## **Interoffice Memo**

## The Glenbrook High Schools

TO: Mike Riggle

FROM: Jennifer Pearson

RE: Special Education Staffing for 2012-2013

DATE: 4/16/12

I've reviewed the special education course registrations resulting from articulations and the total number of special education students anticipated for the 2012-2013 school year in order to determine staffing requirements and make a recommendation for special education programming next year. In addition, I've met with district office staff, building administrators, and Instructional Supervisors to verify the need and discuss the impact of the Memorandum of Understanding pertaining to special education matters.

Overall, I am recommending a reduction of 1.0 special education teacher FTE at GBN due to decreased numbers of students identified with disabilities. Further we have worked hard to identify ways to address increased numbers of students at GBS requiring transition services without requesting an increase in staffing. We intend to utilize transition staff at GBN and Off-Campus to assist in case management.

Next, we have seen an ongoing need for speech and language services, especially to address the increased number of students identified with autism who struggle with social skills/language pragmatics. In the past, we have used contractual services to address this need; however, it is evident that we will continue to require hours equivalent to a 1.0 Speech Pathologist FTE, and there are a number of advantages to hiring our own speech pathologist. Though the speech pathologist is a request for increased District 225 FTE, this FTE would be replacing contracted speech services through NSSED and may be close to cost neutral. The staffing increase in this area is also neutralized by the reduction of the 1.0 special education teacher at GBN.

The breakdown is as follows:

Total 2011-2012 Special Education Staff 62.0 FTE

Special Education Teacher -1.0 FTE (GBN)

Speech Pathologist +1.0 FTE (New, replacing contracted)

TOTAL 2012-2013 RECOMMENDATION 62.0 FTE

In summary, though the FTE is a neutral headcount compared to the prior year, in actuality, we are bringing in services we have outsourced, and we are increasing revenue through claiming Medicaid services, leading to an overall reduction in operating expenses of approximately \$150,000 (from Medicaid revenue and reduction of teacher base salary).