



To: Mr. Watts, Superintendent  
Ms. Malone, Chairperson of the Board  
Members of Newport Board of Education

April 14, 2022

### Exceptional Children's Report

1) Special Education Department is in the process of updating procedural processes for referring English Learners for special education services. Our goal is to begin the 2022-23 School Year with revised processes for accurately identifying English Learner (EL) students. We will also revise our process for determining appropriate academic supports once students are eligible for services. Nationally, educators and school psychologist struggle to determine whether a student's academic difficulties stem from a language acquisition need, a learning disability, or some other factor(s). As a result, EL students can be both under- and over-identified for special education services. Our department is working with Kentucky Department of Education personnel and Skip Cleavinger, consultant at Green River Regional Educational Cooperative to increase our professional knowledge in the following areas:

- bilingual language development and disorders in Spanish-English speakers
- assessment/evaluation procedures, identification, and delivery of special education services
- key data needed to inform decision making during referral and eligibility determination meetings
- assessing young children who are dual language learners that exhibit specific set of behavioral and developmental challenges associated with autism spectrum disorders
- adapting specific instructional strategies that are effective for dual language learners when teaching English to children with disabilities

Special Education Department is collaborating with Carla Davis, EL Coordinator to ensure that special education recommendation, procedures, and processes for referring English Learners align with their programming goals/outcomes.

2) Working with Amy Patterson, KDE Systems Exceptional Children Department to review IC reports that list accommodations for students who have IEPs. This system check will ensure any issues regarding accommodations students are eligible to receive for district and state tests are resolved before testing window opens.

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3) Several of our staff will be presenting at Super Saturday (Focus on Parenting) Event.  
April 23, 2022 Location: Newport High School.

**Personnel, Role, and Session Title:**

- Jackie Scruggs, NPS Mental Health Clinician – Parent Self Care
- Brandalynn Mains, NIS Mental Health Clinician- Demystifying Mental Health. What is it and When Should You be Concerned
- Tabetha Marsh, NPS Mental Health Clinician - Relationship Enhancement for Child and Caregiver
- Morgan Brown, School Psychologist – What is an Intelligence Quotient?
- Elizabeth Dalzell, Psychologist – Anxiety/Depression/Anger (The Physiological Reasoning for Extreme Emotions) and Demystifying the Counseling Process (What Counseling is and is not)

**Exceptional Children Programming Rates**

- Newport Independent Schools Special Education Services – 200 Students
- Regional School Program - Phoenix– 4 Students
- Regional School Program- Challenge- 1 Student
- Newport School of Innovation – 1 Students
- 504/ADA Newport Independent Schools 18 Students

**District Mental Health Clinician's Caseloads per School Site**

- Newport Primary – 24
- Newport Intermediate-27 1 Referral
- Newport High School-25 3 Referrals

**District Mental Health Reports**

**Clinician:** Tabetha Marsh, LCSW  
**School:** NHS & NSOI

**Number of Students Receiving Individual Therapy:**

- 25 students active (three of these students are scheduled twice a week) = 28
- 3 referrals
- Seen 5 additional students that are not on caseload for various reasons.

**Number of Students Receiving Group Therapy:**

- None at this time

**Number of Classes Receiving Whole-Classroom Intervention:** None at this time

**Number of Students Receiving Therapy by Grade:** (NHS/NSOI) - only active clients

7<sup>th</sup>: 6 active (1 referral)

8<sup>th</sup>: 3 active (1 referral)

9<sup>th</sup>: 9 active

10<sup>th</sup>: 3 active

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11<sup>th</sup>: 4 active (1 referral)

12<sup>th</sup>: 0 active

Number of Staff Receiving Therapy:

- None

Number of Parents Attending Family Education/Engagement Sessions:

- No Peps since December; 3-4 individual parent support conversations/sessions
- Last PEP scheduled for May

District Wide Programming: PR/Outlook/Future Plans, etc.:

- Super Saturday scheduled for April 23rd
- Parent Night at High School - met with 3 families during this time

Professional Development / Continuing Education:

- Completed TARGET (Trauma Affect Regulation: Guide for Education and Therapy) Training and participated in consultation calls through the University of Kentucky. This was a free training offered through University of Kentucky Center on Trauma and Children. It fell during our NTI days, 1/11/22-1/12/22.
- National School Social Work Conference in Wheeling, IL 4/6/22-4/9/22.
  - Suicide Prevention In Real Life: What Really Matters.
  - Helping Educators Implement Strategies to Support Mental Health
  - Strengths-Based Approach to Self Harm Disorders
  - Building Authentic Alliances Through Critical Conversations
  - A New Framework for School Based Mental Health Services
  - Advocating for Students Mental Health Needs and Trauma Informed Schools
  - What is Safety from the Lens of Teens

**Clinician: Brandy Mains, LCSW**

School: Newport Intermediate School

Number of Students Receiving Individual Therapy:

- 27 students actively receiving
- 1 referral

Number of Students Receiving Group Therapy:

- N/A

Number of Classes Receiving Whole-Classroom Intervention:

One classroom (Wildcat Success Academy) twice a week.

Total Number of Students being Served by Whole-Classroom Intervention:

- Every Tuesday and Thursday at 11:30 am for 30 minutes
- During Feb/March/April there were approximately 10 students served

Number of Students Receiving Therapy by Grade

- Third: 6 active (1 referral awaiting intake)
  - Fourth: 7 active
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- Fifth: 7 active
- Sixth: 7 active

Number of Staff Receiving Therapy: 0

Number of Parents Attending Family Education or Engagement Sessions:  
No Peps since December; 2-3 individual parent sessions/support

District Wide Programming: PEP, PR/Channel 6/Fox 19, Outlook/Future Plans, etc.

- April 23<sup>rd</sup> Super Saturday presentation
- Last PEP session in May

**Clinician:** Jacquelyn L. Scruggs, LCSW

Number of Students Receiving Individual Therapy:

- 22 active students

Number of Students Receiving Group Therapy:

- Two

Number of Classes Receiving Whole-Classroom Intervention:

- Three (\*Since the beginning of the school year)

Total Number of Students being Served by Whole-Classroom Intervention:

- Approximately 45 (\*Since the beginning of the school year)

Number of Students Receiving Therapy by Grade:

- Preschool: Zero
- Kindergarten: Four
- First: 13
- Second: Five

Number of Staff Receiving Therapy:

- Two

Check and Connect:

- Check-ins every morning for at least 30 minutes; totaling at least 2.5 hours a week.

Staff Member of the Week: January 2022

Staff Member of the Month: January 2022

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