

### **Exceptional Education Program Needs for Compliance in School Year 2011/2012**

- **Total number of Exceptional Education students served in 2009/2010 = 6,544.27**
- **Total number of Exceptional Education students being served to date in 2010/2011 = 6,944.90**

#### **Additional System-wide Classes needed for 2011/2012 based on the following:**

- Pre K class desired ratio is 12 students (up from 10)-1 teacher and 2 assistants
- Elementary CDC classes need to be divided K-2 and 3-5
- Elementary CDC class desired ratio is 10(up from 8)
- Middle School (MS) CDC class desired ratio is 12 (up from 10)
- High School CDC class desired ratio is 12 (no change)
- Elementary, MS, and High School (HS) Multi-handicapped class desired ratio is 6-1 teacher and 2 assistants (no change in desired ratio)
- Elementary, MS, HS DCC (Developmental Communication Class) desired ratio is 6-1 teacher and 2 assistants (no change in desired ratio)
- Elementary, MS, HS CALMM (Coaching All Learning, Mentoring, Modeling Class) desired ratio is 9-1 teacher and 2 assistants (no change in desired ratio)

**1. Pre K Classes needed and staff**

**3 classes-3 teachers and 6 assistants needed.**

We cannot predict where new eligible students will move, but new sites to consider are OKE, Hillcrest, Apison, Wolftever, or EBE.

**2. Elementary CDC classes needed and staff**

**12 classes-12 teachers and 12 assistants needed.**

New classes would be in existing buildings changing K-5 programs to K-2 and 3-5 classes: Allen, Apison, Donaldson, East Brainerd, Eastlake, Eastridge, Eastside, Shepherd, Smith, Soddy, and Spring Creek.

Rationale: We can no longer serve such a wide age range in 1 CDC class. We cannot have a K-2 class in one building and a 3-5 class in another due to transportation constraints.

**3. Elementary Multi-handicapped classes needed and staff**

**1 class-1 teacher and 2 assistants needed.**

New classes at Eastlake, Apison or Smith.

**4. Elementary DCC/CALMM needs**

**Need 1 teacher at Soddy Elem.**

**5. Middle School CDC classes needed**

**No new staff for class needed**

(Middle School CDC Cont.)

Turn Dalewood's class back into CDC only, moving students with Autism to class at ELA, with existing Dalewood teacher and 2 assistants.

6. Middle School Multi-handicapped classes needed

**1 teacher and 2 assistants needed.**

New class at Hunter- 1 teacher and 2 assts.

7. Middle School DCC/CALMM needs

**1 teacher and 2 assistants needed.**

Move DCC students from Dalewood to ELA with existing DMS staff (1 teacher, 2 assts)

Open 1 new class at SDMS

8. High school CDC classes needed

**2 teachers and 6 assistants needed.**

1 new class at SMMHS-1 teacher and 1 asst.

3 new assistants for existing classes at Brainerd High.

1 new class at Hixson High-1 teacher and 2 assistants.

9. High school Multi-handicapped classes needed

**No class or staff needs at this time.**

10. High school DCC CALMM class needs

**2 assts. needed.**

Move the CALMM program from SMMHS to LVMHS- move 1 existing teacher and add 1 asst. for students with Autism.

Need to expand DCC/CALMM class to SDHS-moving 1 existing teaching position and 1 existing assistant position from ERHS. Need 1 more new asst. position at SDHS.

**Total new teachers needed are 21.**

**Total new assistants needed are 32.**

**Total inclusion teaching positions that can be cut to use for system-wide class needs is 25 (2.5 at Elem., 11.5 at MS, and 11 at HS), after raising caseloads (desired ratios) to 20 for elementary and 25 for MS and HS. This will cover all 21 new teaching positions and 8 assistant positions. This will leave a total of 24 assistant positions that need to be funded. This cost is \$850,000.00. Salary calculations include all benefits.**

Margaret S. Abernathy, Director Exceptional Education HCDE- April 14, 2011

**Further Urgent Exceptional Education Service Delivery Concerns:**

1. We have Speech/language pathologists serving up to 183 students. We cannot provide appropriate services with these excessive caseloads. Georgia caps their SLP caseloads (desired ratios) at 55 per therapist, thus causing us to lose therapists to Georgia.  
(Approximate Salary for one SLP with CC's and benefits = \$73,053.25)
2. We need 2 additional Assistive Technology positions to handle our mandated and ever increasing student AT needs, as well as exceptional education staff and student computers.  
(Certified position = \$50,667.87/Classified position = \$38,619.81)
3. We need 1 Deaf interpreter position to serve student and mandated family needs.
4. We need 1 new full time Autism Lead Teacher position, and we need to extend Christina Moore's Lead Autism Teacher position to a 12 month Lead Teacher. The system currently has over 400 eligible students with Autism. That number is growing steadily each year. In addition, we are now getting new students with combination disabilities such as Autism/Visual Impairment or Blindness/Severe Behavioral disorders/Emotional disturbance. Two Autism Lead teachers cannot successfully support the programs for this growing number of disabled students.
5. With the new Federal and State Pre K regulations and our mandate to have all Pre K programs credentialed by 2012/2013, I need 1 more Supervisor to supervise our Pre K classes and the programs our students attend at Siskin and Signal Center.

**This grand total need is:**

**15 Speech/Language Pathologists-\$1,095,798.75**

**2 Assistive Technology positions-Certified \$101,335.74 or Classified \$77,239.62**

**1 Autism Lead Teacher-\$79,231.18**

**Increase ~~██████████~~ to 12 month-\$7,717.70**

**1 Pre K Supervisor-\$97,328.10**

**1 Deaf Interpreter-\$34,090.63**

**Total \$1,415,501.90 or \$1,391,405.80 Salary Calculations include all benefits.**

Finally, I propose to cut 6 more inclusion positions, 3 gifted positions, 3 school psychologist positions, and make some reductions in the Orange Grove contract to save my 14 positions funded through ARRA. All of these 14 positions are critical to existing programs.

Margaret S. Abernathy, Director Exceptional Education HCDE-April 14, 2011

*1 Lead Autism  
Teacher*

CHURCH OF THE