

SPECIAL EDUCATION
School Board Report
October 16, 2017

- And here we are...month 2!! The Special Education Department has been busy supporting students and classrooms. We continue to look for educational technicians for our Life Skills Classroom and a District Wide Behavior Specialist. It is nice to have all our teaching positions filled!
- I recently provided data to the State for the 2016-2017 Chapter 33 Restraint and Seclusion Report. Every school reports out annually and that data is released on the DOE website. I wanted to share that data here with you. In our District, we do not use seclusion as a practice. We restrain students only as a last resort when they are at risk of harming themselves or others. We do not, as a general practice, restrain middle or high school students due to their size and strength. If there is risk of that population hurting themselves or others, we call the police. So the restraint data below is for our K-6 population. Also, we do not report on restraints in out of district placements; each school is responsible for their own reports.
 - Number of incidents in the 2016-2017 school year: 30
 - Number of restraints: 42
 - Total number of students restrained: 10
 - Significant Student Injuries: 0
 - Significant staff injuries: 0

Last year we had a total of 51 restraints. They vary year to year depending on population and decisions that are made to place students out of district. Again, I want to emphasize that we only restrain students as a last resort. Staff that do restraints are trained and certified in appropriate and safe restraint methods. We currently have one trainer in our District and at the start of November I will be taking the “train the trainer” course. The curriculum provides many solid de-escalation strategies that I will use in training with ed techs and general ed teachers who aren’t fully certified to do restraints.

- Our first K-12 special education vertical meeting occurred on October 11th. At that meeting we started our year long review of “Back to the Basics” to assure we are meeting requirements and standards at every step in the special education process.