



Clay County Collaborative
Successful Partnerships building Successful Families
School-Age Disabilities System Work Group
Meeting Minutes

Lanette welcomed everyone to the meeting. Today's agenda was approved by consensus with no changes made. Minutes from the February 2, 2020 were approved. (Donna/Deana)

Presentation on Child Count: Duane Borgeson, Moorhead Public Schools; Mary Ann Martin, Dilworth-Glyndon- Felton Public School.

Moorhead Public School:

- Information provided based on December 1, 2019 child count data
- 8253 children are served by the Moorhead School District. 1,500 of those children are served under special education services which includes 313 preschool children. 15% of the total school age children are being served in various settings under special education. Data is trending an increase in special education each year.
- The biggest increase in services are being seen in the early childhood setting which includes Kindergarten. Several years ago, the Minnesota Department of Education did a big push to serve more young children.
- The largest number of children are served under the speech and language development category and the severe learning disorder category. Other areas where there is a cluster of students include Developmental Delay and Other Health Disorders.
- Moorhead Public Schools is above the state average in the number of students they serve
- Settings of where students are served vary from school to school. Duane would like to see more students served at the secondary level to be more in setting one and two. Setting 1 setting includes students who receive 80% of their instruction in a general education setting. Setting 2 includes students who receive between 20% and 60% of their instruction in a special education setting. Setting 3 includes students who receive 60% or more of their instruction in a special education setting.
- When the juvenile center remodel is completed with an increase in bed, services will be structured differently. A second special education teacher will be hired.
- The district will be hiring at all levels for next fall.

Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton Public Schools:

- The district is serving 314 students, birth to age 21, in their special education program. That includes 224 students that reside in the school district and 90 students who have open enrolled. A school district cannot turn away an open enrollment student who is on an IEP. Total school population is 1562.
- Speech and Language sees the highest number of students served, as does Learning Disorder.
- ASD is growing especially in the early childhood program. They are looking at having a ASD classroom next year.
- Special education case loads at the elementary level are between 12-18; at the middle school it is between 12-20 per teacher, with the high school level at 18-22 students.

- Student counts include 58 students receiving services at the Dilworth elementary level and 50 in Glyndon and 50 at the high school. Those numbers do not include students just receiving speech therapy.
- Finding licensed staff is difficult. Hiring is ongoing. The district does have one individual that is working under an “out of field experience” license. Secondary staff is harder to fill than elementary openings.
- A referendum bond was passed last fall which result in some additional space and renovation of some space for special education services.

Agency Updates:

Arc: Donna will be moving to working out of her home. Upcoming rose sale begins March 9th with roses delivered April 9th. Ongoing activities include Games and More and dances.

Freedom Resource has their Freedom in Action event on the 17th of March. This month’s activity is bingo. Their annual event will be held October 1st.

Moorhead Public Schools: Duane’s office is moving to the Operations Building located in the old Muscatell building on 30th Ave. S. Overtime, all administration staff will move to the Operations Building and sometime in the future Probstfield Learning Center will be remodeled for an elementary building. Last month Duane and other Moorhead High School staff went on a tour of high schools around the state. Duane was disappointed in how special education services areas were defined in a number of the schools. One item that did peak his interest was a track lift system that brought the student from the classroom into the changing area. This eliminated lifting of the student.

Dilworth -Glyndon-Felton Public Schools passed a bond referendum that will result in remodeling of the buildings. The remodeling is expected to be completed by the 2021 – 2022 school year. One classroom will be added at the elementary level and one at the middle school.

Next meeting: April 6, 2020 1:00 pm

School-Age Disabilities Work Group

- The School Age Disability Work Group will, when available, partner with Collaborative partners and outside agencies to bring training for families and community members.
- The School Age Disability Work Group will identify in what systems children with disabilities are served, invite such agencies/groups/etc. to work group meetings to learn more about those agencies and provide input to them on family friendly programming.