



**To:** Board of Education

**From:** Lisa Nickel

**Re:** February Board Report

**Date:** 2/4/26

- The paraprofessional leaders in each building have planned meaningful professional development for their teams. North will focus on sensory and behavioral needs support as well as communication. South will target supporting behavioral and communication needs. Beach, with the guidance of Kaitlyn, will lead the team through supporting students in the general education content areas through accommodations and modification of assignments. Lastly, the high school will be led through activities that build community as well as conflict resolution. As you can see, each building was able to target their specific needs with the support of the building special education staff.
- As mentioned last month, the State of Michigan is conducting an audit on Least Restrictive Environment in each intermediate school district over a 5 year span. Our audit starts Monday, February 9th with that day's focus being the programs and services offered across the county as well as a tour of the county wide programs. The Parent Advisory Committee will have an opportunity that evening to meet and answer questions from the state auditors. Tuesday and Wednesday will target the local districts. Our district is Wednesday, February 11th in the afternoon. There will be three panels interviewed by the auditors - three general education teachers, three special education staff and three administrators. Each interview will last about 45 minutes. Thursday afternoon, the state will share out in a debrief at the WISD with all directors and superintendents their preliminary findings. I will be sure to share that out in next month's board report!

Respectfully,

Lisa Nickel, Director of Special Education and Early Childhood  
Chelsea School District