



GREENWAY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Board Meeting Special Education Director Update April 29, 2026

Demographics

- Current Child Count: 279 students with IEP's
- We are year 1 (optional) for CEIS due to our 'Over-qualifying white students with Developmental Cognitive Disabilities (DCD).

Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CEIS) are services provided to students in kindergarten through grade 12 (with a particular emphasis on students in kindergarten through grade three) who are not currently identified as needing special education or related services, but who need additional academic and behavioral supports to succeed in a general education environment.

Budgetary Outlook & Resource Management

- Audited needs for K-12 Special Education Curriculum. Working with administration, IASC, and staff on identifying and researching curriculum needs for servicing our special education students and equipping teachers with research-based interventions and quality curriculum. There is special education representation with general education math curriculum adoption.

Legislative Update

- Bill, [SF4677](#), proposed changes to statutes related to the use of seclusion in setting 3 and 4 special education settings that aligned with the [Seclusion Working Group recommendations](#). No action was taken on the bill, but it was a good discussion on the issue.
- Special education teacher pathway program: Authorizes a transfer of up to \$20 million in FY27 from Grow Your Own funding to the special education teacher pathway program. IASC has information and the application on their website. I have referred a few interested paraprofessionals.
- Jennifer Danielson, Executive Director of Student Services, South St. Paul Public Schools and MASE member, presented to the committee on [how schools assess students for disabilities](#). It was a great overview for the committee and may be of interest to Board Members or the public.
- The committee also heard the last few finance bills before the April 17 deadline.

[HF4114](#) eliminates the automatic \$250 million reduction in special education cross-subsidy aid if the Blue Ribbon Commission cannot find the commensurate savings. The committee passed the bill unanimously, advancing it to the Ways and Means Committee, which was a welcome show of bipartisan support. That said, the vote was symbolic as the bill's high cost makes it unlikely to advance this session.

- Minnesota schools are facing significant proposed changes from the MN Department of Human Services regarding how Medicaid services are billed. The new requirements would mandate that speech-language pathologists, occupational and physical therapists, and mental health professionals obtain a National Provider Identifier (NPI) and enroll individually in MN Healthcare Programs (MHCP), this requires SLPs to hold a license through MDH, and changes to how time is billed using CPT codes. As proposed by DHS, these requirements do not work operationally for school districts and add new challenges and bureaucracy, making it difficult for districts.

Special Education Trainings

- IASC & District Special Education Teacher Training on 8/24/26. IASC from 8-10 at the Reif Center and District Special Education at Greenway 10:30-3:30.
- IASC & District Paraprofessional Training on Wednesday 8/26/26.
- Ukeru training for all Special Education Staff this Summer & Fall-dates TBD.

Staffing Updates

- Budget, scheduling and service delivery model discussions are continuing with administration and will assist with final staffing numbers and placement decisions.
- At this time, there is a posting for one special education teacher at the secondary level, interviews are currently being conducted. The posting for a Speech Language Pathologist has reached 60 days, we have not had any applicants for this position. We will offer a continuing contract to Sara Ross as an SLPA for the 26-27 school year.
- **Staff Spotlight:** Dan Mell was awarded a \$2,000 grant for his students to run a 'mobile coffee cart' more details to come. Great opportunity for our students. Thanks Dan!