



# Special Education *in* Gothenburg Public Schools

October 2019

# Overview

- Declaration of Responsibility
- Referral Process
- Services
- Staffing
- Evaluations
- Special Education Trends
- Financial Data





## Declaration of Responsibility

*Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 79-1127: The board of education of every school district shall provide or contract for special education programs and transportation for all resident children with disabilities who would benefit from such programs.*

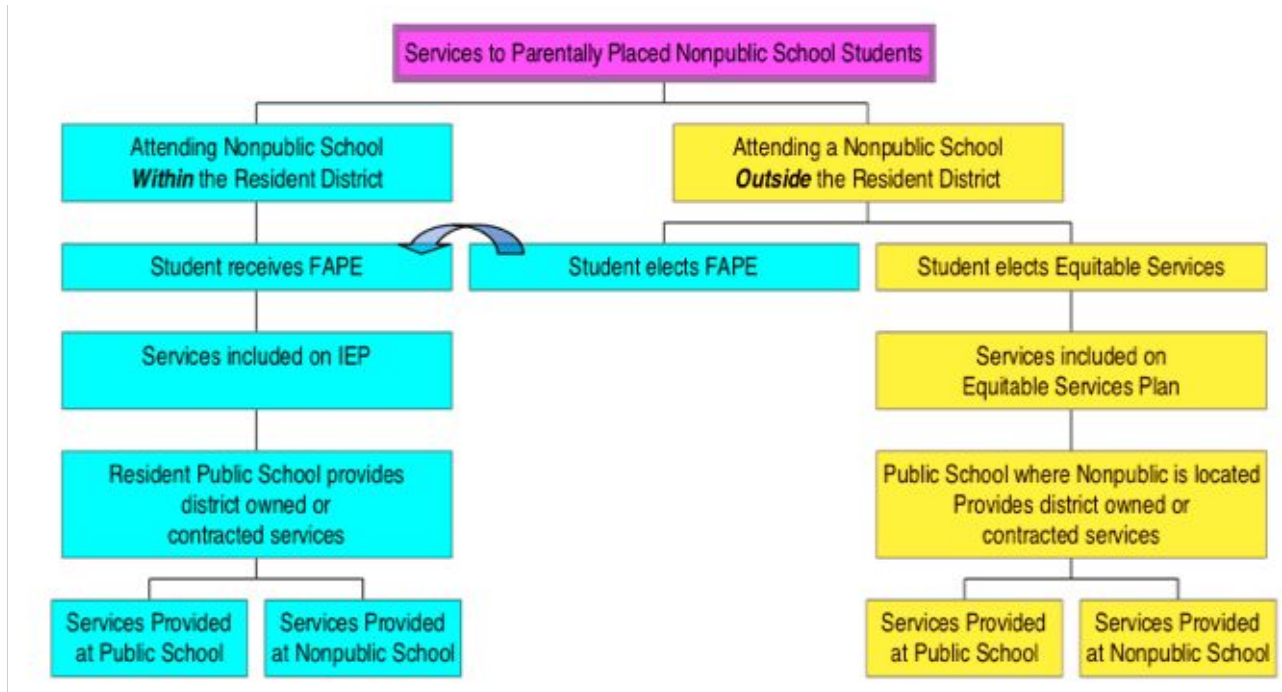
# 1

## Nonpublic Services

[Click here](#) for NDE guidance.



# Parentally Placed Nonpublic School Students





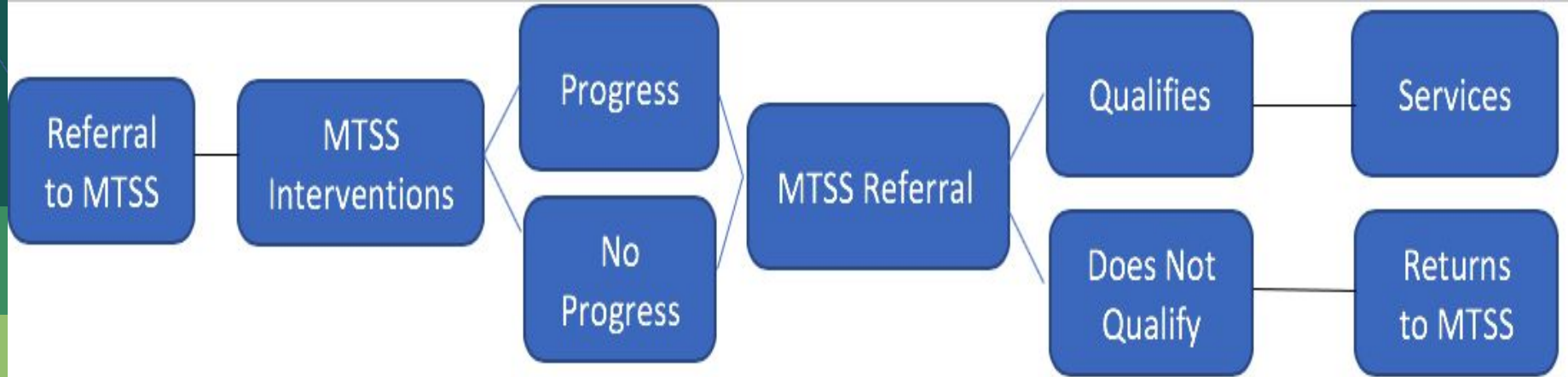
## Birth to Age 3 Referral Process

# It's CoMplIcated

[CLICK HERE](#) TO SEE THE  
PROCESS.



## School-Age (Ages 3-21) Referral Process



# 2

## **Part C Services**

Birth to Three



# Part C Services

- Birth to Age 3
- 5 Domains
  - Social/Emotional
  - Fine motor
  - Gross motor
  - Cognitive
  - Communication
- Focus: Family Integrated Strategies

# 3

## **Part B Services**

Age 3 to 21

# Part B Services

- Age 3 to Age 21
- Focus: Student Centered Strategies
- Services Provided
  - Special Education
  - Occupational Therapy
  - Physical Therapy
  - Speech/Language Therapy
  - Vision
  - Hearing

# Part B Services

- Level 1
  - < 3 hours / week
- Level 2
  - > 3 hours / week
- Level 3
  - Pull-out
  - Out of District

# Level III Services

- Programs provided by service agencies who contract with local districts to provide programs for children.
  - South Central Developmental Services
  - Iowa School for the Blind
  - Mosaic

# 4

## Staffing

Special education teachers & paras.

# Teachers

- Melissa Bell (B-5)
- Maria Andersen (K-2)
- Bryan Bazata (3-4)
- Heather Franzen (5-6)
- Erin Feather, SLP
- Sara Bullock (7-9)
- Angela Piper (9-12 & Life Skills)
- Carol Keiser, SLP

# Paraprofessionals

- *Gothenburg Public Schools employs 13 FTE special education paraprofessionals.*
- Job Duties
  - Supervise students on job sites
  - Small group practice
  - One-to-one assistance
    - Toileting, OT/PT, Academic
  - Classroom support (inclusion)



5

# Evaluations

School Psychologist

# Evaluations

- Jacy Ostergard, School Psychologist
  - All SPED Evaluations
- Initial Referrals
  - 45 Days (Birth - 3)
  - 45 School Days (3-21)
- Re-evaluations occur at least every 3 years.

# 6

## Special Education Trends

Special education teachers & paras.

# Special Education Numbers

- Birth - 3: 13
- 3 - 5: 9
- Elementary: 59
- JH/HS: 49
- Post-Secondary: 1
- Total: 131

## Numbers by Category

|     |                              |    |
|-----|------------------------------|----|
| SLD | Specific Learning Disability | 31 |
| SLI | Speech Language Impairment   | 29 |
| OHI | Other Health Impairment      | 31 |
| DD  | Developmental Delay          | 14 |
| ID  | Intellectual Disability      | 11 |
| HI  | Hearing Impaired             | *  |
| TBI | Traumatic Brain Injury       | *  |
| AU  | Autism                       | *  |
| VI  | Visually Impaired            | *  |
| ED  | Emotionally Disturbed        | *  |

\*Information is masked due to numbers under 10 in this category.

7

# Financial Data

## 5 Year History of Receipts

|                                     | 2015-2016 | 2016-2017 | 2017-2018 | 2018-2019* | 2019-2020 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| <b>Special Education</b>            | 368,569   | 448,178   | 454,534   | 430,000*   |           |
| <b>IDEA Part B Base/Pk</b>          | 48,284    | 55,611    | 50,576    | 50,000*    |           |
| <b>IDEA Enrollment/<br/>Poverty</b> | 102,381   | 113,919   | 120,110   | 120,000*   |           |
| <b>Totals</b>                       | 519,234   | 617,709   | 625,220   | 600,000*   |           |

## 5 Year History of Costs

|                          | 2015-2016 | 2016-2017 | 2017-2018 | 2018-2019* | 2019-2020 |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| <b>Special Education</b> | 775,679   | 778,131   | 866,848   | 850,000*   |           |
| <b>IDEA</b>              | 179,516   | 181,703   | 171,300   | 180,000*   |           |
| <b>Totals</b>            | 955,195   | 959,834   | 1,038,148 | 1,030,000* |           |



# Thank You

---

Dr. Todd Rhodes, Superintendent

Mrs. Teresa Schneider, Director of Special Education



## Credits

Special thanks to all the people who made and released these awesome resources for free:

- Presentation template by [SlidesCarnival](#)
- Photographs by [Unsplash](#)