



Massachusetts

Administrators for Special Education

Member/Participant Survey Summary Report *October 28, 2005 ASE Fall Conference*

Type of community/district you represent:

Suburban:	59.1%
Rural	12.1%
Regional	12.1%
Urban	10.7%
Collaborative	3.0%
Private	1.5%
Charter	1.5%

Speech & Language Services in Public Schools

How much time does your speech & language staff spend on direct service, including testing/evaluation?

10 – 20%	4.5%
20 – 40%	3.0%
40 – 80%	25.8%
80 – 100%	66.7%

How much time does your speech & language staff spend on indirect service, including consultation, collaboration and curriculum materials development?

10 – 20%	83.3%
20 – 40%	12.1%
40 – 80%	3.0%
80 – 100%	1.0%

Indicate priority rating that reflects the greatest need in speech/language services for students with disabilities in your district (lower number indicates higher priority)

- **1.38** Direct Instruction Services (including testing & Team meetings)
 - **2.32** Recruitment of Speech/Language Therapists
 - **2.34** Indirect Services (including consult, collaboration, curriculum)
 - **2.63** Retention of Speech/Language Therapists
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*Are there changes in the way in which you feel speech/language services should be implemented in the public school setting? **66.7%** of respondents indicated **YES***

Of those responding **YES** to this item, %age by comment(s) to this item (comments placed in general categories – some respondents made multiple comments):

- 59.1%** Provide inclusive services within regular education setting
- 22.7%** Increase use of consultation model
- 13.6%** More focus on eligibility & exit/entry criteria for services
- 9.1%** Increase services in primary grades
- 4.5%** More use of SLPAs

Other comments:

- Need for assistance with CFY programs
 - Need for more 1-1 services
 - More use of assistive technology
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Please describe any other issues or concerns related to speech/language services in public schools that you feel need addressing and support from the ASE/DOE collaborative work. Reported by %age by comment(s) to this item (comments placed in general categories – some respondents made multiple comments):

- 62.5%** Eligibility management / clear exit and entry criteria
- 50.0%** School based vs. medical model for services
- 25.0%** Caseload management
- 25.0%** Availability of speech/language pathologists
- 18.8%** Use of SLPAs to provide direct service

Other Comments:

- Use of Response to Intervention
- Guidelines for SLPAs

ELL Services

Indicate priority rating that reflects the greatest need in this area (**lower number indicates higher priority**)

- **1.81** Challenges in meeting compliance for ELL services for DOE audit
- **2.04** Resource guide for ELL services that is regional and statewide
- **2.10** Testing and evaluation services for ELL

Are there any ELL services that your district is having difficulty meeting?

Of those responding **YES** to this item, %age by comment(s) to this item (comments placed in general categories – some respondents made multiple comments):

- 37.5%** Training for regular education teachers
- 31.3%** Compliance demands seem unrealistic and virtually unobtainable
- 25.0%** Eligibility for ELL vs. IEP services
- 25.0%** Interpreters for testing/meetings/correspondence
- 18.8%** Need for licensed sped bilingual staff
- 12.5%** Need for resource list via DOE
- 12.5%** Correspondence with families in their primary language

Hearings and Disputes – BSEA

During 2004 approximately how many BSEA cases did your district have that went to hearing? **Low: 0 High: 3**

During 2004 approximately how many cases did your district formally negotiate with BSEA? **Low: 0 High: 25-40**

If you could change 1 aspect of the Due Process model in Special Education, what would it be?

- Inconsistent decisions among Hearing Officers (*noted multiple times*)
- Use mediation and/or resolution option only (*noted multiple times*)
- Neutral education experts to advise
- Need consistent interpretation guidelines that all Hearing Officers follow
- Better communication between BSEA and DOE
- Eliminate need to make a decision to “settle” once Hearing Officer in known

Member Benefits

Would you be interested in member benefits that provide you with: (%age formulated by responses to this item / total number of respondents to survey)

- 54.5%** Long Term Care Benefits
- 51.5%** Professional Liability Insurance
- 45.5%** Tax Deferred Annuities
- 39.4%** Disability Insurance
- 7.6%** Child Care Deduction Option
- Other:
 - 4.5%** Dental Coverage
 - 1.7%** Financial Planning/Advising

Data reported by:

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