JULY 2023 WWW.SDEA.NET

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS! Special Education Caseload



HARD FOUGHT IMPROVEMENTS TO SPECIAL ED. CASELOAD!

Special educators struggled with caseload overload for *years*. There were no limits on caseloads, only targets for maximum limits. But after a hard fight (which included delivering the giant petition above to the Special Ed. Department!) SDEA members won caseload limits for the first time -- the first union in the state to do so!

EDUCATION SPECIALISTS

Mild/Moderate: 20 studentsModerate/Severe: 12 students

The union contract says that if an Education Specialist is case manager for more than the above number of students for more than 10 consecutive workdays, SDUSD must increase Education Specialist staff

at the school to bring caseloads down. For a student to "count" they must have a locked event.

MIXED CASELOADS

For Education Specialists whose caseloads include both Mild/Moderate and Moderate/Severe students, your caseloads must be reduced proportionately. Here are examples:

- 1. A full-time Education Specialist has 16 students. Ten are Mild/Moderate, which is 50% of the Mild/Moderate caseload limit. Six are Moderate/Severe, which is 50% of the Moderate/Severe caseload limit. 50% + 50% = 100%. This complies with the union contract.
- 2. A full-time Education Specialist has 20 students. Ten are Mild/Moderate, which is 50% of the Mild/Moderate caseload limit. Ten are Moderate/Severe, which is 83% of the Moderate/Severe caseload limit. 50% + 83% = 133%. This violates the union contract, so the caseload must be reduced.



JULY 2023 WWW.SDEA.NET

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS! Special Education Caseload



ASSESSMENTS FOR MILD/MODERATE

If a Mild/Moderate Education Specialist has a full caseload, plus is assigned 4 initial assessments during the school year, when their next initial assessment comes up, the union contract says it has to be assigned to someone else.

It can be assigned to another case manager whose caseload is not full at the site, or SDUSD has to provide temporary staff to do the assessment. If neither, then SDUSD must offer the Education Specialist up to 8 hours of pay or release time for each additional assessment, at the Education Specialist's discretion.

PRIVATE SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS

As of 2023, Parentally Placed Private School Students (PPPSS) assessments have to be assigned to District managed PPPSS assessment teams.

NO MORE THAN 3 SCHOOLS

Mild/Moderate Education Specialists are protected by the union contract from being assigned to no more than three schools at once.

OTHER SPECIAL EDUCATION CASELOADS

For other special educators, there are caseload caps that have been won in recent years:

- Separate setting classes: 12 students
- Deaf & Hard of Hearing Educators: 10 students
- Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs),
 elementary & secondary: 55 students
- SLPs, early childhood/UTK: 40 students
- Part Day ECSE Educators: 16 students with a process to add more
- Full Day ECSE Educators: 12 max, but must attempt to maintain at 10
- School Psychologists: By the 2024-25 school year, caseloads per
 Psychologist will be between 900 to 1000 students, depending on the type of school. For the 2023-24 school year, they will be between 950 and 1000.

Source: SDEA Contract, Article 29

