

Response to Question Posed by Councilman DeLucia on April 23, 2020 Ad Hoc Budget Meeting
Response for April 30, 2020 Ad Hoc Budget Meeting

Question: Relative to the position of Assistant Special Education Director, the rationale spoke to potential savings in special education litigation cost and out of district special education tuition and transportation. What are those costs?

Response:

In describing the costs and the accompanying litigation decisions, we need to take great care not to disclose specific cases, which would be a public disclosure of student privacy.

Special education litigation history would involve:

- CSDOE (CT State Department of Education) Complaints
- CHRO (CT Human Rights Organization) Complaints
- Special Education Lawsuits
- CSDOE Mediations
- CHRO Investigations
- Due Process filings

The results of these cases (Approximations in summary form)

- Additional student out of district placements \$400,000
- Additional services to students in Occupational Therapy, Speech Language Therapy and Reading support \$15,000
- Additional adult support include adding Paraprofessionals, Registered Behavior Technicians, and Board Certified Behavior Analysts, as well as extensive outside evaluations (student testing) \$170,000
- Required building staff to attend intensive professional development in special education (this is difficult to quantify-approximately up to \$30,000 in coverage expense)
- Required extensive in-person translation services \$3,000.
- Special Education legal fees are as follows:

School Year	Total
2019-2020 PARTIAL YEAR	\$5,347
2018-2019	\$20,702

With regard to Special Education outplacement costs (please note, this is not general high school tuition):

- Out of District Special Ed Tuition & Out of District Related Services-\$11,228,825
- Transportation-\$1.5 million
- Number of students-163