

# Special Education Interim Committee

## Out of District Placements

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# Considerations for Out of District Placement

- Parents or districts may recommend/request consideration for an out of district placement.
- In order for the district to pay for a placement the IEP team must decide it's the most appropriate program due to:
  - The district not having a program to meet the student's specialized education needs.
  - The student isn't making adequate progress in the in-district program.
  - The student's medical or behavioral needs can only be met in a specialized program.

# Considerations for Out of District Placement

- The IEP team should consider when deciding if a student should be placed out-of-district:
  - The least restrictive environment the student can learn in?
  - What's the best environment for the student? Is it a mainstream school, a special school or a residential school?
  - Can the school give the student special education services required by the IEP?
  - What's the closest placement that meets the needs for the student?

# Considerations for Out of District Placement

- IDEA requires students who receive special education to learn in the least restrictive environment. This means they should spend as much time as possible with peers who do not receive special education.
  - A student should be in general education to the “maximum extent that is appropriate.”
  - Special classes, separate schools or removal from the general education class should only happen the disability is so severe that supplementary aids and services can’t provide an appropriate education.

# Considerations for Out of District Placement

- The key is “appropriate.” It refers to what’s suitable or right for the student. Sometimes, putting a child in a general education classroom isn’t suitable because a specific service or program can’t be provided there.

# Considerations for Out of District Placement

- Least Restrictive Placement Continuum:
  - General Classroom with Modifications 80-100% of the time
  - Resource Room, 40-79% with non-disabled peers
  - Self-Contained Classroom, 0-39% with non-disabled peers
  - Separate Day School
  - Residential Facility
  - Home/Hospital

# Considerations for Out of District Placement

- SD Least Restrictive Placement Continuum:
  - Reported on Dec. 1, 2018 for ages 6-21

| Educational Setting      | 2018          |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| General Classroom        | 13,794        |
| Resource Room            | 3,533         |
| Self-Contained Classroom | 1,047         |
| Separate Day Program     | 179           |
| Residential Facility     | 133           |
| Home/Hospital            | 18            |
| <b>Total Ages 6-21</b>   | <b>18,704</b> |

# Out of District Placement Statistics

| Age           | 2018       |
|---------------|------------|
| 5             | *          |
| 6             | *          |
| 7             | 12         |
| 8             | 12         |
| 9             | 20         |
| 10            | 18         |
| 11            | 14         |
| 12            | 25         |
| 13            | 31         |
| 14            | 17         |
| 15            | 27         |
| 16            | 18         |
| 17            | 29         |
| 18            | 26         |
| 19            | 51         |
| 20            | 42         |
| 21            | 14         |
| <b>Total:</b> | <b>371</b> |

| Grade         | 2018       |
|---------------|------------|
| 1             | *          |
| 2             | 15         |
| 3             | 23         |
| 4             | 16         |
| 5             | 11         |
| 6             | 24         |
| 7             | 30         |
| 8             | 20         |
| 9             | 23         |
| 10            | 28         |
| 11            | 21         |
| 12            | 141        |
| EC            | *          |
| KG            | *          |
| PK            | *          |
| <b>Total:</b> | <b>371</b> |



# Out of District Placement Statistics

| <u>Disability Count</u>      | <u>2018</u> |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Autism Spectrum Disorder     | 62          |
| Cognitive Disability         | 90          |
| Deaf-Blind                   | *           |
| Deafness                     | *           |
| Developmental Delay          | *           |
| Emotional Disturbance        | 55          |
| Hearing Loss                 | *           |
| Multiple Disabilities        | 109         |
| Orthopedic Impairment        | *           |
| Other Health Impaired        | 25          |
| Specific Learning Disability | 12          |
| Speech/Language Disorder     | *           |
| Traumatic Brain Injury       | *           |
| Vision Loss                  | *           |
| <b>Total:</b>                | <b>371</b>  |

# Out of District Placement Statistics

| <b>District Size</b> | <b>2018</b>                 |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 200 or less          | 10 districts - 19 students  |
| 201-599              | 44 districts - 75 students  |
| 600 & greater        | 36 districts - 277 students |

90 out of 149 districts had out of district placements of 12/1/2018

# Out of District Placement Statistics

- Indicates less than 10 \*
- Placement decisions are made by IEP teams based on student needs. Placements are selected based on the services offered, for example Lifescape serves students who have significant disabilities and have medical needs.

| Serving School/Facility                 | 2018       |
|---|------------|
| Ability Building Services               | *          |
| Advance ATC                             | *          |
| Behavior Care Specialists               | 24         |
| Black Hills Special Sv Cooperative      | 48         |
| Children's Home Society                 | 52         |
| Dakota Milestones                       | *          |
| East Dakota Educational Cooperative     | 43         |
| HSA/New Horizons                        | *          |
| LifeQuest                               | 11         |
| Lifescape                               | 100        |
| McCrossan's Boys Ranch                  | *          |
| NE Educational Sv. Cooperative          | 16         |
| Northern Hills Training                 | *          |
| Out of State                            | 12         |
| SD School for Blind & Visually Impaired | 20         |
| SD Human Services Center                | *          |
| SESDAC, Inc.                            | *          |
| Southeastern                            | 13         |
| Valiant Living, Inc.                    | *          |
| West Oak Learning Center                | *          |
| <b>Total:</b>                           | <b>371</b> |

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## Fiscal Information Requested

- Handout provided includes historical ECF payment
- Handout with ECF payments from 2019
- Handout including the Special Ed tax levy for each district
  - Maximum levy is \$1.567 for Pay 2019
- Median of the fund balance – 16.4%

# Information on Data Reported for Special Ed Students

- Handout provided on Special Ed elements
  - Elements currently used for funding
    - Disability category
    - Related service hours

# Special Education Teacher Numbers

- 1,142.05 certified FTE for Special Education (public schools)
  - K-12 special education teachers:
    - 1032.11 certified FTE
  - Early childhood special education teachers:
    - 100.59 certified FTE
  - Certified Deaf/hard of hearing or Blind/visually impaired teachers:
    - 9.35 certified FTE

# DISCUSSION/QUESTIONS