

Changes to Remedy 2024-25 onward

Effective this school year, BCPSEA is instructing school districts to implement the Jackson award. (SD#53 had not implemented this arbitration award during the past 4 years.)

What is the Jackson Award?

In 2019, Arbitrator Marguerite Jackson issued an award finding that references to special education designation categories in restored teacher collective language held the meanings attributed to them at the time the language was removed.

The Jackson Award particularly impacted current designations G & Q (Category G = Autism Category Q = Learning Disabilities)

SOSTU contract never had Category Q counting for composition purposes

How will this affect remedy in the district?

In 2002, when the restored language was removed, *Category G was titled "Autistic Disorder" and was much narrower in scope.*

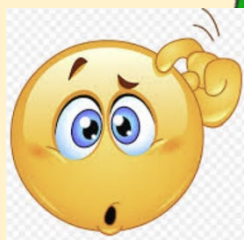
SD#53 is now only counting "G" designations that would have been designated under the previous narrower category, circa 2002.

The result?

Of the current 143 students with a "G" designation in our district, only 62 will be counted in remedy calculations.

This reduction in "G" designations has resulted in a reduction in remedy of approximately 50% from last year.

Funding of these children remain the same, just the teachers' possible remedy calculation was lost. This was a loss for the BCTF.



Narrow definition of Autism?

What is the criteria for counting "G" students for the purpose of class composition?

If there is an Autism Spectrum Disorder diagnosis under the DSM-5, all of the following DSM-5 criteria are met:

- A) Marked deficits in verbal and non-verbal social communication skills (Level 2 Social Communication Severity);
- B) And an **accompanying intellectual impairment (FSIQ = <70- CatK; (MID)**
- C) And an accompanying language impairment.

If there is a concern about a student's classification in the Autism category, please ask your CIT / school-based team. Files can be reviewed.

ELECTION COUNT DOWN

4 DAYS!

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HOW WILL THIS AFFECT
STUDENTS?