



SIMPSON COUNTY SCHOOLS

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Rationale for Certified Special Education Teacher at Franklin Elementary School:

Based on projections for the 2025–2026 school year, the anticipated special education enrollment for Kindergarten is 42 students (14 Speech services only), derived from the current preschool population. Currently, 7 of these students will receive support in the Moderate/Severe Disability Classroom. It is important to note that this number does not account for additional Kindergarten students who may enter the district without having attended our preschool program—many of whom may also require special education services upon enrollment.

To effectively meet the academic, developmental and social-emotional needs of these students, the addition of one special education teacher is recommended. This position will provide essential support within both the general education environment and specialized settings, ensuring students receive the appropriate services and interventions necessary for success.

The growing number of incoming Kindergarten students with identified special education needs highlights the importance of early, targeted intervention. By adding a dedicated special education teacher, we can ensure lower caseloads, more individualized support, and increased collaboration between general and special education staff.

This additional staffing will:

- **Promote inclusive practices** by facilitating co-teaching and push-in services within general education classrooms.
- **Ensure compliance** with IEP service delivery requirements and timelines.
- **Support early literacy, numeracy, and social skills development**, which are critical for long-term student success.
- **Reduce student-to-teacher ratios**, allowing for more personalized instruction and behavioral support.
- **Enhance collaboration** with related service providers, families, and support staff to create a cohesive and effective learning environment.





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Investing in this position aligns with our district's commitment to equitable access to education and supports our strategic goal of early intervention to improve long-term student outcomes.

This position will be for the 25/26 school year.

With Kind Regards,

Kelly Baker

Director of Special Education

