

Hallsville ISD Department of Special Education

## Director: Amy Collins

## **Update for August School Board meeting:**

- 1. We had a great week of professional development for our Special Education staff! Structured Learning teachers participated in training with their paraprofessionals. Resource and inclusion/co-teach special teachers participated in a different training; then we all came together and received training on Ablsespace. This is a program that will allow teachers to track IEP progress efficiently and easily
- 2. For the first time, we offered parent training to families of students PK/ECSE-6<sup>th</sup> grade this summer. We had several families take advantage of this opportunity. They each met one on one with an autism consultant and focused on getting their child back into the school routine. We will continue to offer parent training throughout the school year on a monthly basis. I hope this will help build a bridge between the school and our families with high needs students.
- 3. We are starting the year with 873 students receiving special education services. The goal is to have a decrease in referrals and increased dismissals from services when it is appropriate.
- 4. We have an excellent opportunity to serve this year with the addition of an Occupational Therapist and a Physical Therapist. We are building a team for behavior and academic strategies that consists of the OT, PT, LSSP, and a speech therapist. They will meet as a team monthly with relevant campus staff members to facilitate supports for these unique behavioral situations.