

MSAD #53 Special Services
November 2010
School Board Report

Student Counts:

Special Education: 151 Referrals: 5
Out of District Placement: 3
504: K-8: 80 9-12: 5
ELL: 5
Alternative Education: HS- 15 MS-1 GED-0 Wait List- 0
Transfers In: 84
Transfers Out: 47
Homeless: K-8: 9 9-12: 1
Drop Outs: 2 Expulsions:2
Habitual Truants: K-8: 1 9-12: 10

Stimulus Package: We purchased 9 ipads and 6 flip cameras for student use with our ARRA money. On Wednesday, October 27th, 2010 the K-8 special education staff spent the afternoon learning how to use the technology. Our special education staff was divided into three groups to spend time learning how to access and purchase applications, how to use the ipad and how to use the flip camera. We had on site presenters including Helen Gallagher and Brenda Russell showing staff how to use flip cameras and the benefits for students. Linda Dunton and I shared the ipads and Sheila Fitzmaurice worked with staff on how to get to the app store and surf through that portion of itunes. Everyone seemed to enjoy the opportunity to use the new technology.

Chalk Talk : We will begin our chalk talk series on November 4th at Warsaw Middle School. The topic of discussion will be "What does all this testing mean for my child???" Ms. Casey will be presenting explanations of common assessments done as part of the evaluation process for special education referrals and reevaluations. Three other Chalk Talks will be presented throughout the course of the school year.



Mentor Program: 19 high school students have signed up to participate in the mentor program at Vickery School. Currently 12 Postgraduates are also participating on a weekly basis. The purpose of this program is to give students another positive role model in their lives. The MCI students will be trained in confidentiality and sign a release saying they will be confidential. They will have the opportunity to work with a student to finish schoolwork and then take some time to talk with that child about the important things going on his/her life.

What we see depends mainly on what we are looking for.

-John Lubbock