

SCC Campus Reps Q & A

Questions Received the Week of 4/19

Snow Heights Elementary

1. We have designated schools in our system for our hearing-impaired students. These schools offer support and resources for these students to be successful and reach their potential. **Why do we not have assigned schools for our visually impaired students?** Our VI teachers are amazing but would be more effective if they were clustered at the same campuses instead of driving all over the district. It would also allow for resources to be more readily available to these students.

A. As a school district, we can choose to either use a resource room program in a neighborhood school (a cluster) which is specifically designed for students with visual impairments OR we can use the itinerant model, where teachers of students with visual impairments travel to students' local schools to provide instruction. There are advantages and disadvantages to both models.

The advantages of the resource room are that it provides the students with the opportunity to spend a great deal of time in the general population while still retaining the possibility of receiving daily blindness-specific instruction and to have easy access to materials that make the core curriculum accessible. Also, the resource room provides the opportunity for students with visual impairments to spend time socializing with each other in the classroom. It allows for the general staff to become trained in working with students with a Visual Impairment. The disadvantages to attending a cluster school with a resource room is that students are not attending school with the children from their neighborhood, which can make developing friendships a bit more challenging and may result in the parents having to drive students to attend social and academic events.

The itinerant model has the advantage of providing services to students while still allowing the child to attend a school in their local neighborhood with the general population, to make local friends, attend local events and more easily become a part of the community. The disadvantages are the inability to receive instruction from a teacher of students with visual impairments on a daily basis and the impossibility of having all accessibility materials readily available. Also, the itinerant teaching model provides little to no opportunity to interact with other children with visual impairments.

The difference, of course, with the RDSPD is that the program serves students from across member districts and is for those students who need instruction in ASL or need an ASL interpreter to access the general education classroom. We also provide itinerant services to Deaf/Hard of Hearing students who are located on their home campuses.

Binion Elementary

2. I had a question come to me after I sent out the meeting notes from last week. One of our teachers asked what subs will do when we no longer have desktops. **Will subs be provided a loaner Chromebook for the day?** If a teacher takes their Chromebook home and has to call in for the next day there will be nothing in the room to run technology.
 - A. The plan is to have additional Chromebook devices available for subs that can be checked out to them by the campus for the day.