Special Education Update

Presented By: Kelly Lucio, Director of Special Education Services

Current Personnel Statistics

- Faculty and Staff
  - 11.5 Special Education Teachers
  - 12 Paraeducators
  - 2 School Psychologists
  - 1 Speech-Language Pathologist
  - 3 Social Workers
  - 1 Vocational Coordinator/Transition Specialist
  - 1 Department Chair (teaches 1 section)
- Southwest Cooperative Services
  - Occupational therapy, physical therapy, vision itinerant, hearing itinerant, and orientation and mobility services
- Administration
  - Director of Special Education Services
  - 1 IEP Manager Facilitator/Transition Consultant
  - Administrative Assistant to Director of Special Education

Southwest Cook County Cooperative Association for Special Education

The Southwest Cooperative services students across eight local elementary school districts and three high school districts.

Member Districts

LHS Enrollment: 10
Total Enrollment: 519 in programs,573 itinerant services. Total enrollment:1092

Southwest Cooperative

Students can be served in one of the cooperative's six programs

- Braun (Oak Forest Administrative Office)
- Communication Delay Program (Morton Gingerwood and Andrew HS)
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing (LHS)
- Destiny (Morton Gingerwood and Oak Forest HS)
- Transition (Braun and John Humphrey)

LHS Special Education Enrollment

- 2025/2026 School Year:141 students
- 2026/2027 School Year: 146 students

2025 LHS students with IEPs 10.2%
2025 Illinois Students with IEPs 16.3%
2026 LHS students with IEPs 10.3%
2026 Illinois Students with IEPs 16.7%

Enrollment Statistics

- Southwest Coop Programs: 10 students
- Out of District Private Placement: 12 students
- Residential Placement: 2 students
- Homeschooled: 1 student
- LHS: 121 students

ARC

The ARC (Academics, Resilience, Character) program is an in-district therapeutic program specifically designed to support students with internalizing behaviors. Its primary goal is to support students in making progress towards their academic, social/emotional, executive functioning, communication,and transition goals as outlined in their IEPs. The program focuses on a holistic approach to education, recognizing that academic success is intertwined with emotional well-being and personal growth.

ARC





LIFE & Future Connections

The L.I.F.E. Program is specially designed to cater to the unique needs of students with moderate to severe disabilities. This program aims to provide a nurturing and inclusive environment that fosters functional academics, employment/training opportunities, independent living skills, and dedicated support for communication and social needs.

The Future Connections Program is an in-district fifth-year program, designed for students who completed their four years of high school but still require a coordinated set of activities, services, and specialized instruction in the areas of academics, employment, and independent living in order to make progress towards their post secondary outcomes as outlined in their IEPs. Students are required to attend the Future Connections program Monday-Friday when they are not in attendance for college-level courses, courses at the Wilco Area Career Center, or competitive work.

LIFE and Future Connections







ESY





Questions?

Thank you for your support!