



LAREDO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM
APRIL 25, 2022

SECTION I – STUDENT COUNTS

Table 1	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20 (HB 3)	2018-19	2017-18
Total Enrollment	19,757	22,041	23,706	23,645	24,069
Special Education Students	1,965	2,199	2,248	2,104	1,988
% Special Education Students	10%	10%	9%	9%	8%
Attendance Rate - Sp. Ed. Students	90%	97%	95%	96%	96%

SECTION II – ALLOTMENT VS ACTUAL EXPENDITURES

Table 2	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20 (HB 3)	2018-19	2017-18
Projected					
Program Allotment (Tier I)	14,621,222	16,135,045	16,841,340	14,710,628	14,155,156
% Spending Requirement	55%	55%	55%	52%	52%
Amount to Expend	8,041,672	8,874,275	9,262,737	7,649,527	7,360,681
Actual Expenditures	17,955,929	19,106,488	19,280,140	19,280,136	17,990,940
Amount over Requirement	9,914,257	10,232,213	10,017,403	11,630,609	10,630,259
Actual Amount over Total Allotment	3,334,707	2,971,443	2,438,800	4,569,508	3,835,784

Table 3	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20 (HB 3)	2018-19	2017-18
Expenditures by Function					
Projected					
Instruction	\$ 15,236,027	\$ 15,684,582	\$ 15,854,101	\$ 15,772,048	\$ 14,687,977
Curriculum and Instructional Staff Dev.	-	-	2,753	1,438	-
Instructional Administration	579,439	901,141	894,541	914,805	848,704
Guidance and Counseling Services	667,258	1,063,101	923,228	895,301	877,564
Social Work Services	146,843	231,115	226,130	237,982	214,662
Health Services	14,282	20,687	74,820	67,965	41,130
Student (Pupil) Transportation	1,291,703	1,205,862	1,273,553	1,358,136	1,283,137
Co-curricular/Extracurricular Activities	-	-	-	800	6,862
Plant Maintenance and Operations	20,377	32,671	31,014	31,661	30,904
Total Expenditures by Function	\$ 17,955,929	\$ 19,106,488	\$ 19,280,140	\$ 19,280,136	\$ 17,990,940
Expenditures by Object					
Projected					
Payroll Costs	\$ 17,826,267	\$ 18,897,194	\$ 19,080,614	\$ 19,019,842	\$ 17,731,479
Contracted Services	50,014	103,261	70,858	62,335	68,857
Supplies and Materials	76,953	94,876	120,516	172,634	185,390
Other Operating Expenses	2,695	188	2,566	2,061	3,771
Capital Outlay	-	10,969	5,586	23,264	1,443
Total Expenditures by Object	\$ 17,955,929	\$ 19,106,488	\$ 19,280,140	\$ 19,280,136	\$ 17,990,940



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SECTION III – SPECIAL EDUCATION EVALUATIONS

Table 4	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19
Sp. Ed. Referrals/Evaluations				
Total Referrals	148	177	291	454
Qualified	122	152	223	371
Not Qualified	26	25	68	83
Referred by Parent	90	114	176	263
Referred by School	58	63	115	191

Low Cost Evaluation Scenario: Student is regular class. He is struggling in his reading class. The teacher refers the student to be evaluated for special education services. After a full individual evaluation, the diagnostician does not find a need for special education services. At the Admission, Review, and Dismissal Committee (ARD), the findings are presented. The ARD committee agrees with the findings and they sign the ARD documents.

High Cost Evaluation Scenario: The student is four years old. He has been exhibiting challenging behavior in class. The teacher has a conference with the parent and she explains to the parent that she suspects that the student has a disability. The educational diagnostician evaluates the student using different assessments. The student is referred to the school psychologist for a psychological evaluation. Additional evaluations include: adaptive PE, speech evaluation, occupational therapy and assistive technology evaluation. The diagnostician presents the findings of the evaluations to the ARD committee. The student does qualify for services as a student with autism. The parent does not agree and the parent declines services or may request an independent evaluation.

Note: The ARD time varies depending on the individual student. The average time is from 1 hour to 2 hours, in some special cases even 3 hours.

SECTION IV - RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Consider reforming the weights based on data.
2. Consider studying how special education programs are managed day in and day out – to include the administration team to reform the funding system.
3. Consider a reimbursement system for 1:1 special education aides and evaluations.