# Special Education Department Staffing Request

March 2025

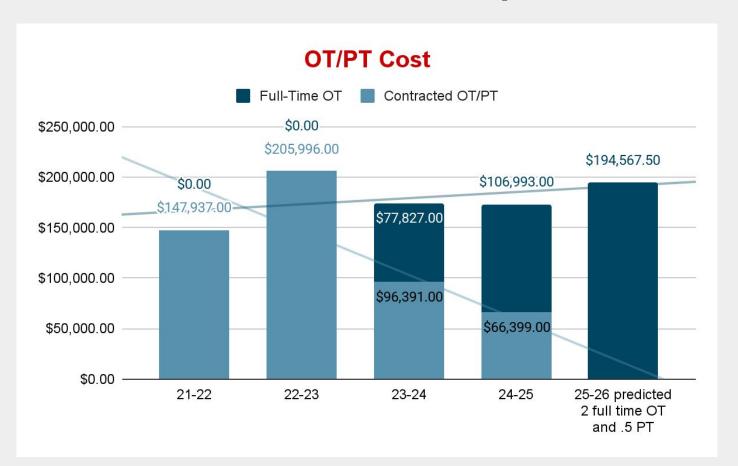


## Occupational Therapy/Physical Therapy

- These related services are necessary and provided through IEPs
- IEPs (Individual Education Programs) dictate time needed for each student
- Prior to 23-24 school year this work was contracted through outside agencies
- Starting in 23-24 school year, one (1) Full-Time OT was hired and additional OT and all PT services were also supplemented heavily by contract services
- These services (along with SLP and medically necessary services) are billed to Medicaid and reimbursed by the state at a predetermined rate



### Costs associated with OT/PT services





## Benefits to full-time employees

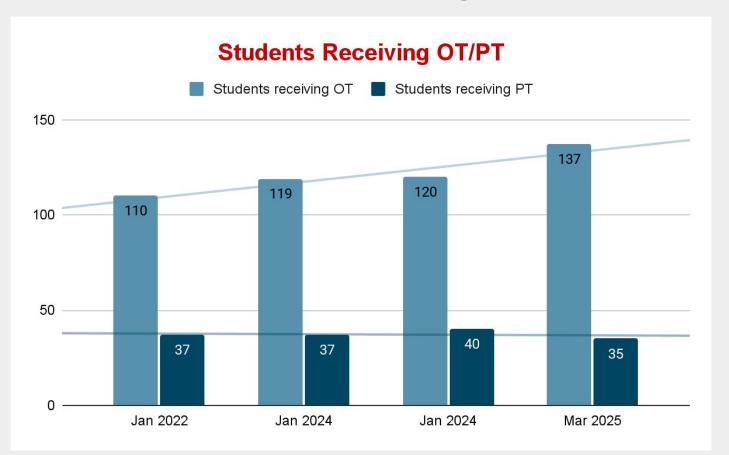
- We hire employees, whereas contract companies hire contract therapists and place them in our schools to provide services
- We evaluate employees, therefore we can ensure quality of services for students.
- Full-time employees have the potential to be more consistent as therapists for our students, contract therapists tend to turn over frequently at agencies

## **OT/PT needs**

- <u>137 students</u> receive Occupational Therapy Services as of 1/21/25
  - Typical caseload for school-based OT is 60-70 students
  - We need 2 full time OTs
- **35 students** receive Physical Therapy Services as of 1/21/25
  - Typical caseload for school-based PT is 60-70 students
  - Would like to hire one .5 PT



# **Students receiving OT/PT**





### **Medicaid Reimbursements**

