

Federal and Special Programs July 2013 Board Report

July 15-17, 2013 – Texas Counsel for Administrators of Special Education Conference, Austin, TX. I will be attending with our new Educational Diagnostician, Mrs. Tamara (Tammy) Raymond. This conference brings legal requirements for serving students with disabilities together with “Best Practices” to ensure that our students receive the services that they need to reach success.

July 23-24, 2013 – District wide CHAMPS training will include almost every educator in the district in this proactive and positive approach to classroom management that will align how we meet the needs of students across the district. Author of the strategy, Randy Sprick, states the goal of the strategy is a classroom of students who are respectful, responsible, motivated, and highly engaged in meaningful tasks. The CHAMPS acronym:

**C—Conversation
H—Help
A—Activity
M—Movement
P—Participation
S—Success!**

The strategy steps use the acronym STOIC:

**S—Structure
T—Teach expectations
O—Observe
I—Interact positively
C—Correct fluently**

August 6-7, 2013 – Texas Center for District and School Support (TCDSS) will offer training in Supplemental Education Services (SES) required for Districts staged 2 or higher for missing AYP. Pending AYP reporting, Mrs. McWilliams and I have made arrangements to attend this session. If our district is not required by staging to attend this training, we will cancel.

August 7-9, 2013 – Bilingual Special Education Evaluation Summer Institute held at the University of Houston, Clear Lake and presented by the renowned Dr. Criselda Guajardo Alvarado will be attended by our new Educational Diagnostician and elementary assistant principal. This is an amazing and rare opportunity for our district to have the capability of providing our English Language Learners with language appropriate evaluations to better determine if a student has a disability or just hasn't acquired a level of academic English language to achieve well in relation to his or her peers. We will also be better able to determine the level of language supports that a student requires in becoming proficient in English while developing appropriately in his or her native language.

As of July 11, 2013, we are looking for a special education teacher to serve on our middle school campus with the resignation of Mr. Bill McGinnis.