Student Support Services

Michael Hatfield Executive Director Fall 2022

Special Education and Section 504 By the Numbers

- There is a total of 262 special-education identified students district-wide.
- Disabilities of highest prevalence are:
 - Specific LD
 - Speech/Language
 - Autism
 - Developmental Delay
 - And "Other"
- There is a total of 81 student with Section 504 needs district-wide.
 More than half of these students are at RHS, while less than 10 are at LRES.

Out of District

Currently, 16 students are in school placement. (Note: Age limit to receive services has increased from 21 to 22 years of age.)

Additionally, the School District is also responsible for special education services of students placed by a parent in a public charter school.*

The School District is also responsible for certain court/DCYF placements.*

^{*}Numbers suppressed if total is less than 10.

Action Steps to Reduce the Need for Out of District Placement

Program Approval

- Connections (RHS) 20-21 SY
- Leaps and Bounds (LRES) 21-22 SY
- CALM (IHGMS) once a teacher is in place, DOE will grant approval

Staffing

• Finding and securing staff is essential. With tenure comes consistency and enhancement.

Action Steps to Reduce the Need for Out of District Placement

Transition Planning

 Continued partnerships with out-of-district programs/schools to ensure student success is key. We have great relationships with our schools!

Partnering with Families

 We have students and families poised at the ready (some almost ready) to begin this process. They have to trust the supports will be in place.

Staffing Shortages in Special Education

LRES 3 Paraeducators

IHGMS 1 Special Educator

1 Special Ed (New Program)

5 Paraeducators

RHS 1 Paraeducator

Preschool 4 Paraeducators

District Response

Teamwork!

Building Admin. Special educators and Paraeducators are working diligently to cover all students the best they can.



Ongoing Recruitment

Our Deans and Building
Principals have been
interviewing as
applications come forward



Advertising

EdjobsNH, Marquis' at each building, Facebook, etc..



Contracted Services

We have reached out to providers. We have recruiters searching for candidates for us.

What does this mean for our students and families?



- Concerned parents of 2.5-5.0 year olds who are not currently enrolled in our district
- Question if child has learning difficulties will impede their growth and development in school and perhaps cause failure in the future.
- 4 Times a Year: November, January, April and June
- Contact Linda Mahoney or Paula Oliveira for more information

What is Section 504?

"Section 504 is a part of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 that prohibits discrimination based upon disability. Section 504 is an anti-discrimination, civil rights statute that requires the needs of students with disabilities to be met as adequately as the needs of the non-disabled are met."

Section 504 states that: "No otherwise qualified individual with a disability in the United States, as defined in section 706(8) of this title, shall, solely by reason of her or his disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance..." [29 U.S.C. §794(a), 34 C.F.R. §104.4(a)]."