



**Denton Regional Day School
Program for the Deaf/
Visual Impairment**

Department of Special Education

Prepared for the Board of Trustees

September 27, 2022

Topics - RDSPD



01

Team Stats

02

History

03

**Supports and
Services**

04

Eligibility

05

Communication



01 Team

31 Members Strong

RDSPD Team

12
Certified
TODHH

27 degrees
37 certifications

6
Communication
Facilitators

6 degrees
1 certification

7
Certified
Educational
Interpreters

12 degrees
12 certifications

1
Educational
Audiologist

We currently contract
with UNT for a part-time
audiologist.

5
Instructional
Paraprofessionals

1 degree
1 certification

291+

Total Years of Experience
(201 served in Denton
ISD)



02 **History**

Denton Regional Day School Program for the Deaf



History

The Denton Regional Day School Program for the Deaf (RDSPD) was established by Denton ISD and the Texas Education Agency (TEA) in 1974 to provide services to students, ages birth to 21, who are eligible for special education services based on a hearing loss and educational need. These students reside in Denton, Cooke, or Wise County. We offer a variety of services to assist both students with hearing loss and their families.

Denton RDSPD Campuses 2022-2023

Ann Windle

Ages 3-5

6

McNair ES

Kinder - 5th Grade

28



16

McMath MS

6th - 8th Grade

Denton HS

9th - 12th Grade
18+

15

65 total students served

Other Students Served

16

Parent/Infant

Birth – 3 years old. Once they turn 3, they are eligible to enter the Deaf Ed. class at Ann Windle.

135+

Itinerant

These students are *typically* served on their home campus by an Itinerant Teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing



Supports and Services 03

The Denton RDSPD provides a full continuum of services based upon each child's individual needs as determined by the ARD committee.

Services are provided to:

3

Counties

Denton
Cooke
Wise

26

School Districts

Alvord ISD, Argyle ISD, Aubrey ISD, Boyd ISD, Bridgeport ISD, Callisburg ISD, Chico ISD, Decatur ISD, Denton ISD, Era ISD, Gainesville ISD, Krum ISD, Lake Dallas ISD, Lewisville ISD, Lindsay ISD, Little Elm ISD, Muenster ISD, Northwest ISD, Paradise ISD, Pilot Point ISD, Ponder ISD, Sanger ISD, Sivells Bend ISD, Slidell ISD, Valley View ISD, and Walnut Bend ISD

RDSPD Supports and Services

Cluster Site

Services are available for early childhood through high school (ages 3-21) in centralized classrooms on a regular education campus for students who need instruction by certified teachers of the deaf and/or access to interpreting services.

Itinerant

Itinerant teachers of the deaf provide support to students with hearing loss who are enrolled in general education or basic special education programs on their home campus.

Parent/Infant

Parent/Infant Advisor (0-3 year old) services are provided through a memorandum of understanding between Denton RDSPD and the Early Childhood Intervention Program (ECI) that serves the location of your residence. Once enrolled with ECI, the following services may be recommended and provided by our Parent/Infant Advisor – parent education and training and facilitation of early communication in the home.

- Intensive speech and language evaluations, direct intervention, and consultation are provided to qualifying students by certified speech-language pathologists and certified teachers of the deaf.
- Sign language interpreting/transliterating is provided for students whose mode of communication is sign language for instructional and extracurricular activities.



04 Eligibility

As a student with hearing loss (DHH), a student (0-21 years old) must meet the following criteria:

- Have a hearing loss that is so severe that the child is impaired in processing linguistic information through hearing, with or without amplification, and that adversely affects a child's educational performance, or Hearing loss, whether permanent or fluctuating, that adversely affects a child's educational performance.
- Have an educational need for specially designed instruction
A multidisciplinary team must review information from:
 - An otological examination
 - An audiological examination
 - A communication assessment addressing the implications of the hearing loss for the student's hearing in a variety of circumstances.

05

Communication

The Denton RDSPD stresses English acquisition for language development, listening skills, and oral speech development using a total communication approach. In this communication approach, students may utilize some type of hearing technology, a signing system, gestures, and lip reading to communicate and receive instruction.



Communication Philosophy

The Denton Regional Day School Program for the Deaf believes all students, birth through 21 years, should be given the skills to succeed by developing their ability to communicate proficiently within their home, school, and community.

The areas we believe contribute to the success of our students include advocacy, literacy, communication, and developing proficiency in the English language.



VI Team

3

**Certified
TVI**

5 degrees
11 certifications

2

**Certified
O&M**

3 degrees
2 certifications

1

**Certified
Brailist**

1 degree
1 certification

115+

Total Years of Experience
(62 served in Denton ISD)

VI Students & Services Provided

49+

Visual Impairment

The VI team provides support to classroom teachers and evaluates students to determine their educational needs. The team also provides direct instruction of the Expanded Core Curriculum to students who qualify as students with visual impairment. The Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC) is a disability-specific set of skills that compensates for vision loss and is foundational to all other learning. The ECC covers Compensatory Access, Assistive Technology, Sensory Efficiency, Career Education, Recreation and Leisure, Self-determination, Social Interaction, Independent Living, and Orientation and Mobility.

31+

Orientation and Mobility (O&M)

...a profession specific to blindness and low vision that teaches safe, efficient, and effective travel skills. Orientation refers to the ability to know where you are and where you want to go, whether you're moving from one room to another, or walking downtown for a shopping trip. Mobility refers to the ability to move safely, efficiently, and effectively from one place to another, such as being able to walk without tripping or falling, cross streets, and use public transportation. An O&M Specialist (COMS) provides instruction that can help develop or re-learn the skills and concepts needed to travel safely and independently within the home and in the community.



VI Eligibility

Eligibility is determined by an individualized family service plan (IFSP) or by an admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee. It is based upon an eye medical report, functional vision evaluation, a learning media assessment and an orientation and mobility evaluation. A COMS must be part of the team that determines the scope of any needed full and individual reevaluations.

Students generally considered eligible as visually impaired include:

- Infants and toddlers (birth to three) who are blind or have a “serious visual loss” after correction, which is interfering or is expected to interfere with normal patterns of development.
- Students (ages three through 21) whose visual loss, after correction, is so severe that it adversely affects their educational performance in regular or special education classes.
- Students (birth through 21) who have a progressive medical condition that will result in no vision or a serious visual loss after correction.



Denton RDSPD Team

Denton VI Team





Thanks!

Do you have any questions?

For additional information contact:

atefertilier@dentonisd.org, 940-369-4084 or

dgonzalesroybal@dentonisd.org, 940-369-0535

CREDITS: This presentation template was created by **Slidesgo**, and includes icons by **Flaticon** and infographics & images by **Freepik**

