

Board of Education Workshop  
Monday, April 8, 2024  
4:30 PM  
Tatanka Elementary STEM School  
703 - 8th St NE  
Buffalo, MN 55313

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## MINUTES

Present: Amanda Lawrence, Sue Lee, Melissa Brings, Matt Hoffman, Sheila Smude,  
Adam Bjorklund, Bob Sansevere

Absent: none

1. Presentation: Andréé Iden, TESS Principal

Heard from Alicia Job and Jennifer Schachenmeyer, TESS teachers regarding Cooperative Teaching to address student behaviors that were taking place. Regular classroom setting includes special education students. Special education teacher co-teaches in the regular classroom. Able to separate into groups in the same classroom for math and reading instruction. Scheduled the two teachers with common prep so collaboration and discussions about student behaviors/needs could take place. Student benchmarks have improved for students below the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile. SEBS is being taught every day. Looking at providing this in one 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classroom next year. This will depend on student needs and teachers willing to try this approach. Number of elopers and classroom evacuations has decreased this year. Parents were notified of this teaching approach at the start of the school year. Have shared this with other elementary buildings to see if there is any interest. Special Ed teachers worked well together to make sure student needs were being met and they were flexible throughout the year to accommodate this new teaching program.

2. Special Education Extended School Year (ESY)

Amy Ernst, Director of Special Services

Annually, staff consider the need for ESY services for students. Have identified 163 students, 50 in Early Childhood and 113 in K-12. Working on hiring staff.

3. Summer Programs 2024

Kim Carlson, Director of Community Education

Summer program planning started in December. Targeted Services will concentrate on K-3 students. Currently have referred 242 students who qualify. Transportation is provided from daycares and trailer home parks. Summer Food Service program will be housed at BCMS. KidKare will take place at HES, MESI and BCMS. Will use the WTC playground. The sites are full and currently working at hiring more staff to be able to take more students. Also many summer

activities/classes are being provided through the general Community Education program.

4. Committee Reports

AL – AMSD, 877 Foundation

SL – WTC

Adjourned at 5:29 pm