

Special Services Department Report

October 2023

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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 **ORANGE** are completely filled for the 23-24 SY.

Special Education Staff (PK-12)	Filled:	Need to Fill:
Special Education Teachers	13	1
Special Education TAs	13	1
Personal Care Attendants (PCAs)	17	3
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)	3	0
Confidential Secretary	1	0
Department Administrative Assistant	1	0

Department Work This Month:

- Hired an additional MT Certified School Psychologist to support the current evaluation caseload of 60 students referred for evaluation or needing a re-evaluation.
- BPS Special Services Handbook Update (coming to the board for approval in Oct/Nov)
- Case Manager Caseloads Finalized by the Confidential Secretary

- Multiple permission slips signed by parents for approval of support by the AWARE Behavior Support Specialist
- All related service providers; PT, OT, and Speech/Language Therapy have been conducting therapy sessions in the schools.
- School Psychologist's student evaluation planning meetings & student assignments-scheduled weekly, Friday's from 8:30-9:30
- Classroom Observations by Interim Director in sped classrooms & communication regarding student supports & instructional plans to several families
- Conducted Special Services TA & PCA Interviews to fill remaining positions
- Held an AWARE Behavior Support Training for PCAs to support positive behavior interventions and supports
- Held 3 student Manifestation Determination Meetings and will schedule 2-more based on parent availability.

Upcoming Department Events:

SPED Department Meeting	October 11, 2023
BPS Fall Child Count due to the OPI	October 13, 2023
BPS October PD Days (SPED Sessions Offered)	October 19-20, 2023
SPED Thursday-Principal's SPED PD	October 26, 2023
Special Olympics State Basketball-Helena	November 9-11, 2023