

South Eastern South Education was established in 1968. We currently serve over 2000 students, in 11 districts located within the counties of Clay, Crawford, Jasper, Lawrence and Richland. We employ 101 employees and adjust that number each year in an attempt to provide comprehensive services and meet the changing needs of all students. Our administrative offices are located in Ste. Marie, Illinois. Our adopted motto "Building Brighter Tomorrows" expresses our desire to provide child centered special education services that emphasize a brighter future for all the students we serve.

ADMINISTRATION

Jill Keller-Weems is the Director. She has an extensive background in special education as a teacher, a district coordinator, and a technical assistance supervisor. She also has experience as an elementary principal.

South Eastern Special Education also employs Technical Assistance Supervisors. These supervisors are directly involved in staff supervision, classroom supervision, and staff development. They provide a valuable resource for procedural and legal issues that are constantly evolving in the field of special education in the state of Illinois.

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

The psychological staff performs many services. They provide comprehensive specialized evaluations, attend Eligibility Conferences and IEP meetings, and consult with parents and staff. The School Psychologists also complete functional analyses, and develop individualized Behavior Management Plans, as well as assist in the implementation of these plans. School Psychologists also assist the District teams with RtI data collection, analysis and interventions.

SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER

South Eastern Special Education currently employs School Social Workers. The School Social Workers provide counseling and consultative services to students in the five member counties. They also complete Social Developmental Studies, attend Eligibility and IEP conferences, provide consultative services to teachers and parents and act as a liaison between parents, schools and outside agencies. In addition, they conduct group activities to enhance social skills, motivation and self-esteem.

AUTISM CONSULTING TEACHER

South Eastern Special Education employs Autism Consulting Teachers. These teachers provide consultative and direct services to teachers,

parents and students. These teachers are also actively engaged in the education of teachers and parents in the current techniques and research in the constantly changing field of autism.

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

South Eastern Special Education currently employs Speech Language Therapists. These therapists provide direct speech and language therapy to the Early Childhood programs; the Moderate/Severe Impairment programs, Autism programs and to the Emotional Disability programs. South Eastern Special Education Speech Language Pathologists are also involved in augmentative communication and innovative techniques in communication facilitation with children with severe communication delays and autism. The Speech Language Pathologists are actively involved in multi-professional evaluations which emphasize a team approach to diagnosis.

VISUALLY IMPAIRED/ HEARING IMPAIRED

South Eastern Special Education employs teacher of the visually impaired and teacher of the hearing impaired. They provide direct service to students and staff, as well as consultation to parents, teachers and administrators.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

South Eastern Special Education employs Occupational Therapists and a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant to assist students in accessing the educational environment and developing skills required for independent functioning. Therapists also consult with teachers about specific educational activities, such as handwriting.

PHYSICAL THERAPIST

South Eastern Special Education employs a Physical Therapist and a Physical Therapy Assistant to assist students in the development of gross motor skills. They assist with accessibility in the school building and modifying P.E. activities to allow students to more fully participate in the general education curriculum.

CLASSROOM PROGRAMS

South Eastern Special Education provides Autism programs, Early Childhood Education programs, Emotional Disability programs, and programs for the Moderate/Severe Impaired. The Autism program emphasizes academic instruction with strong support in sensory, social, and communication strategies. The Early Childhood program serves children 3 years through 5 years of age. This program emphasizes developmentally appropriate tasks to develop the pre-

readiness levels required for academic success. The ED program combines academic instruction with therapeutic services to allow students to develop the social skills and emotional health required to return to the general education environment. The programs for the Moderate/Severe Impaired emphasize academic, vocational and independent living skills. These programs are located in district school buildings within the five member counties.

PRE-VOCATIONAL COORDINATOR

South Eastern Special Education employs a Pre-Vocational Coordinator that works with approximately 45 students in the secondary transitions employment program (STEP). One job coach is employed to assist in the procurement of job sites as well as instructing and monitoring the development of specific job skills.

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