**Projected Special Needs Population for SY2016-17**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **# of students Grades K-8** | **Eligibility** |
| **7** | **Developmental Delay** |
| **5** | **Autism** |
| **1** | **Mild Mental Disability** |
| **2** | **Other Health Impairment** |
| **4** | **Specific Learning Disability** |
| **2** | **Emotional Behavioral Disability** |
| **1** | **Hearing Impaired** |
| **25** | **Speech Language Impairment** |

There are a total of 22 students (excluding Speech Language Therapy) that are eligible for services. A Special Education Teacher’s maximum caseload is 15. This really depends upon the intensity of the needs of the students and the level of supports they need in the classroom.

9 Student will begin Preschool in August 2016

\*this is prior to the screenings that will take place in May and August when more students will qualify.

**Special Education Recommendations and Options for 2016-17**

Students I am most concerned about –

Students A & B - both are DD but are extremely hyperactive and noncompliant. They were addicted to drugs at birth and diagnosed with failure to thrive. Lots of issues with them. Student A is not potty trained. We bill Medicare for their services.

Student C – full blown autism. Can be aggressive with behavior and is one of your noisy one. He is very smart and interested in what the other kids are doing. He will make it with some support. We bill Medicare for his services.

Student D – not yet identified as autistic but definitely on the spectrum. Right now he is DD. He has many meltdowns each day. He is nonverbal. He is not potty trained. Has no self-help skills. He is not ready for Kindergarten. I have spoken to preschool teacher about keeping him in Preschool and slowly transitioning him to Kindergarten next year. He has made progress this year but he is a kid that received no early intervention. We just wouldn’t get to count him on our preschool count. We have room so it is not concerning. We bill Medicare for his services.

**Option 1:**

Make both special education positions full time. We would split the K, 1, 2, 3 and the 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 for the caseloads. The cost would be the additional salary to make the position full time. This is the option I recommend. (With the new year, we losing only 2- 8th graders to high school but are gaining 7 Kindergarteners from Preschool)

**Option 2:** Keep the teachers are they are and hire a full time para-educator to provide support with the Kindergarten and grade 3. Not the best option as she couldn’t pull them for resource time which I believe they are going to need daily.

**Option 3:**

Look at the Challenge Program for Student D but I think we can serve him here. The cost is nearly $54,000 a year and he really needs to be around more typical peers in order to mimic age appropriate behaviors. I think we need to try in our building before we resort to such a restrictive environment.