2010-2011 District 97 Special Education Status and Plan

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Fall 2010 - Last Year

- Increased professional development
- Increased parent advisory participation
- Increased district sponsored parent support activities
- Special education staff evaluations
- Focus on reading during extended school programs
- Increased training for teacher assistants
- Improved services for students with autism
- Improving inclusion strategies for students

- University of Illinois Intern site for OT and PT
 - These are traditionally hard to fill positions.
- Professional development offered over 25 inservice workshops on the following topics:
 - Autism
 - Inclusion
 - Co-Teaching
 - Reading Strategies; SLANT, Read 180
 - Saxon Math Training
 - Other

- Evaluated 35 Special Education Staff (Regina and I)
- 11 Special Education faculty completed training and are SLANT certified.
- Institute Day training for Teacher Assistance; topics included:
 - Professionalism, team building, communication, autism, medical issues, de-escalation of behavior & collaboration with teachers.
- Direct Instruction program implemented the TEACH model in addition to the ABA.

- Parent Educator State Conference
 - 2 parents and 1 staff attended and implemented the Parent Partnership Model for Schools
- Parent Partnership Group identified goals
 - Creating high expectations
 - Reviewing staff training
 - Getting students involved in extracurricular activities

- New Coordinators' Accomplishments (3 of 4 were new last year)
 - New roles for Donna, Kari and Val monitored outside placements
 - Provided technical assistance to teachers, administrators and parents
- Social Workers Accomplishments
 - Monthly meetings with early childhood and K-5 parents
 - DD/DLP parents and staff met 4 times last year

Parent Survey

- Sent to over 800 families
- 138 responded slight increase over the previous
- Some Positive results indicated;
 - Considered as an equal partner
 - Concerns and recommendations were documented in the IEP
 - Parents felt supported
 - Parents felt team understood their child's needs
- Identified needs continue to be:
 - to improve communication about resources, state assessments, extra curricular activities

Special Education Enrollment

	Totals
Students in District 97 Programs	825
Students in Out of District Programs	66
	891

2011-2012 Where We Are Going

- Continue to build strong Professional Team
 - Consistent meetings, feedback, development opportunities
 - Consistency in curriculum and services provided throughout the district
- Continue to work with appropriate parent groups to create parent advisory goals
 - Expand the circle to engage even more parents
- Expand Teacher Assistant Training Program
 - Identify and implement best practices

2011-2012 Where We Are Going

- Students will participate in Special Olympics
- Medicaid billing:
 - Transportation
 - 1:1 Teacher Assistants
- Improve inclusion opportunities
 - Dr. Patrick Schwarz as consultant
- Develop and expand programs for students with autism
 - Chris Flint as consultant

Continued Needs - Things to Watch

- Particularly
 - Funding
 - Difficult to fill positions
 - Explore District therapeutic day school
 - Early Childhood Education Center
 - Other issues that are on the horizon statewide as well as community
 - Importance of affiliating with universities to:
 - Access well trained personnel
 - Access best practices
 - Access research and training opportunities

Questions?