



CHELSEA

SCHOOL DISTRICT

SPECIAL EDUCATION

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To: Board of Education

From: Lisa Nickel

Re: September Board Report - Special Education

Date: 9/3/25

- The summer was a busy one for special ed as we offered Extended School Year opportunities for our students with the most significant needs, Prek-12th grade. We also supported incoming Young 5 and kindergarteners at Safety Town as well as Jump Start. Thank you to our amazing team of paraprofessionals who offered to work during the summer to support all of the programs as well as Alex Soule, Greg Stephens, Katy Fillion and Kim Goonis who were the lead teachers.
- For those staff already certified in [Non-Violent Crisis Prevention](#) a refresher course was provided on Friday, August 22nd. We had over 70 staff attend this and opened it up to our neighbors in Manchester who had an additional 9 staff attend the training. This is a required bi-annual training that provides strategies for deescalation when a student is acting out behaviorally.
- We have posted our open social worker position at the high school and hope to have this position filled by the end of the month. Currently, Diana Salazar and Mollie McConnell are filling in to ensure that service times are being covered.
- Our PAC reps, Jamie McCollum and Christina Hollis will again lead the charge of our Family Champions Group. Their first Social Saturday will be Saturday, September 13th from 10-12 and will again be held at the 300 building at WSEC. All are welcome to attend!
- We have entered into an agreement with our neighboring district of Manchester to provide programs and services to their secondary students needing a resource room. Historically, Chelsea did have a partnership with Dexter, Whitmore Lake, and Manchester in which Dexter and Chelsea provided the programs for students with cognitive and emotional impairments. This agreement will be reviewed annually.

Respectfully,

Lisa Nickel, Director of Special Education