

Enhanced Learning Opportunities Report: December / 2015

Submitted by: Peter Rosenkranz, Director of Enhanced Learning Opportunities.

Students:

Just a reminder as I share stories about our kids I will use super hero names in place of our student names. Thanks. Supergirl communicates in different ways and she can be challenging to understand at times. We had another student in her class start having a seizure. Supergirl sat down next to the girl having the seizure and just held her foot. It was Supergirl's way of letting the other girl know she was there for her. I am continually amazed about our students understanding and different ways they can communicate.

Creative Conferencing

Teresa Warnke, our preschool teacher, decided to take a different tact to conferences this year by conducting her conferences in her students homes. The transition from either home or our birth to three program has a high level of family involvement. If they are in our birth to three program they have an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP). Improving the transition to an Individual Education Plan (IEP) within our preschool, Teresa spent her conference time visiting families and having the conference in their homes. This is just one more example of the incredible commitment our staff has to our students regardless of age.

P-12 Positives

Adaptive PE class for students who need additional gross motor work in a more appropriate setting. Katie Kipp is teaching Adaptive PE for eight of our students who need additional support to develop their motor skills.

Michelle Apahidean was sharing how students are growing in independence with their math skills as they progress from the start of the school year.

Karla Karukes shared about a student who has selective mutism, through his experiences of community immersion he was asked if he wanted to get his driver's license-he said yes! He has been using a cell phone for communicating via text with Karla-this can hopefully lead to a driver's license.

Nicholas Montoya shared students in Carrie Lindsey's classroom are now sharing spontaneous thoughts within his speech services.

Miranda Brothers' class were accessing the curriculum through a painting-Veteran in a New Field. Students were doing collegiate level of thinking. She was really impressed with her students, never know what kids can do unless you give them a chance.

Courtney Larkin was sharing that she is on the verge of exiting a student from special education with above grade level scores.

Completely Operational

This month we have been able to hire our Occupational Therapist and Physical Therapist. This fulfills the commitment we made to provide a continuum of services for our students. I know that many districts have been struggling to bring on qualify staff, specifically in the areas of Psychologist, OT and PT's. Our students are being served by high quality people.

Section 504/ADA Process

We just completed a round of meetings with our counselors, Jessica Bodell, RaeJean Hendrix and Timm DiStefano to solidify our 504 process for students. The intent of this work is to make the process consistent across the district so we can focus on working with the students. I am really impressed with their work to make this a smooth process.