction (PS through 12)
- SPED Literacy and Math Academy (K through 8)
- Tuitions for P.L. 2021, c. 109 (Final Year)
- Increased Bombers Beyond Enrollment
- Increased Special Education Coop Enrollment
- Afternoon and Evening Events at Bombers Beyond Cafe
 - Pop Up Art Show
 - Holiday Parade (cancelled)
 - Acoustic Night
 - Superintendent's Parent Advisory Meetings
- Unified Sports - Travelled to Perth Amboy for Interschool Competition

Curriculum and Instruction

Goal: Decrease the percentage of students with disabilities being educated in the general education setting less than 40% of the day to 15% or less.

2021-2022 = 15.65 (14.75%)

Goal: Increase the percentage of students with disabilities being educated in the general education setting 80% of the day to 45% or more.

2021-2022 = 42.61 (45%)

Goal: Maintain the percentage of preschool students with disabilities being educated in separate programs or schools to 6.75% or less.

2021-2022 = 4.54 (6.75%)

Department in-service to review compliance data

Parent education on the research proven benefits of Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)

I&RS/RTI/PIRT team collaboration on the research proven benefits of LRE

Administrative team collaboration on the research proven benefits of LRE

Evidence based teacher resources and professional development opportunities

Equity and Cultural Responsiveness

Goal: Expand Bombers Beyond programming, to provide students with real world vocational/life skill training and community based instruction in preparation for work within the community and post high school life.

Increase student enrollment to 14

Develop 3 rotation cycles

Expand cafe hours

Secure afternoon brand partner for the Cafe

Secure other employer partnerships (e.g., Ken's Krew)

Secure community college partnership (e.g., Raritan Valley Community College)

2024-2025 Budget Requests

- Extended School Year
- Supplemental Instruction (PS through 12)
- SPED Literacy and Math Academy (K through 8)
- Wages for Increased Bombers Beyond Students
- Wages for Special Education Cooperative Education Students
- Expanded Mental Health Supports @ SWMHS (Effective School Solutions)
- Dedicated Passenger Van for Bombers Beyond Community Based Instruction

Innovate to Accelerate

- Goalbook Instructional Reading Design
- Alternative Literacy Program
 - Grades K-3 or K-5 in 2024-2025
 - Grades 4-8 or 6-8 in 2025-2026