

Special Services Department Report

February 2024

Submitted by: Rebecca Rappold

SPED Department Staffing Update:

The Special Education Department Staff has continued to work alongside the Human Resources Department to fill all Special Education positions across the district. Below is an update on SPED staff at this time in October. Those in **PINK** are filled for the 23-24 SY.

Special Education Staff (PK-12)	Filled:	Need to Fill:
Special Education Teachers	14	0
Special Education TAs	13	0
Personal Care Attendants (PCAs)	22	2
Speech Pathologist	5	0
Speech Therapy Assistants	4	0
Occupation Therapist	1	0
Physical Therapist	1	0
PT/OT Therapy Assistant	1	0
Adaptive PE Teacher	1	0
Behavior Specialist	1	0
School Psychologist(s)	4	0
Confidential Secretary	1	0
Department Administrative Assistant	1	0

Department Work This Past Month:

- Met weekly with school psychologists to check-in with our prioritized list of student evaluations. **24 special education evaluations have been completed at this time up from 14 in January.**

- Special Services Department Staff hosted a Blackfeet Early Childhood Center & BPS collaboration meeting to coordinate transition and special education services for Head Start students.
- Director, School Psychologist-Ginny Crawford, Stamiksiitsiikin Elementary Principals & Instructional Coach, and Blackfeet Early Childhood Center Director & Staff updated the BECC/BPS Transition MOA and the BECC/BPS Special Services MOA in January.
- Director submitted two special education required policies for 1st reading and approval at the February 13th board meeting.
- Director DRAFTED the BPS Special Services Program Narrative (last updated in 2009) submitted to the OPI for review. Director will bring the Narrative to the school board in March for final approval.
- Director and School Psychologists attended K-5 MTSS meetings in January to coordinate instructional services & assessment for students being referred for a comprehensive special education evaluation.
- Director held Physical & Occupational Therapy Check-in meetings to coordinate related services for IDEA identified students.
- Confidential Secretary submitted Special Education student numbers to Ms. Guardipee-Hall for the Federal Impact Aid application due on January 31st.
- Held SPED Thursday Principal's Training on January 25th to review best practices for Individualized Education Plan meetings.
- Director attended MT OPI State Special Education Director Meeting on January 10th.

Upcoming Department Events:

Spring BECC ChildFind

February 13 & 14, 2024

ChildFind-Community Based

June 24-26, 2024

BPS Special Services Extended School Year

June 10-27, 2024