# Southern Plains Education Cooperative

**Special Education Program Evaluation June 2017** 



Sarah Mittelstadt, Ed.D. Director of Special Services

Southern Plains Education Cooperative 507-238-1472 201 East Third Street Fairmont, MN 56031 sarah.mittelstadt@southernplainsedcoop.org

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION CHILD COUNT INFORMATION

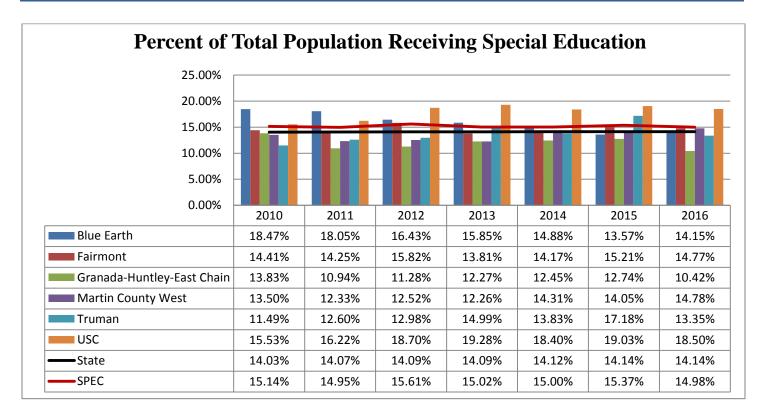


Figure 1: Percent of the Total Population Receiving Special Education Services – this is calculated using the total student population (both public schools and private schools) <u>residing</u> within the district divided by the total number of students receiving special education services. The black line represents the percent of students in special education across the state. The red line represents Southern Plains.

Information about the state average for students receiving special education is only provided as a reference. There is not a "correct" number of students that should be in special education. However, a high or low percentage of students in special education may warrant a review of practices that lead to students entering special education services.

Data Source: MN Child Count Report: December 1

# Percent of Total Population Receiving Special Education

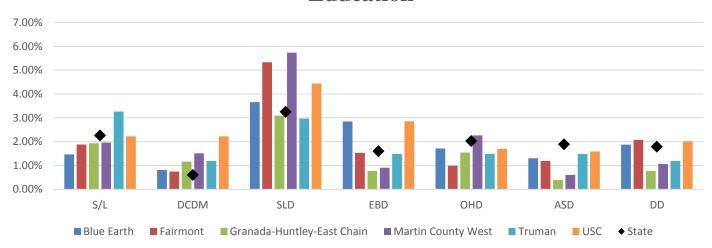


Figure 2: Percent of the total population receiving special education services in each disability category.

Data Source: MN Child Count Report: December 1

This chart demonstrates the percent of the total student population receiving special education services in each disability category. Not all of the disabilities are indicated on the chart; only the most common disabilities appear. There is not a target for the number of students that should receive special education services in each category. However, high or low percentages in a category may warrant review of district practices.

#### Key to disabilities:

S/L - Speech/Language

HI - Deaf/Hard of Hearing

**SLD** - Specific Learning Disabilities

**DB** - Deaf/Blind

TBI - Traumatic Brain Injury

DCD - Developmental Cognitive Disabilities

M – Mild/Moderate

S - Severe/Profound

 $\boldsymbol{OHD}$  - Other Health Disabilities

SMI - Severely Multiply Impaired

PI - Physically Impaired

VI - Visually Impaired

 $\boldsymbol{EBD}$  - Emotional or Behavioral Disorders

 $\boldsymbol{AUT}$  - Autism Spectrum Disorders

**DD** - Developmental Delay

## SOUTHERN PLAINS EDUCATION COOPERATIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM EVALUATION

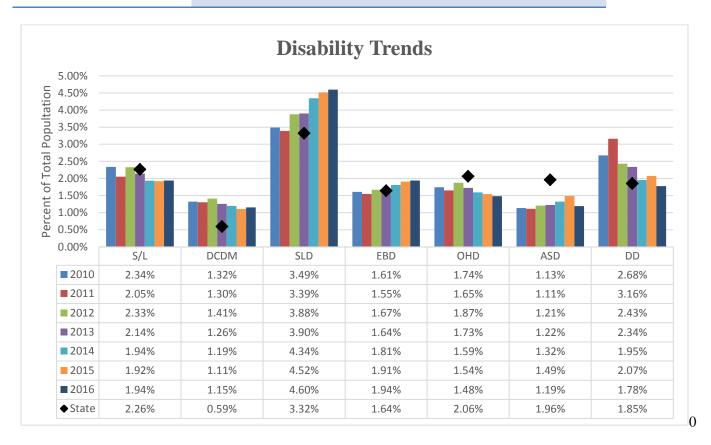


Figure 3: Percent of the Total Population Receiving Special Education Services – this is calculated using the total student population (both public schools and private schools) <u>residing</u> within Southern Plains districts divided by the total number of students receiving special education services in each disability. The black symbol represents the percent of students in special education in each area across the state.

Information about the state average for students receiving special education is only provided as a reference. There is not a "correct" number of students that should be in special education. However, a high or low percentage of students in special education may warrant a review of pre-referral interventions and evaluation practices to ensure students needing specialized instruction, and only those students, are receiving special education services.

Data Source: MN Child Count Report: December 1

#### **FINANCIAL TRENDS**

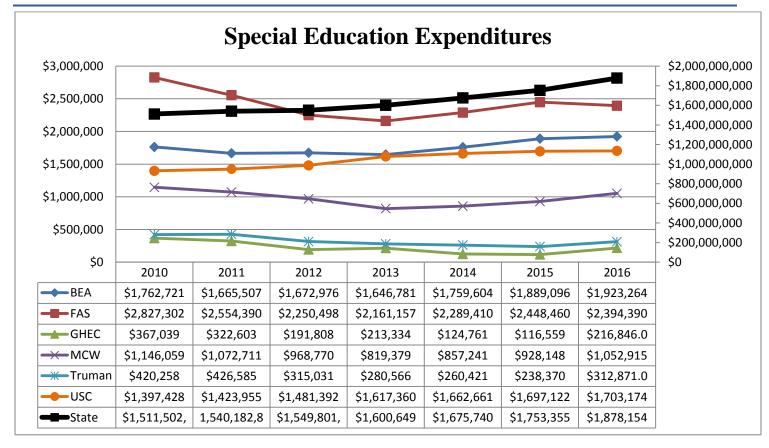


Figure 4: Total Special Education Expenditures within the district over the past eleven years.

Data Source: MN Financial Reports

The black line correlates with the axis on the right-hand side. This helps to compare the rate of increase in spending to the rate of increase in spending within a district compared to spending across the state. This chart reflects the total expenditures for special education.

**Discussion:** Across the state there has been a steady increase in the amount spent on special education each year (14% increase over the last 5 years). Southern Plains (not including USC) has experienced a steady decline over the last five years (19% decrease over the same five year). District can only cut in special education for so many years; as a result, member districts are starting to note an increase in special education costs.

## SOUTHERN PLAINS EDUCATION COOPERATIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM EVALUATION

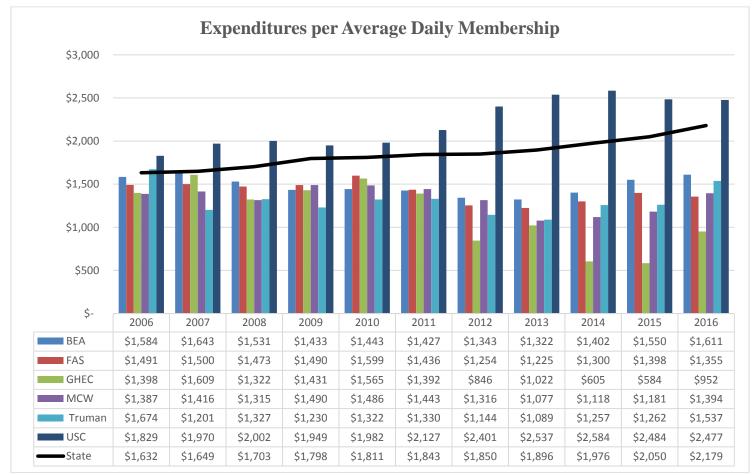


Figure 5: Spending per pupil on special education expenses

Data Source: MN Financial Reports

The chart demonstrates the amount per student enrolled in the district spent on special education.

## Percent of Total Expenditures on Special Education

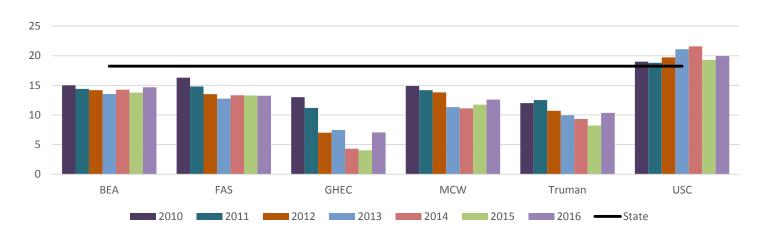


Figure 6: Percent of the total budget on special education.

Data Source: MN Financial Reports

The chart demonstrates the amount per student enrolled in the district spent on special education.

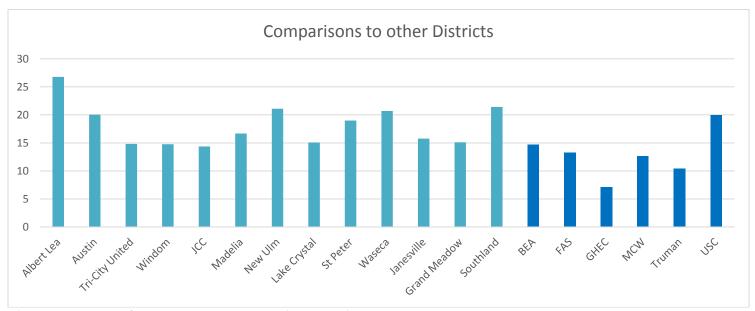


Figure 7: Percent of the total budget on special education.

Data Source: MN Financial Reports

### **June 2017**

## SOUTHERN PLAINS EDUCATION COOPERATIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM EVALUATION

## **FEDERAL SETTINGS**

	Setting 1 Inside the regular class 80% or more			Setting 2 Resource room 21-60% of the day			Setting 3 Inside reg ed less than 40%			Setting 4 Separate Site		
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
BEA	65.0%	66.0%	66.0%	14.7%	14.0%	8.0%	0.5%	1.2%	3.4%	4.9%	5.9%	6.3%
FAS	52.0%	54.0%	50.0%	24.6%	21.0%	25.0%	1.7%	3.8%	3.3%	3.1%	3.5%	5.3%
GHEC	58.0%	63.0%	66.0%	13.0%	6.3%	7.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	13.0%	9.4%	11.0%
MCW	60.0%	61.0%	67.0%	25.0%	25.8%	22.0%	0.0%	1.0%	1.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%
Truman	67.0%	60.0%	62.0%	10.0%	11.0%	15.0%	4.0%	3.2%	2.2%	0.0%	1.6%	4.4%
USC	58.7%	60.0%	53.7%	17.5%	17.8%	18.8%	3.8%	3.8%	6.8%	5.0%	3.8%	6.3%
State	53.0%	53.0%	53.0%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	8.6%	8.6%	8.6%	3.2%	3.2%	3.3%

Figure 8: Percent of special education students in each setting

Data Source: MN Federal Setting Report