

# Federal/Special Programs Department

## 2025 February School Board Meeting Overview

### **Title Programs/State Compensatory Education/Other Grants**

- No compliance reports are due at this time.

### **Backpack Program/Homeless/At-Risk**

- There are currently 35 students that qualify for McKinney-Vento homeless services. This is up from 14 at this time last year.
- Funds for the Nutritional Backpack program are steady and we will have enough to finish this year and begin next year.
- A meeting was held in January to look at setting stricter guidelines for the Christmas Bobcat Blessings program. Community input was gathered and guardians will have to show proof of need prior to their application being accepted.

### **Counselors/Section 504**

- Campus transition plans are in the process of being created at each level and parent information sessions will be provided virtually and in person.
- High school and Jr. High counselors are working on HS graduation plans.
- All campuses are planning for Kindness Week; the week of the 10th. This is also School Counselors week! We are VERY appreciative of the work our school counselors do. They work with kids through some challenging mental health obstacles and our school and students are safer because of them.

### **DEIC**

- The DEIC met February 3rd to begin the district needs assessment. Teams looked at data from across Federal and State programs to give initial feedback on goals and potential enhancements.
- Campuses will conduct their own needs assessments throughout the semester.

### **Emergent Bilingual**

- Online TELPAS will begin this month. Students in grades 2-12 test online in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. The first testing day will be February 18th and the final available testing date is March 28th. Each campus designed their own testing schedule based on their needs and each is set to be complete prior to Spring Break.
- Students in grades K-1 are graded holistically by their teachers.
- Plans for summer learning are underway.

### **Gifted & Talented**

- The GT department is in the process of assessing 196 students for the gifted and talented program.
  - Kindergarten and First Grade selection took place February 6th and services will begin no later than March 1st for kindergarten.
  - Other grade levels will be selected in April, as their services do not begin until the 2025-2026 school year.
  - The sixth-grade GT students traveled to the Perot Museum in Dallas on Feb. 13

### **Health Services/Nursing Services**

- Health services met February 14th for common planning.
- The next SHAC meeting was February 10th at HHS.