



# Exceptional Child Education



Jefferson County Public  
Schools

# What is Special Education?

**IDEA** is the main law governing the educational rights of eligible students with disabilities in school. According to federal law, every child with a disability is entitled to a free appropriate, public education (FAPE).



# ECE Child Count 10-Year Trend Data

- ECE enrollment has stayed steady at approximately 13% of the student population.  
State data - 13.5%, National data- 14% [National Center for Education Statistics](#)
- Fastest growing disability categories:
  - Autism -  of 65%
  - Other Health Impairment -  of 17%
- Special Schools - 225 ECE teachers
  - Binet - MSD- Significant Behavior
  - Churchill - MSD - Medically fragile, Significant behavior
  - Waller-Williams - Autism, EBD - Significant Behavior
- Currently there are 765.5 ECE teachers total in the district.

# Types of ECE Classrooms

- Deaf & Hard of Hearing
- Emotional-Behavioral Disability
- Learning Disability/Mild Mental Disability
- Moderate & Severe Disabilities
- Orthopedic Impairment & Other Health Impairment
- Social Communication Program
- Visual Impairment



# ECE Areas of Improvement

## **Need #1: Implementation of federal policies and procedures at 155 schools and 13 state agencies with fidelity - compliance**

### **Scope of work:**

- Mirror JCPS procedures to IDEA requirements as well as Kentucky Administrative Regulations (KARs) for special populations
- Accountability of collecting data for IEP goals to analyze significant disproportionality data and discipline results for students with disabilities
- Provide training and coaching to teachers, administrators and all ECE district employees.

### **Results:**

- 187 individual trainings provided to staff since June 2019
- 2019-20 Refined Record Review process to align with KDE Compliance Record Review Document (*171 items per review vs. 66 items in 2018-19*)
  - August 31% of records compliant with 59% of reviews requiring ARC to reconvene
  - September 42% of records compliant with 46% of reviews requiring ARC to reconvene

# ECE Areas of Improvement

## **Need #2: Effective School practices including an environment that supports all students' learning**

### **Scope of work:**

- Addition of Implementation Coaches to assist Administrators and teachers in time-management and ARC compliance.
- ECE district level team assigned according to zones to streamline communication and build capacity
- Chief communicating with Assistant Sups and School Admin to provide immediate feedback and guidance
- All Chiefs collaborate to address disproportionality throughout the district

### **Results:**

- Implementation Coaches are receiving monthly trainings to build capacity in their schools
  - Concerns with sharing schools and work load or coaches in general
- No confusion on who to contact at the district level for school supports
  - Staff not able to program and follow-up due to schools' requiring immediate supports

# School Support Aug.-Nov. 2019

Support to Schools	Number of Supports
Consult/Coach - IEP, FBA/BIP, ECE Procedures	1429
ARC Meeting	708
Coach/Model Best Practices	286
Other supports	2457

**4880  
Documented  
Supports**

# Next Steps

## Implementation and Sustainability

- Restructure ECE teacher, admin and Implementation Coach professional development
  - Differentiate trainings
  - Increase coaching capacity and opportunities
  - Diligent
- Increase behavior support staff to provide modeling and follow-up
  - Move from reactive to proactive approach
  - Support student Social/Emotional Needs
- ECE Academic Coaches to deploy best practices in ECE classrooms
  - Specially Designed Instruction
  - High Leverage Practices in Special Education
  - Explicit Instruction
  - Access to Core Curriculum
- Ensure equitable access to a continuum of services for all students (LRE)



# It's Not a Checklist; It's a Child!



- Creating a culture of Kids First
- Increase communication & collaboration with community members and parents
- Increase supports, resources and trainings to schools, Implementation Coaches and teachers
- Increase staff collaboration across all JCPS departments
- Ongoing collaboration with Kentucky Department of Education