

# Special Services Building Report

For: January 14, 2020

## Board Meeting

Submitted by: Maureen Stott,  
Director of Special Services

### Special Education Activities

- Unique Curriculum training will happen for our Life Skills Special Education teachers on January 30, 2020. Unique is a specialized curriculum that is designed to meet the academic needs of learners that are in a self-contained Life Skills Program. This specialized curriculum focuses on basic academic skills presented using strategies that best support these learners special, specific learning needs.
- Speech Pathologist Inservice training will also happen on January 8, 2020. Training topics will include IEP related services and how they support and relate to academic needs and when to add them, adding comprehensive evaluations for all students that have academic pull out on Speech Only IEP's and how to correctly transition students from a Speech Only IEP from services, or into a Multiple Disability category.

Exciting information for our parents with children that receive Special Education Services; Many of our parent's struggle getting time away from work to attend Evaluation Report and Individual Education Programming meetings for their students. The Labor Department has ruled that attending these meetings for their children qualifies for FMLA, if the parent is eligible. This is wonderful news for all parents and guardians that worry about taking time away from work, and great news for the Special Services Department and Special Education Teachers across the district, because it offers an opportunity of increased parental participation in meetings. Below are a couple of links explaining the Labor Department's stance. <https://parents-together.org/labor-dept-says-iep-meetings-qualify-for-family-and-medical-leave/>  
[https://www.dol.gov/whd/opinion/FMLA/2019/2019\\_08\\_08\\_2A\\_FMLA.pdf](https://www.dol.gov/whd/opinion/FMLA/2019/2019_08_08_2A_FMLA.pdf)