

March 24, 2023

An Update on Special Education

Data

Another growth opportunity we encountered early on was increasing the reliability and functionality of our data. We quickly assigned a project manager to build and deploy a dashboard to bring together district and campus level data including initial, annual and completed ARDS, pending and completed evaluations and referrals, all in one place. By the end of January, we had a new and powerful tool that improves our tracking and responsiveness.

Staff Recruitment

Filling vacancies to increase our capacity to conduct evaluations is another key component of our strategy. We have launched an aggressive recruitment effort to hire Educational Diagnosticians and Licensed Specialists in School Psychology. This includes providing up to a \$20,000 annual incentive for meeting high-quality evaluation targets and timelines as well as increasing the stipend for Special Education Teachers to at least \$5,000 next year.

This is a brief summary of our efforts to overcome the challenges surrounding Special Education.

Next Steps

I continue to meet regularly with Dr. Stetson to receive updates and suggestions on how we increase the capacity throughout the district to better serve our students.



Matias Segura
Austin ISD Interim Superintendent

I want to thank you all for the grace you've extended to me, the board and the team as we work to improve. We hold the same high expectations of ourselves as you have of us and are committed to meeting them. We will not resolve everything in six months but we have developed a plan we believe in and are committed to tracking and sharing our progress with you."

