



THE LAKE AND PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT

101 Jensen Drive
King Salmon, AK 99613
907-246-4280

1617 S Industrial Way #1
Palmer, AK 99645
907-745-7090



To: Board of Education
Lake and Peninsula School District

April 11, 2023

From: Marjorie Waggoner
Contracting Special Education Director

Re: Special Education Report

Special Education Staffing for Next School Year

Mr. Cornell is still working on putting the puzzle together for sped staffing. It is a daunting task and requires creativity! We will be losing three of our sped teachers: Katie Zimmerman, Steve Byers, and Paula Butler. Rick Rohlman is trading his full time position at NonDalton for an interspersed part time position. We appreciate the work these teachers have done to meet the needs of our special education students during the 23/24 school year and, in Katie's case, over the course of many years!

In the related service areas, Presence, a teletherapy company that we have worked with for several years, will continue to provide speech/language and occupational therapy services. Clover Therapy will serve some of our students in speech/language as they did this year. We are pleased with the progress our students are making in these areas. Mary Olson, who joined our team in 2018 will continue to provide on-site therapy and supervision of physical therapy services to our students who require PT. Vincent Henry will return as the school psychologist for LPSD. We look forward to another year of growth for our students in these related service areas.

Special Education Assurances

School districts are required every year to verify that certain assurances are being fulfilled in special education. There are 50 assurances that all school districts agree to complete during the grant application process. The department verifies these assurances on a rotational basis to reduce burden on the school district. This year the focus assurances requiring documentation to the state include our Child Find plan, Child Find screenings, and pre-referral interventions (regular education interventions implemented for several weeks prior to referral to special education). Rebecca Stenson is the LPSD Child Find coordinator. Her dedication in conducting child find screenings is appreciated.

Disproportionality Report

We have not yet received the Disproportionality Report required by IDEA in which DEED conducts its annual analysis to identify disproportionality in identification of special education students and LRE.



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We are hoping that the report will show our efforts are being successful in reducing disproportionality in the number of Native Alaskan and American Indian students receiving speech/language services.

Special Education Directors' Training

I had the pleasure of attending the spring directors' training provided by DEED March 23 and 24. The state special education team provided updates in the world of special education. Directors had the chance to network and discuss issues and solutions in our special education world. We also were fortunate to hear from Stone Soup Group and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation who presented an overview of their services that benefit special education students and the supports they can provide districts across the state.

The months of April and May will be busy ones. I will be completing the Special Education Supplemental Workbook, a state report to gather data on special education students that isn't gathered in any other state report. I will be working with the registrar to complete the Special Education section of the Summer Oasis report. The special education teachers and I will be collaborating to complete ESER and IEP meetings and their required documents, and continue providing sped services through the end of the school year.