

Granite School District (GSD) Special Education Policies and Procedures Manual

Process and Timeline for GSD SpEd Manual Approval:

The Utah State Board of Education (USBE) Special Education Policies and Procedures Manual was updated August 2020. The USBE provided the following directives:

1. Each school district must align their local special education policies and procedures manual with the 2020 USBE manual by Oct 18, 2021.
2. The USBE will provide each LEA a manual template to develop their local special education policies and procedures manual.
3. LEA submits its local SpEd manual to Janet Hanson, USBE Special Education Specialist, for USBE approval.
4. LEA obtains approval from their local school board. Documentation of approval (board agenda and copy of the board meeting minutes showing approval) must be sent to the USBE within 30 days of school board approval.

GSD 2021 SpEd Manual Mirrors the 2020 USBE SpEd Manual.

Alignment between these two manuals facilitates GSD's:

1. Accountability to in-district and state annual compliance monitoring, our use of special education funds, and to the state complaint process.
2. Adherence to all special education state reporting requirements.
3. Capacity for the provision of a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to students with disabilities that reside in our district

August 2021 GSD SpEd Manual, Substantive Changes:

1. Section X was significantly altered to include several updates (e.g., Allowable uses of each type of State special education funds and how each is allocated).
2. Updated Utah Code and Administrative Rule citations to align with recodification of Section 53
3. Consolidated consent sections into one section to align with 34 CFR § 300.300.
4. Updated the procedures for Identifying Students with Specific Learning Disabilities (SLD)
5. Updated terminology for Rules related to services for individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing and added ASL interpreter requirements.
6. Added a definition of co-teaching.
7. Reviewed each use of the word "program" to ensure they were accurate (program of services v. funding program).
8. Clarified the definition of specially designed instruction (SDI)