



Hallsville ISD Department of Special Education

Director: Amy Collins

Update for September School Board meeting:

1. We are pouring in support for our structured learning campus staff and families. Now that we have an Occupational Therapist and Physical Therapist on staff, we are able to utilize our support staff to provide a level of intervention that is unprecedented! We are offering parent training to families of students with Autism and those who have a child in our structured learning classroom Elementary through Intermediate. These are held monthly and it is a great opportunity for parents to meet one-on-one with a consultant who can address their specific needs at home.
2. We continue to work the TVAH to address the Corrective Action Plan that was a result of the Cyclical Review last spring. We are meeting all deadlines and complying with requests from TEA.
3. At the most recent Region 7 Director's meeting, we learned that there has been a 60% increase in students identified with Dyslexia in Texas over the past 5 years. The number of students with Dyslexia served through special education in Texas has **quadrupled** since the 2019/20 school year. Yes, you read the right, quadrupled!

Region 7 also shared that they are inundated with calls from school districts in our region to support self contained settings with student behavior that is out of control. Region 7 staff noted that this call for help has been unusually high this school year and they do not have the manpower to address all of the needs. This is another reason why having an OT and PT on staff has been so helpful! We have to rely on our resources to address difficulties in the classroom.

4. We are asking for approval to purchase playground equipment for North Elementary structured learning classrooms.