



Hallsville ISD Department of Special Education

Director:  
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## Update for July School Board meeting:

- 1.) How can summer (almost) be over? Bring on the football weather!
- 2.) We have some great professional development on the horizon! Our structured learning teachers and paraprofessionals have a 2 day training-one to deep dive into the Unique curriculum and resources provided through Everyway, their parent company. We have used Unique as our structured learning curriculum for many years, but not had an in person training with this company. I am excited to bring this training to our teachers! The second day of training is with one of our regular consultants to address strategies for setting up the classroom, managing behavior, and how to support our low incidence disability group throughout the school day. This consultant has worked with our SL teachers this year and has met with 4 of them this summer to help set up classrooms and craft activities for the IEP goals.

Region 7 is providing training to our co-teach teams. Then we are utilizing some of our very own talented HISD staff to provide training to our inclusion teams (gen ed teachers and paraprofessionals together). Mandy Carlton, Khalia Reese, and Randi Morrow have worked together this summer to craft a quality training opportunity for these teams.

- 3.) We are moving our ARD software program from *SuccessEd* to *SameGoal*. We all agree that a change was needed, but none of us are good at learning new technology! *SameGoal* is coming in person to offer 3 training opportunities prior to the start of school. Our technology Department has been supportive and I appreciate that!
- 4.) There is a new funding formula for special education that is being implemented throughout the state. Funding will be based on the intensity of the services a student receives. We have started going through the new "steps" this week to try and get a head start on entering the data. We have to have ½ of our students receiving special education services reported by the beginning of October, and the other half reported by beginning of December. All assessment specialists will attend training on July 20<sup>th</sup>. I have also asked every campus to send one administrator since the ARD committee discussions will be different with these new parameters.
- 5.) We still have 2 structured learning teaching positions open-Intermediate and High School. The stipend for SL teachers has just recently been increased. I hope that it will spur on the right person to join our team!