

SPED Coordinator Board Report

September 13th, 2021

The 2021/22 school year is off to a great start. The start of a new school year is extremely busy for all teachers and staff but especially for our special education teachers. The first few weeks, special education staff are busy scheduling meetings for new students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) moving into our district, meeting with teachers to share how best to support their new students, and creating schedules to ensure all students receive their instructional time.

Here in Morrow County School District, we have an amazing special education staff. They always go above and beyond to meet the needs of our students. I am happy to report that as of today, we are fully staffed!

As we start the 2021/22 school year, here are the SpEd priorities we will be focusing on this school year:

- **Streamlining Processes**

- Our team has been working for the last several years to streamline our SpEd processes throughout the district. The addition of SpEd community coordinators in the 2020/21 school year greatly benefited our SpEd program and we made great strides in starting to develop consistent processes and paperwork district-wide.
- Our SpEd team has a goal to develop a consistent district-wide process for initial referrals, transfers, and re-evaluations.
- Additionally, we will continue to plan and deliver professional development (PD) to our SpEd staff. SpEd PD this year will center around paperwork requirements to ensure that we are writing IEPs designed to support our students and meet the state standards.

- **COVID-19 Recovery Services:**

- MCSD SpEd staff will also be working to implement Oregon Administrative Rule 581-015-2228 for Individualized COVID-19 Recovery Services.
- This temporary rule requires IEP teams to consider if a student needs Individualized COVID-19 Recovery Services at each annual IEP meeting through the 2022-23 school year.
- These services will be provided to students who made little to no progress during Comprehensive Distance Learning as determined by the IEP team, including the parent.
- Decisions for Individualized COVID-19 Recovery Services will be based in a review of student data and progress, as well as, the student's individual needs.