

PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
2023-2024 DEPARTMENT PLAN

Department Name: Special Education Department

Department Contact: Dr. Jovan Jacobs

Contact Email: jacobs.jovan@pusd.us

Contact Phone: x88600

Report Last Generated: Dec 07 2023 @ 10:35:33 (PST)

Department Purpose

What does the department do?

The special education department provides services to students with disabilities who have an IEP in the least restrictive environment.

Department Services

What is a general list of services that your department provides?

The special education department provides services to students with disabilities who have an IEP in the least restrictive environment.

Total Department Budget

What is your department's total budget?

The total department budget is 70000000.

Note:

Special education is driven by compliance mandates and education code.

PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 2023-2024 DEPARTMENT PLAN

Prior Year Reflection

This section of the department plan reviews the intent of prior department plans and the successes/challenges encountered while implementing the planned actions. This portion of the plan summarizes key learnings that inform the planning for the current year.

Prior Year Intended Outcomes

What did your department plan set out to achieve during the prior year?

Facilitated IEP training, participation in MTSS planning, district-wide leadership meetings, training coaches on EL reclassification process, work with HR to increase incentives for new hires, work with the teacher's union to discuss support options for employees,

Prior Year Achievement

Did the department achieve what it had outlined? How do you know?

Facilitated IEP training occurred in June of 2023. Special education staff participated in both MTSS and district-wide leadership meetings. Coaches were trained on July 27, 2022, August 19, 2022 and August 22, 2022 for reclassification. The special education department and HR department created stipends for intern school psychologists to help increase future hires. The special education department and the teacher's union met to discuss teacher and student support needs in October 2022 through March 2023.

Prior Year Successes, Challenges, and Learnings

What successes, challenges, and learnings should be highlighted from the prior year?

We were successful with the instructional coaches on EL reclassification. We addressed Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) and increased access by preparing and planning for embedded instruction implementation for the 2023-2024 school year and reconfiguring a program to have additional embedded therapeutic support on a comprehensive campus. We reduced litigation approximately 30%.

PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 2023-2024 DEPARTMENT PLAN

Current Year Priorities

This section of the department plan provides a summary of the identified needs that are prioritized for informing the department plan's actions for the current year.

Data and Information Used for Plan Development

What data did you consider when developing this plan?

Previous years data on LRE rate, CA School Dashboard, OAH filings, parent input survey and meetings, state indicators, and IEP compliance

Stakeholder Engagement/Input

What stakeholder engagement or information was used to inform this plan?

Community Advisory Council, parent input surveys, teacher & staff input, root cause analysis to be completed by September 30th,

Key Data Findings/Information for This Plan

Based on data analysis and stakeholder information, what key data findings are considered in the development of this plan?

The plan will consider data from LRE indicators, compliance indicators, and parent and staff input.

Current Plan Priorities

Based on the key data findings, what needs emerged from your Department's root cause analysis, and which of these needs are given priority for this planning cycle?

The district needs to continue its process of increasing access to LRE. The IEP process will continue to strengthen. On 9-7-23, there are 171 past due annuals and 71 past due eligibility evaluations.

The department is prioritizing LRE and access for students to non-disabled peers. A secondary priority is focusing on SEL support.

PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
2023-2024 DEPARTMENT PLAN

Current Year Planned Actions and Metrics

This section of the department plan provides a summary of the planned actions that address the identified priorities based on data analysis and stakeholder input. Metrics associated with monitoring and/or evaluating the effectiveness of the planned actions are summarized in this section.

What action could you take to address the identified needs of your department?

What would you be able to monitor throughout the year (quarterly or more than twice per year) to know that your actions are creating a change?

Theory Of Action

If we... The special education department is creating special education office hours, holding "Appreciative Inquiry Meetings," and increased IEP training for staff.

then... Parent concerns will be heard as early as possible. Further, because parents will have more access to district support personnel, they will feel more heard.

which will... Collaboration with parents

If we... Provide cultural competency checklists for the SST, school psychologists, and IEP teams
Provide training to teachers on the social / emotional curriculum.

then... Teachers and staff will be more responsive to student needs. More student needs can be addressed in the least restrictive environment, and suspension rates will decrease.

which will... Increased Social Emotional Support

If we... Increase training for new teachers on the Least Restrictive Environment mandate of IDEA.

PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
2023-2024 DEPARTMENT PLAN

then... Students will get more opportunities to be with non-disabled peers

which will... Least Restrictive Environment

If we... Facilitated IEP training with administrators

then... When site administrators have a better understanding of facilitated IEP practices, they will have additional tools to use during IEP meetings allowing them to address parent concerns at the site level.

which will... Strengthen the IEP process

PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
2023-2024 DEPARTMENT PLAN

Priority 1: Collaboration with parents

[Action 1]

The special education department is creating special education office hours, holding "Appreciative Inquiry Meetings," and increased IEP training for staff.

Strategic Priorities:

Metrics

- a. The special education department will monitor meeting dates and attendance.

Implementation & Monitoring of Action 1

Priority 2: Increased Social Emotional Support

[Action 1]

Provide cultural competency checklists for the SST, school psychologists, and IEP teams
Provide training to teachers on the social / emotional curriculum.

Strategic Priorities:

Metrics

- a. Training dates and attendance on SEL programs.

Implementation & Monitoring of Action 1

Priority 3: Least Restrictive Environment

[Action 1]

Increase training for new teachers on the Least Restrictive Environment mandate of IDEA.

Strategic Priorities:

Metrics

- a. The district will monitor CALPADS LRE percentages.

PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
2023-2024 DEPARTMENT PLAN

Implementation & Monitoring of Action 1

Priority 4: Strengthen the IEP process

[Action 1]

Facilitated IEP training with administrators

Strategic Priorities:

Metrics

- a. Monitor completed IEPs

Implementation & Monitoring of Action 1