

MEMORANDUM

September 3, 2014

TO: Members of the MVSEC Executive Advisory Board

FROM: Carla Cumblad, Executive Director
Sandy Gearhart, ESY Supervisor, Mades-Johnstone and Shelby
Jen Haney, ESY Supervisor, Alice Gustafson Elementary, Batavia

RE: Extended School Year 2013 Summary

It was a cool summer in the ESY Program!!

In 2014, we had three ESY sites: Alice Gustafson Elementary (D101), MJC, and Shelby Transition Center. The curriculum theme was Community, People and Places! Students participated in learning experiences regarding their communities throughout the summer. The students also participated in two unit culminating activities, in addition to many other positive experiences. Students were placed into small classrooms of approximately 8-10 students and were grouped by functional and academic ability. Teachers used Unique Learning systems (ULS), Reading A-Z, Touch Math/Money/Time, PCI Writing/Basic Grammar, specific student discrete trial books, and the curriculum guides and materials that were developed by the ESY committee in previous years. With the exception of Early Childhood, all students received Adaptive PE which was a highlight of their days!

For the second year, the program lasted for four weeks, starting on July 7 and ending on July 31. The students attended Mondays through Thursdays for 4 hours a day. Most parents and staff reported that the condensed sessions in July were preferable to the 6 week sessions. Teachers reported that they had a longer instructional time, which was beneficial for most students.

On the first day of school, 282 students were registered to attend. Last year, 254 students were enrolled on the first day of school. (The referral process was much improved over the process last year.) Enrollment for the last three years is increasing slightly. This year 16 students either dropped after registration or did not attend. Another 13 students attended less than 50% of the days. As Table Two presents, we were able to move teaching assistants to different positions to accommodate these changes. Therefore, our substitute days were far fewer this year.

As you can see by Table1 and Table 2, although the registered students increased by 28 students, the overall number of staff increased by 2 positions. One occupational therapist and one physical therapist worked as a part of their team leader stipend. These costs are not included in the ESY bills. The individual teaching assistants decreased slightly as well. We were able to reduce secretarial costs due to having administrative interns through Aurora University.

Table One presents data from the past five years of ESY. The attendance data for 2014 are reported in the two sites: Alice Gustafson (F) (Academic Skills, Autism, Behavior) and MJC (M) (Functional, Multiple Disabilities, Transition) In addition, Table One presents information about students who either did not attend or attended less than 50%. We are also including information about the number of students who attended 60 hours of programming. These students are eligible for state reimbursement through the claims process.

Table Two provides data from the last five years regarding the number of staff employed for ESY. Even with increased enrollment, staffing was fairly stable. It should be noted that the number of substitutes is down considerably due to changes in hiring practices instituted last year and shifting staff due to student absences.

Table Three provides information from the parent survey. In all parents were very satisfied with the ESY program. As in years past, the comments were very positive, with some constructive comments for improvement. Transportation concerns were reported most by parents. The parents were supportive of the condensed schedule. And, students enjoyed coming to summer school!