

**NEVADA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
NEVADA STATE BOARD FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENT**

**SUBJECT: CONSENT AGENDA - SPECIAL  
EDUCATION DISCRETIONARY UNITS FY14**

/ /	Public Workshop
/ /	Public Hearing
/ /	Regulation Adoption
/X /	Approval
/ /	Appointments
/ /	Receive
/ /	Information/Discussion
/ /	Action

MEETING DATE: December 12, 2013  
 AGENDA ITEM #  
 NUMBER OF ENCLOSURE(S): Pgs. 5

**PRESENTER(S):** Marva Cleven, Office of Educational Opportunity

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the Board approve the awarding of 1 special education discretionary unit to Eureka County School District, and 1 special education discretionary unit to High Desert Montessori Charter School for instructional programs during the 2013-2014 academic year.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The funding has been appropriated by the Legislature for this purpose.

**BUDGET ACCOUNT (FOR PRINTING CHARGES ONLY):** 2715-04

**LENGTH OF TIME EXPECTED FOR PRESENTATION (IN MINUTES):** 10 minutes

**BACKGROUND:** To date the Board has awarded 37.5 of the 40 discretionary units available for the 2013-2014 academic year as follows:

Number of Units	District	Purpose of Unit
9	Clark	Autism/EC/Rural SDC
1	Douglas	CSYF
2	Humboldt	Special Education Program
1	Lincoln	Extended School Year
4.5	Washoe	Life Skills/Autism/Related Srvs
20	SPCSA	Special Education Program

If the above recommendation is approved by the Board 39.5 of the 40 special education discretionary units will have been awarded for the 2013-2014 academic year.

**SUBMITTED BY:** Marva Cleven

RORIE FITZPATRICK  
*Interim Superintendent of  
Public Instruction*

STATE OF NEVADA



DEBORAH CUNNINGHAM  
*Deputy Superintendent  
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APPLICATION FOR A DISCRETIONARY SPECIAL EDUCATION UNIT  
TO BE APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

District: Eureka

Number of Units Requested: 1

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. Identify the need for the special education program unit by providing evidence that existing allocations of special education program units are insufficient to satisfy the demand for special education in the school district.

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED APPLICATION

2. Describe how existing allocations of special education units and other resources are being utilized.

**APPLICATION FOR A DISCRETIONARY SPECIAL EDUCATION UNIT  
TO BE APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**DISTRICT: EUREKA COUNTY**

**NUMBER OF UNITS REQUESTED: 1**

***1) Identify the need for the special education program unit by providing evidence that existing allocations of special education program units are insufficient to satisfy the demand for special education in the school district.***

Eureka County School District is currently allotted three special education program units. These three units have typically been sufficient, but our special education demands have recently increased significantly, and these three units are no longer sufficient to assist us in meeting our needs.

Eureka County School District is requesting that an additional discretionary unit be awarded to provide the necessary funding for the substantial increase in the amount of related services needed. We are providing services for a wide range of communicative needs including a visually impaired student, who requires intensive related services (speech, OT, PT, vision/orientation & mobility).

In addition, there has been an increase in the need for additional related services to several students year-round.

Our therapists travel from Elko, Spring Creek, Ely, and Reno to provide related services to our adding to the cost of these services.

***2) Describe how existing allocations of special education units and other resources are being utilized.***

The existing allocations are being used by retaining three special education teachers to service our special education population in three schools.

***3) Describe the program of instruction that will be provided to pupils if the special education program unit is allocated.***

Eureka County School District will utilize the special education unit to retain the required related-service providers necessary to meet IEP goals and objectives of students at ECSD. This additional unit will assist in funding the significant increase in the need for related services.

4) Does your school district show that it has a unique need in any of the following areas? Please check all that apply and provide specific details for any item checked.

A limited incidence of children with disabilities exists in rural area;

A significant change has occurred in the number of pupils;

The extent and degree of related services has increased for Eureka County School District. See above explanation.

A need exists to offer a program for more than a 180-day school year;

We are providing related services (pursuant to IEP) to students during the summer months, because of the nature of the disabilities.

A change has occurred in the financial resources available to the school district and the change may impact ability to serve a substantial number of pupils; or

Eureka County School District has experienced a significant decrease in the availability of previously allotted federal grant monies. We had been able to utilize the District Improvement Grant (DIG) to provide for many of these services, but we will not be receiving this grant going forward.

Programs are operated that serve special education pupils from other school districts.

Supporting documentation or further statements which will provide the Board with additional information to make a decision should be attached to this application form.

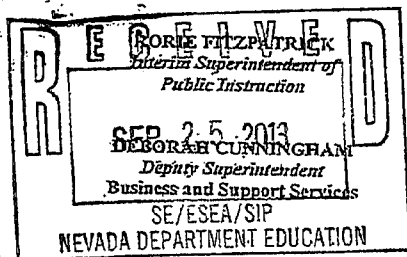
9-21-13

(Date)

Ben Zurino

(School District/Charter School Administrator)

My L. Darnell - Special Education Coordinator



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APPLICATION FOR A DISCRETIONARY SPECIAL EDUCATION UNIT  
TO BE APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

High Desert Montessori Charter School

District: WCSD

Number of Units Requested: One

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. Identify the need for the special education program unit by providing evidence that existing allocations of special education program units are insufficient to satisfy the demand for special education in the school district.

High Desert Montessori has recently exceeded its limit of students receiving Special Education services in accordance with NAC 388.080 and 388.520. Currently High Desert Montessori has one Special Education Teacher with a caseload of 26 students in grades K-8. We have 5 Child Find referrals into WCSD for initial testing and 10 current students on Tier III of RTI. We anticipate 41 students in Special Education by the end of the school year. In addition, our Speech Therapist currently has a caseload of 32 students. Last school year we had 11 initial evaluations, worked with 8 different school psychologists and qualified 10 students for Special Education services. We would like to request an additional allocation from the Department of Education and WCSD to support students with disabilities including those with learning disabilities, emotional disabilities, health impairments and mental retardation. This additional support will be used to provide instructional support in both the regular classroom and special education resource room.

2. Describe how existing allocations of special education units and other resources are being utilized.

Currently, High Desert Montessori has one Special Education Teacher servicing 26 students with various disabilities in two different buildings. We contract with Sierra Speech to provide related speech and occupational therapy as outside contractors. The caseload currently includes:

Health Impaired: 4 students, Learning Disabled: 17 students, AV: 4 students, Mental Retardation: 1 student

According to the IEP's, the total amount of time students receive services is 82.25 hours.

3. Describe the program of instruction that will be provided to pupils if the special education program unit is allocated.

If we receive an additional allocation, we would be able to hire an additional teacher. Our students would be seen in smaller groups and the special education teacher would have more time in the classroom supporting instruction. We also received a 2-star designation based on our performance data for the 12-13 school year. The special education sub-group did not perform as well as their peers throughout the state. This additional support is greatly needed.

4. Does your school district show that it has a unique need in any of the following areas?  
*Please check all that apply and provide specific details for any item checked.*

A limited incidence of children with disabilities exists in a rural area;  
*Provide Specific Details:*

A significant change has occurred in the number of pupils;

We refer students for testing once they have completed all Tiers of the RTI process. We have referred 5 students for testing this school year through WCSD Child Find and have 10 students on Tier III of RTI who may be referred for testing. We anticipate the number of students receiving Special Education at High Desert to increase to around 40 students by the end of the school year.

A need exists to offer a program for more than a 180-day school year;  
*Provide Specific Details:*

A change has occurred in the financial resources available to the school district and the change may impact ability to serve a substantial number of pupils; or  
*Provide Specific Details:*

Programs are operated that serve special education pupils from other school districts.  
*Provide Specific Details:*

Supporting documentation or further statements which will provide the Board with additional information to make a decision should be attached to this application form.

9/15/13  
(Date)

Jan K. Hackett  
(School District/Charter School Administrator)