

Special Education: TRP Education Services

Maximize impact with consistent implementation

Arizona's schools are facing a teacher retention crisis. According to current estimates, there are more than 400 mid year teaching vacancies in Maricopa County alone. In special education classrooms, the problem is amplified.

Recruiting and retaining special education teachers is one of the biggest challenges faced by Arizona's school districts. Some are forced to contract with national companies to provide support, and others opt for "the best they can find," which is often a novice teacher.

The Problem: Special Education teachers are required to be both instructional experts and case managers, but they are not trained in the complex issues needed to be effective in both roles. Schools face numerous challenges, including the following:

- **Special education caseloads that are out of compliance**
- **Child Study and Child Find processes lacking implementation**
- **No training available for general education teachers on compliance**
- **Inclusion and co-teaching missing from most campuses**
- **Special education programs that are implemented as a tangent effort**
- **Lack of effective development and oversight for special education department**

Barriers: Arizona Schools face many barriers to creating solutions for special education. A teacher shortage is the most common challenge, but many schools also struggle to afford the expert staff they need to be effective. Administration is often not trained in special education policies, which leads to weakness in oversight and development of the special education teachers and staff.

Our Solution: TRP Education Services is led by Arizona educators who are experts on local policy and implementation. All members of the leadership team at TRP Education Services hold teaching certificates in special education and have taught in Arizona classrooms. Their experience includes self-contained functional skills, emotional disabilities, Autism, resource, inclusion, and co-teaching.

We believe that each school should have access to an expert Director of Special Education Services. Special education teachers should execute a plan developed by someone with extensive experience in Arizona compliance and implementation strategy. From small charter schools to larger district schools, our model effectively ensures best practices for all students, including training for all teachers, Least Restrictive Environment (LRE), intervention strategies for the caseload, and compliance management.

TRP Education Services supports schools of all sizes with individualized solutions. Many of its partners are charter and private schools that may lack funding for large special education departments. TRP Education Services builds its programs to support the special education caseload of each campus. Services include the following:

- **Case Coordination:**
 - General education teacher training and follow up on accommodations and differentiation.
 - Strategy and coaching to ensure each student is being served in LRE with appropriate support.
 - Compliance experience and coordination with the Arizona Department of Education for file maintenance.
 - Caseload management, including coordination of records, initial placement, and exiting from special education.

- **Direct Services:**
 - Co-teaching and inclusion implementation for students that are best served in a general education classroom.
 - Service minutes for students needing small group and remediated work to meet their goals.

Most clients partner with TRP Education Services for both Case Coordination and Direct Services; however, they can also be executed separately. TRP Education Services provides high level oversight and implementation that is affordable for any campus. TRP is an Arizona solution for special education services, with a passionate leadership team that is committed to supporting local schools and their students with best practices and high quality implementation.