

Executive Summary

Lawrence Board of Education

January 23, 2017



Center for Innovative School Leadership

Excellence, Equity, and Engagement

Lawrence USD 497 Board of Education

Goals 2016-17

- II. Enhance programming and supports to meet varied academic, social, emotional, and behavioral needs of each student.

3. Complete external review of district special education services, provide report to Board, and create a plan for recommended enhancements.



Center for Innovative School Leadership

The goal of the Center for Innovative School Leadership (CISL) is to identify best practices, cost savings and potential efficiency and effectiveness strategies for school districts and special education entities in the areas of: organization and leadership, delivery of services and human resources.



Center for Innovative School Leadership

Highlights from Reports

Human Resources Commendations:

- District administration recognize the critical priorities for professional development in the areas of training for staff and intervention for students with severe disabilities.



Highlights from Reports

Delivery of Services Commendations:

- The district is to be commended for managing the identification process well and not over-identifying students.
- The district leadership is to be commended for addressing inequity in identification of students.



Highlights from Reports

Organization & Leadership Commendations:

- The Special Education department is widely respected both locally and regionally.
- The district leadership is to be highly commended for including the Special Education Director in the Superintendent's cabinet.



Highlights from Reports

Human Resources Recommendations:

- It is recommended the district offer individualized, job specific training for new paraeducators, provided by itinerant specialists and special education teachers.



Highlights from Reports

Delivery of Services Recommendations:

- It is recommended the district consider piloting one diagnostic placement program for primary or intermediate students with emotional disturbance.



Highlights from Reports

Organization Leadership Recommendations:

- It is recommended the district review the continuum of alternative services, focusing on utilizing all resources available in maintaining highly disruptive students in their neighborhood schools.



Survey Results

Administrator Survey Results:

Commendations

- 87% of the administrators believe the SPED program (gifted and students with disabilities) provides them with adequate information.
- 77% of the administrators believe the SPED program (gifted and students with disabilities) keeps the IEP process and meetings efficient.



Survey Results

Administrator Survey Results:

Recommendations

- Nearly 68% of the administrators do not believe the SPED program (gifted and students with disabilities) provides adequate training for general education teachers and staff who work with children with special education needs.
- 58% of administrators feel there are reoccurring special education issues that need to be resolved.



Survey Results

Teacher/Staff Survey Results:

Commendations

- Nearly 69% of the teachers/staff believe the special education department communicates appropriately with them.
- Nearly 71% of the teachers/staff believe the special education department supports a tiered intervention system of student services in their building.



Survey Results

Teachers/Staff Survey Results:

Recommendations

- 50% of teachers/staff do not believe the special education department provides adequate training for general education teachers and staff who work with children with IEPs.
- 39% of teachers/staff do not believe the special education department provides adequate instructional materials for them.



Survey Results

Parent Survey Results:

Commendations

- 71% of the parents believe their child is receiving educational services that help them improve academically.
- Almost 79% of the parents thought the meetings they attend for their child with the special education staff is efficient.



Survey Results

Parent Survey Results:

Recommendation

- 43% of the parents do not believe their child is receiving educational services that help them improve their behaviors.



Questions?



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