



# BPS Looking Forward

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# Student Enrollment :

Total School Enrollment: **8250**

Students Qualifying for Special Education: **1845 or 22%**

MLL's: **561**

Students attending Private or Public programs : **178**

Students attending In-District specialized programs: **240**



\*enrollment data pulled May, 2024

# Acuity of Services Snapshot:

While there are several variables that could be linked to determine the acuity of services, these figures provide an example of frequency.

- 430 Risk Assessments 40% that resulted in 211 outreach
- 93 Calls to 911



# **Challenge # 1 : Providing a continuum of supports and services across all grade levels and schools bridging students and families to community based providers.**

## **Proposal:**

- Standardization of data base across the districts and real time funding solutions to address transiency and portability.
- Aftercare and transition services that are sustainable, skills based and flexible/portable.
- Increase funding for additional support services such as:
  - School based health centers with comprehensive services
  - Trained (licensed/certified) support staff

## Policy Implications for Challenge #1:

- Develop a clearing house, by region, of approved/vetted service providers and update at least 1/4ly.
- Universal and accessible data collection for progress monitoring tx goals.
- Create pathways for Districts to collaborate with local and regional elected officials to address long term and sustainable funding solutions for SBHC, etc.

## **Challenge #2: Funding of Special Education and related services due to variability/unpredictability of costs.**

### **Proposal**

- Fulling funding excess costs to all districts.
- Create a tiered system of maximum daily rates based on acuity of student need.
- Establish a reserve fund of similarly funded programs which districts could access when funds are not fully expended (*leave no money on the table!*)
- Create a system to address variability of enrollment post budget adoption dates.
- Streamlining medicaid reimbursement for approved services.

## Policy Implications for Challenge #2:

- Legislative guidance for tiered tuition/fee structures agreed upon by APSEP's.
- Legislative guidance and advocacy for timely/accelerated medicaid application, and reimbursement.
- Provide funding for administration of medicaid application and reimbursement process (dashboard and filing is an obstacle to full realization).

# **Challenge #3: Addressing the roadblocks schools and families experience when accessing behavioral health services.**

## **Proposal:**

- Empower credentialed school personnel to request transport of children in crisis to resources that can address the complex needs in the short and long term.
- Set aside allotted spots in programs similar to IICAPS or MST (DCF and JJC are allowed allotted spots).
- Comprehensive after care transitions after crisis or hospitalization.



## Policy Implications for Challenge # 3

- Address regional disparities of resources including transportation for aftercare.
- All emergency departments would benefit from having emergency psychiatric supports for children ***on their respective staff.***