

Family Advisory Council (FAC) Meeting Minutes – May 7, 2024
Administration Building – Room 123C

Topic: Special Education Update

Guest: Kaying Xiong, Executive Director of Special Education and Student Services

Special Education Department works off a tier system

- Every student receives Tier 1 support
- Tier 2 and 3 are extra supports
- Tier 3 is special education

In order to qualify for special education, the student must meet the eligibility of a disability and require special education to make progress in school.

FAPE – Free and appropriate public education

IDEA – Law; Individuals with disabilities act

Funding

- Special Ed funding is a legal mandate
- Local funds – taxes
- State funds – categorical aids, high-cost fund
- Federal Funds – Medicare and the IDEA formula

Eau Claire Special Education

- 1,961 students with an IEP
- PreK and K-12
- Goes past high school age with Life w/o Limits, Gateways, and Project Search
- Twice Exceptional – students with a disability who are also Gifted and Talented
- Summer offerings

Referral and Evaluation Process

- Initiate a special ed referral – the school then has 15 days to respond
- Complete a special ed evaluation – school has 60 days to complete this eval.
- Meet as an IEP team – teachers, therapist, speech, OT, etc.
- Determine placement
- Annual review

What about kids who need extra support but may not need special education?

- This would bring us back to the evaluation process. The goal is to keep kids in the universal class as much as possible with additional support. These kids would most likely be considered Tier 2.



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Where Knowledge and Inspiration Meet to Create the Future

College and Career Ready IEP Process

- Understand achievement
- Identify effects of disability
- Develop goals
- Align services, aids, etc.
- Analyze process and monitor progress

What about Special Ed and Virtual Schools?

- Students with disabilities can and are serviced and make progress with EC virtual school

Heather Griffith is the Special Ed Family Engagement Coordinator if you ever have questions.

Superintendent's Report

- Staffing is complete for 2024-25 school year
- There were impacts from the HSHS closure
- Hard at work on the referendum; please check out the weekly updates on the website
- Hiring for a principal at Sam Davey
- Assessment season is done (ACT, forward, AP testing)
- Survey data results from the referendum are in, which FAC had input on – survey goal is to best present the referendum question to voters
- Budget is 9mm over for 2023-24, may be able to shave that down by 1mm

Respectfully submitted by Nicole Prock



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