DESOTO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

# Special Education

## Special Education Inclusion and Specialized Student Enrollment Updates

***Presenter: Stephanie Fuller, Executive Director of Special Populations***

DeSoto ISD Special Populations Department | 2026–2027 Academic Year

# DeSoto ISD Board Goals

**Goal 1:** The percentage of DeSoto ISD students who graduate college, career, and military ready will increase from 88% in May 2025 to 96% by May 2030.

**Goal 2:** The percentage of DeSoto ISD students who perform at the meets level or above on the Third Grade STAAR Reading assessment, will increase from 33% in May 2025 to 48% by May 2030.

**Goal 3:** The percentage of DeSoto ISD students who perform at the meets level or above in mathematics on the Third Grade STAAR Math assessment, will increase from 29% in May 2025 to 42% by May 2030.

**Goal 4:** The percentage of Eighth grade students achieving meets or higher on STAAR/EOC math assessments will increase from 35% in May 2025 to 43% by May 2030.

**Goal 5:** The percentage of Eighth grade students achieving meets or higher on the STAAR reading assessment will increase from 45% in May 2025 to 56% by May 2030.

# Districtwide Special Education Overview
## *(Snapshot Date: 9/21/26)*

TOTAL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT

**5,370**

Enrolled Students Districtwide

TOTAL SPED ENROLLMENT

**741**

14% of Total District Enrollment

SPECIALIZED STUDENTS

**254**

Specialized Classroom Placement

INCLUSION STUDENTS

**487**

General Education Classroom

SPEECH SERVICE DISTRIBUTION

## 433 Students (58%)

58% of all special education students in DeSoto ISD receive Speech-Language services

Key Service Context:

- District Speech staff is critical moving forward to ensure compliance
- Contract staff, typically, are not vested in district policies, procedures, and service delivery
- High turnover rate throughout the school year

SPECIAL EDUCATION STAFFING & VACANCY STATUS

## 12 Total Open Positions

**Current Vacancy Breakdown Across District:**

- 8 Teacher Vacancies (Includes ECSE, Inclusion, BSI, and Crisis Unit positions)
- 4 Paraprofessional Vacancies (Instructional paras for specialized & inclusion support)
- 4 New Positions Approved
  (Conservator Kim approved 2 Teachers & 2 Paras to address growth)

# Campus Dashboards: Elementary Early Childhood & Lower Elementary

## Amber Terrace Early Childhood

Org #113 | Grades: EE-PK

| CAMPUS TOTAL | SPED TOTAL | SPED % |
|---|---|---|
| 393 Enrollment | 32 Students | 8.1% of Campus |

**SPECIALIZED UNITS & PROGRAM BREAKDOWN:**

- ECSE: 26 students
- **Inclusion Support: 6 students**

**Campus Context / Staffing Notes:**

- *ECSE enrollment increases throughout the school year*
- *2 teacher vacancies currently*

## Cockrell Hill Elementary

Org #67 | Grades: K-2

| CAMPUS TOTAL | SPED TOTAL | SPED % |
|---|---|---|
| 364 Enrollment | 67 Students | 18.4% of Campus |

**SPECIALIZED UNITS & PROGRAM BREAKDOWN:**

- Life Skills: 29 students
- Behavior Support (BSI): 9 students
- **Inclusion Support: 29 students**

**Campus Context / Staffing Notes:**

## Moates Elementary

Org #21 | Grades: 3-5

| CAMPUS TOTAL | SPED TOTAL | SPED % |
|---|---|---|
| 186 Enrollment | 21 Students | 11.3% of Campus |

**SPECIALIZED UNITS & PROGRAM BREAKDOWN:**

- Inclusion Support: 21 students

**Campus Context / Staffing Notes:**

- *3rd grade general ed/inclusion housed at Cockrell Hill/Moates campus*
- *BSI shared with Cockrell Hill*

# Campus Dashboards: Elementary Academies & Upper Elementary

## Woodridge Fine Arts Academy

Org #69 | Grades: K-5

| CAMPUS TOTAL | SPED TOTAL | SPED % |
|---|---|---|
| 368 Enrollment | 69 Students | 18.8% of Campus |

**SPECIALIZED UNITS & PROGRAM BREAKDOWN:**

- Applied Academics: 22 students
- Behavior Support (BSI): 10 students
- **Inclusion Support: 37 students**

**Campus Context / Staffing Notes:**

## Meadows Elementary

Org #90 | Grades: K-5

| CAMPUS TOTAL | SPED TOTAL | SPED % |
|---|---|---|
| 588 Enrollment | 90 Students | 15.3% of Campus |

**SPECIALIZED UNITS & PROGRAM BREAKDOWN:**

- Life Skills: 28 students
- Crisis Unit (CU): 2 students
- **Inclusion Support: 60 students**

**Campus Context / Staffing Notes:**

- *1 new Crisis Unit teacher approved*
- *Life Skills enrollment has grown to 28 students across two classrooms*
- *Current classroom capacity is strained, including support for 3 students who use wheelchairs*
- *A third Life Skills unit will be opened at the Meadows to reduce overcrowding and better meet student needs*

## Katherine Johnson

Org #44 | Grades: K-8

| CAMPUS TOTAL | SPED TOTAL | SPED % |
|---|---|---|
| 625 Enrollment | 44 Students | 7.0% of Campus |

**SPECIALIZED UNITS & PROGRAM BREAKDOWN:**

- Applied Academics: 10 students
- Behavior Support (BSI): 4 students
- **Inclusion Support: 30 students**

**Campus Context / Staffing Notes:**

- *1 new BSI teacher position & 1 new inclusion paraprofessional approved*

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TOTAL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT

**5,370**

Enrolled Students Districtwide

TOTAL SPED ENROLLMENT

**741**

**14% of Total District Enrollment**

SPECIALIZED STUDENTS

**254**

Specialized Classroom Placement

INCLUSION STUDENTS

**487**

General Education Classroom

SPEECH SERVICE DISTRIBUTION

## 433 Students (58%)

58% of all special education students in DeSoto ISD receive Speech-Language services

Key Service Context:

- District Speech staff is critical moving forward to ensure compliance
- Contract staff, typically, are not as vested in district policies, procedures, and service delivery vs DeSoto Staff
- High turnover rate throughout the school year

SPECIAL EDUCATION STAFFING & VACANCY STATUS

## 12 Total Open Positions

**Current Vacancy Breakdown Across District:**

- 8 Teacher Vacancies (Includes ECSE, Inclusion, BSI, and Crisis Unit positions)
- 4 Paraprofessional Vacancies (Instructional paras for specialized & inclusion support)
- 4 New Positions Approved
  (Conservator Kim approved 2 Teachers & 2 Paras to address growth)

# Campus Dashboards: Middle School Campuses

## McCowan Middle School

Org #43 | Grades: 6-8

| CAMPUS TOTAL | SPED TOTAL | SPED % |
|---|---|---|
| 581 Enrollment | 109 Students | 18.8% of Campus |

**SPECIALIZED UNITS & PROGRAM BREAKDOWN:**

- Applied Academics: 17 students
- Behavior Support (BSI): 7 students
- **Inclusion Support: 85 students**

**Campus Context / Staffing Notes:**

- *Largest middle school inclusion roster (85 students)*
- *1 new inclusion para position approved*

## West Middle School

Org #42 | Grades: 6-8

| CAMPUS TOTAL | SPED TOTAL | SPED % |
|---|---|---|
| 371 Enrollment | 69 Students | 18.6% of Campus |

**SPECIALIZED UNITS & PROGRAM BREAKDOWN:**

- Life Skills: 11 students
- Behavior Support (BSI): 8 students
- Adaptive BIC (ABIC): 3 students
- **Inclusion Support: 47 students**

**Campus Context / Staffing Notes:**

- *Number includes 3 homebound Life Skills scholars*

# Campus Dashboards: DeSoto High School & DAEP

## DeSoto High School

Org #001 | Grades: 9-12

| CAMPUS TOTAL | SPED TOTAL | SPED % |
|---|---|---|
| 1,887 Enrollment | 237 Students | 12.6% of Campus |

**SPECIALIZED UNITS & PROGRAM BREAKDOWN:**

- Applied Academics: 28 students
- Life Skills: 19 students
- Behavior Support (BSI): 18 students
- RISE 18+ Transition: 3 students
- **Inclusion Support: 169 students**

**Campus Context / Staffing Notes:**

- *Due to the number of Life Skills students, one unit team (1 Teacher/1 Para) will move to the Meadows to create a third Life Skills Classroom*
- *1 Para will move to West MS (Inclusion)*

## DAEP Alternative Education

Org #6008 | Grades: 6-12

| CAMPUS TOTAL | SPED TOTAL | SPED % |
|---|---|---|
| 7 Enrollment | 3 Students | 42.9% of Campus |

**SPECIALIZED UNITS & PROGRAM BREAKDOWN:**

- **Inclusion Support: 3 students**

**Campus Context / Staffing Notes:**

- *SPED scholars supported via Inclusion teacher FTE*

# Districtwide Campus Special Education Summary Matrix

| Campus Name | Org # | Total Campus | SPED Count | Inclusion | Specialized Units | SPED % of Campus |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Amber Terrace ECLC | 113 | 393 | **32** | 6 | 26 (ECSE) | **8.1%** |
| Cockrell Hill Elementary | 67 | 364 | **67** | 29 | 38 (LS: 29, BSI: 9) | **18.4%** |
| Moates Elementary | 21 | 186 | **21** | 21 | 0 | **11.3%** |
| Woodridge Fine Arts Academy | 69 | 368 | **69** | 37 | 32 (AA: 22, BSI: 10) | **18.8%** |
| Meadows Elementary | 90 | 588 | **90** | 60 | 30 (LS: 28, CU: 2) | **15.3%** |
| Katherine Johnson MA | 44 | 625 | **44** | 30 | 14 (AA: 10, BSI: 4) | **7.0%** |
| McCowan Middle School | 43 | 581 | **109** | 85 | 24 (AA: 17, BSI: 7) | **18.8%** |
| West Middle School | 42 | 371 | **69** | 47 | 22 (LS:11, BSI:8, ABIC:3) | **18.6%** |
| DeSoto High School | 001 | 1,887 | **237** | 169 | 68 (AA:28, LS:19, BSI:18, RISE:3) | **12.6%** |
| DAEP Alternative | 6008 | 7 | **3** | 3 | 0 | **42.9%** |



# Thank You!