



Brookings School District

Working Together...Educating with Excellence...Inspiring Learners for Life

Heather Asmussen, Director of Special Services

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To: Board of Education

From: Heather Asmussen, Director of Special Services

Re: Administrative Report for December, 2023

Date: December 4, 2023

1. December 1 Child Count

The rough estimate of students served in special education on December 1, 2023 is 682, and we have 24 pending initial evaluations. Our initial evaluations are constantly fluctuating depending on students moving in and referrals from TAT (Teacher Assistance Team) meetings. We are up approximately 29 students from last year. Child count numbers will be reviewed and confirmed over the next couple weeks to ensure accurate numbers are reported to the state by January for special education funding.

2. Marzano Research Group

The Kickoff meeting was held in November with Marzano Research Group (MRG). The District AdTeam was able to share information about our district and special education services to ensure the right information and data is collected during the first steps. MRG will be in Brookings in December to work on creating a Logic Model with a variety of staff members from each building and administration. The Logic Model will start by writing a problem statement to better understand the problem(s) we are facing, describe our resources, activities, and outputs, and then use the logic model to describe short-term, mid-term, and long-term outcomes.

As we collect data and information to create a profile of our special education department, MRG will send surveys to gather input from different stakeholders as well as meet with focus groups. By March, we hope to have information that we can use to start making data informed decisions for next school year.

3. EL Services

Our district works with the State-Wide Title III Consortium to work to improve our EL programming. Our consortium representative, Jean Larson, is working with us to update our Lau Plan that is required by the state. We intend to have the first draft submitted to the school board in January to review. The consortium also provides

professional development for our staff and is a great resource for questions and best practices.

Each EL teacher has scheduled a half day in January with Jean to come observe and provide feedback regarding instruction and services. Jean will also provide professional development at our January in-service for all staff in different buildings.