

SJCSD EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION

ESE MEET AND GREET

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH

5:00-6:00 PM



This evening's agenda

Meet Your ESE Team

Who we support

How we support

Staff and Family support

Questions and Answers

Celebrations and Support

2024-2025 ESE Points of Contact

Senior Director

Jessica Richardson 904-547-6043

Director

Michelle Curtin 904-547-6045

Executive Secretaries

Darlene Delaney 904-547-6059

Telisha Taylor 904-547-6042

Special Programs

Coordinator: Gene Bennett 904-547-6067

Behavior

P. Specialist: George Freeman

P. Specialist: Tori Carnall

Coach: Chris Tuccillo

Access

Elem. P. Specialist South: Lisa Thacker

Elem. P. Specialist North: Deb Stubee

Secondary P. Specialist: Kaley Presnell

Coach: Erin Cozzi

Life Work/Project Search

P. Specialist: Jennifer Argentina

Support Services

Coordinator: Avery Greene 904-547-6061

(SLP, DHH, OT, PT, AT, H/H, VI)

P. Specialist: Holly Nover

VE and Gifted

Coordinator: Lisa Brubaker 904-547-6057

VE

P. Specialist: Becky Jarriel

P. Specialist: Kristen Logan

P. Specialist: Lisa Henson

Coach: Liz DiBella

Coach: Ann Diaz

Gifted

P. Specialist Sherri-Lee Heath

Coach: Colleen Begley

Early Childhood Services

Director: Brian McElhone 904-547-8963

P. Specialist: Lisa Tavery
(Curriculum, VPK, Head Start)

P. Specialist: Sandy Wallace
(Intensive Support, Behavior)

P. Specialist: Teri Evans
(ESE, Pre-K, Clinic Evaluations)

Specialist: Ashley Moore
(Site Administrator, ECS at FCTC)

Coach: Vicki Holstein

Compliance and LEA Support

P. Specialist: Kelly Pickett

P. Specialist: Renee Downey

P. Specialist: Traci Clark

Coordinator: Gene Bennett

Coordinator: Lisa Brubaker

St. Johns County School District Overview

Number of Schools

Elementary = 18
K-8 = 9
Middle = 7
High = 9
Technical = 1
Alternative = 2
Virtual = 1

47 total

Number of students

≈ 50,000

Number of ESE students

≈ 9,308

Number of Gifted students

≈ 3,814

Number of Special Program classrooms

Access = 99
Behavior = 39
Pre-K = 56
Life Work = 120 students

Exceptionalities that qualify a student for an Individual Education Plan (IEP)

- Intellectual Disability
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Speech Impairment
- Language Impairment
- Orthopedic Impairment
- Other Health Impairment
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Visual Impairment
- Emotional or Behavioral Disability
- Specific Learning Disability (includes dyslexia, dyscalculia)
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Developmental Delay
- Dual Sensory Impaired

ST. JOHNS COUNTY DASHBOARD OF SWD

Students

Enrollment

(as of August 27, 2024)

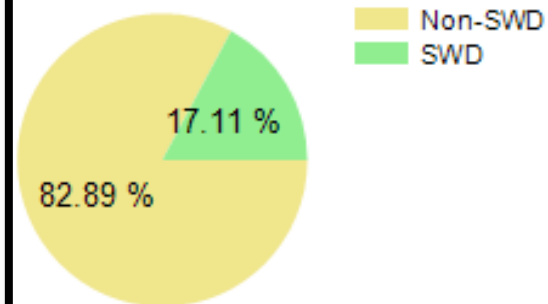
K-12

Elementary	21,902
Middle School/K-8	12,141
High School	16,730
Alternative Schools	345

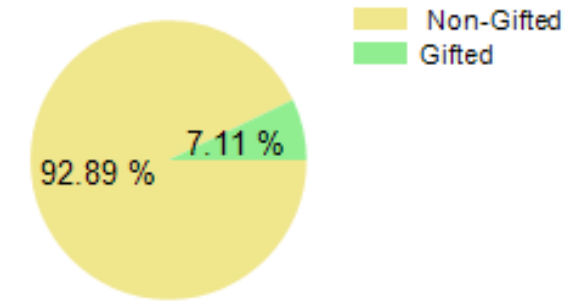
Other

Charter Schools	223
Virtual School	317
Dept of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)	1

Students with Disabilities



Gifted



As of 8/21/24 – The student body includes 3,886 gifted students and 9,329 students with disabilities who have learning or intellectual disabilities, emotional/behavioral or autism spectrum disorders, speech/language, sensory, orthopedic or other health impairments and developmental delays. An additional 5,102 students receive accommodations through 504 plans.



Exceptional Student Education

St. Johns County School District

ESE Policies and Procedures

- Required by Florida Statute to be updated every three years
- Required to receive weighted funding through the Florida Education Finance Program, (FEFP), and funds through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act,(IDEA).
- Utilized as the basis of identification, evaluation, eligibility determination, and placement of students to receive exceptional education services
- ESE P&Ps can be found on FLDOE website and SJCSD website

SJCSD ESE Policies and Procedures

I

- General Policies and Procedures

II

- Policies and Procedures for Students with Disabilities

III

- Policies and Procedures for Students Who are Gifted

IV

- Policies and Procedures for Parentally Placed Private School Students with Disabilities

V

- Appendices



Section 1003.57 Florida Statutes (F.S.)

Once every 3 years, each school district and school shall complete a Best Practices for Inclusive Education (BPIE) assessment **with a Florida Inclusion Network facilitator** and include the results of the BPIE assessment and all planned short-term and long-term improvement efforts in the school district's exceptional student education policies and procedures. BPIE is an internal assessment process designed to facilitate the analysis, implementation, and improvement of inclusive educational practices at the district and school team levels.

- s. 1003.57, F.S.

SJCSD District Best Practices in Inclusive Education (BPIE) 2023-2026

Priority Indicators 2023-2026

- District has key personnel with expertise in the **MTSS and positive behavior intervention plans (PBIP)** who provide ongoing professional learning (PL) and technical assistance (TA), to schools to ensure that **students who need them receive multi-tiered behavior supports** in the general education classrooms and natural contexts.
- Ongoing, job-embedded, collaborative PL to implement **best practice for inclusive education**, including instruction and assessment for all SWD **based on the state academic achievement standards**.
- District provides all personnel with information and resources pertaining to the use of **person first language** in all **written and verbal communications**.

Suspected Disability- Points of Contact

Non-Enrolled Pre-K aged students

- Child Find - (386) 329-3811

Enrolled Pre-K aged student (Head Start/VPK)

- Teri Evans - (904) 547-8958

Home Education or Private School students

- Michelle Curtin – (904) 547-6045

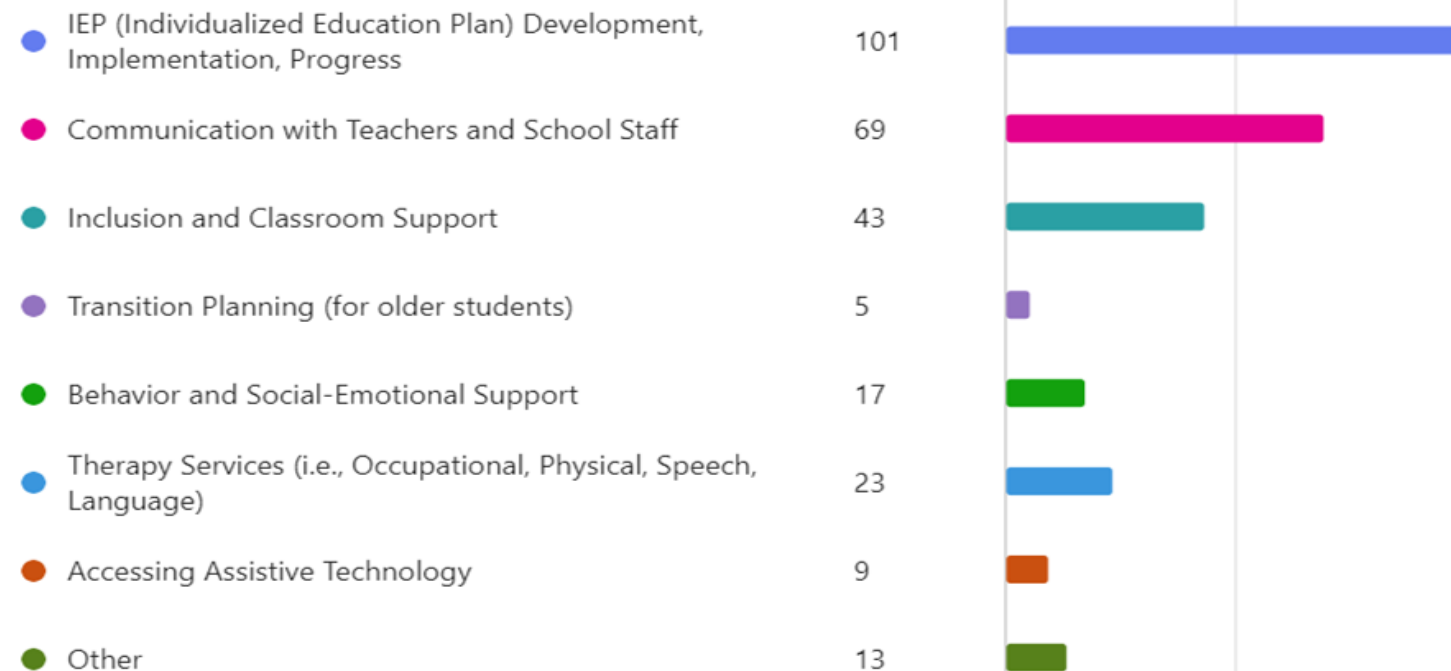
- *If your student is enrolled in Pre-K through 12th grade at a public school within St. Johns County, please reach out to your school counselor if you suspect a disability.*

Q & A

Q & A

1. Which aspect of your child's ESE experience are you most satisfied with? (Please select one)

175 Responses



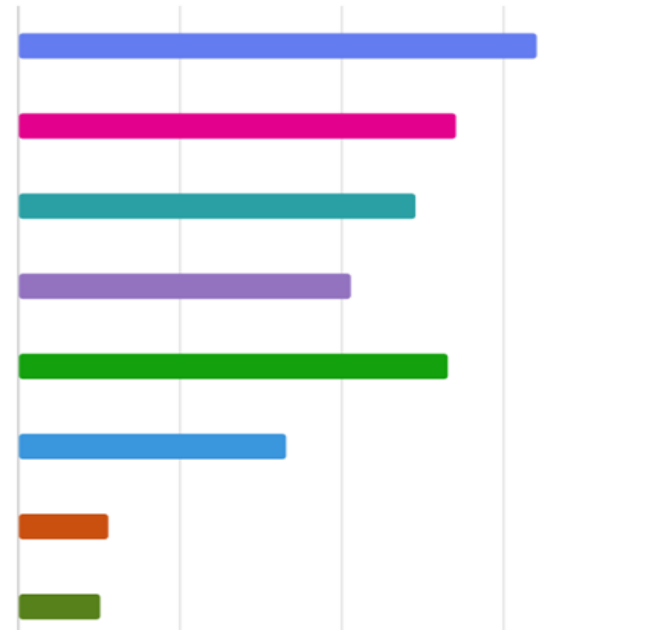
Q & A

2. What questions or areas of interest regarding your child's ESE and support needs do you have?
(Please select up to two)

175 Responses

- IEP (Individualized Education Plan) Development, Implementation, Progress
- Communication with Teachers and School Staff
- Inclusion and Classroom Support
- Transition Planning (for older students)
- Behavior and Social-Emotional Support
- Therapy Services (i.e., Occupational, Physical, Speech, Language)
- Accessing Assistive Technology
- Other

64
54
49
41
53
33
11
10



Q & A

Based on the provided open-ended responses to the third question, “Do you have any specific questions that you would like answered during the Meet and Greet?”

1. Support and Training for Staff:

1. What professional development opportunities are available for staff working with ESE students?
2. How are paraprofessionals and aides trained and supported?
3. What resources are available to teachers to support ESE students in their classrooms?

2. Communication and Involvement:

1. How can parents be kept more informed about their child's progress and the services they receive?
2. What are the communication channels between school staff and parents, and how can these be improved?
3. How does the school ensure that all teachers are aware of and adhere to a child's IEP?

3. Programs and Transition Planning:

1. What transition planning is available for older students, especially those nearing graduation?
2. How does the district support the continuity of care and ensure that services such as speech therapy are maintained despite staffing challenges?
3. What measures are in place to ensure that ESE students receive consistent support as they transition from one grade to another or between different schools?



Exceptional Student Education St. Johns County School District

Family Supports	Staff Supports
Early Childhood Family Engagement (handout)	ESE Staff Virtual Meetings (monthly)
Gifted Parent Advisory Council Meetings (quarterly- handout)	Early Childhood, ESE, and Gifted Teacher PLCs (monthly)
ESE Parent Advisory Council Meetings (quarterly- handout)	4 th Wednesday Professional Learning Opportunities
18-22 Student Transition Fair (annually)	Inservice Days, Summer Training, Tiered Coaching Support

Celebrations and Continued Support

Continued growth of programming to support students

- Opened 10 new Access classrooms and 5 new Behavior classrooms

ESE Teacher Certification Study Group

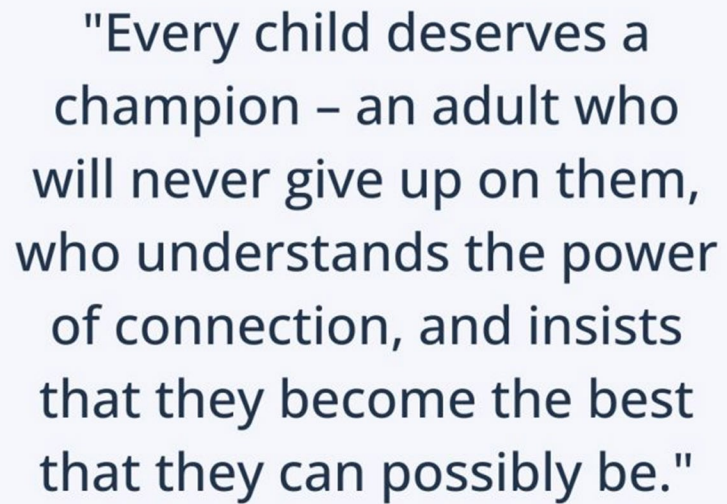
- 10 Summer Participants

Extended School Year Services

- Serving over 200 students with disabilities in four locations

ESE Summer Professional Learning Opportunities

- Gifted Institute and Bootcamp
- ESE Summer Institute
- AP/LEA Virtual Sessions
- Special Olympics/Adaptive PE Professional Learning

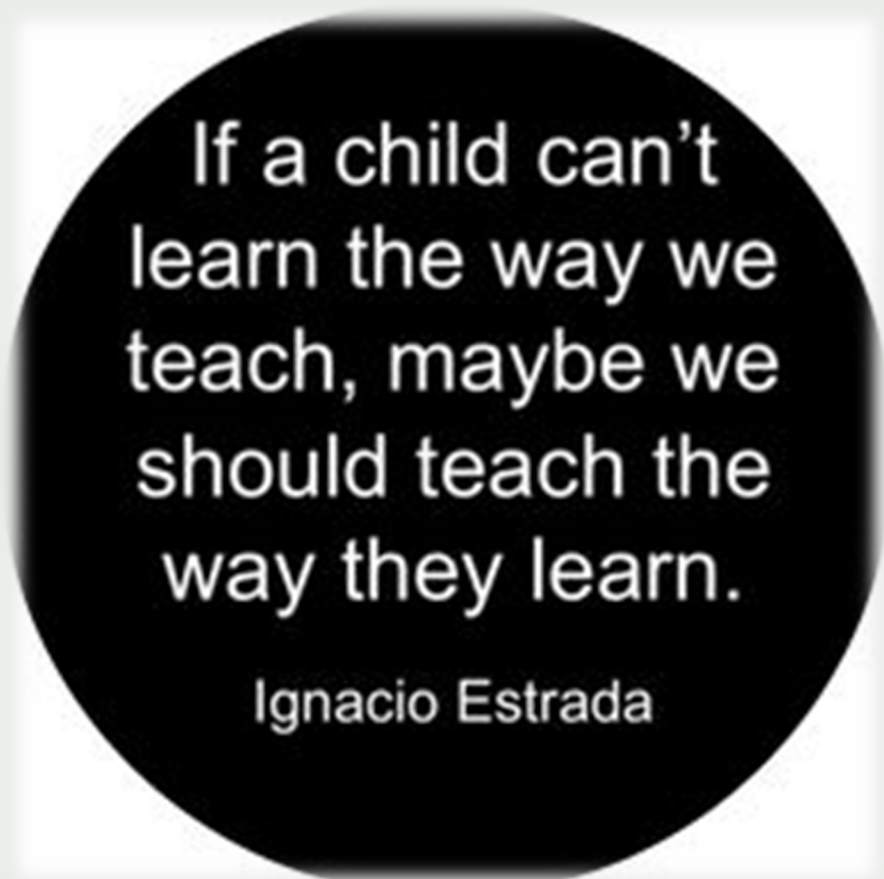


"Every child deserves a champion – an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection, and insists that they become the best that they can possibly be."

Rita Pierson

@satchelpulse

satchelpulse.com



If a child can't
learn the way we
teach, maybe we
should teach the
way they learn.

Ignacio Estrada