

# Putting the “P” in Partnership

New Principal Session: In this session you will learning about working with SSD and special education services, resources and supports.

Chaketa Mack-Riddle - Executive Director of Partner Districts

Julie Schroeder - Special Education Director, Valley Park

Michele Fitzpatrick - Asst. Principal, Valley Park Elementary



# Opening

- Who's in the room? (Names and Roles)
  - Presenters
  - Participants
    - Name and Roles
    - What is your knowledge of SSD?
- Menti Activity - This session is for you!

# Outcomes

---

- What is SSD? History and background.
- How does SSD work in my district/building and what is my role?
- How do I partner with SSD and my SSD admin team?
- Partnership Agreement
- What resources can I access as a partner district administrator?
- What information/connections will I walk away with?

# History of SSD

Special School District of St. Louis County (SSD) was formed in December 1957 after St. Louis County voters overwhelmingly approved a referendum establishing a countywide local school district to support the educational needs of children with disabilities.

At the same time, voters indicated the value they placed on educating children with disabilities by including in the referendum a countywide tax levy to fund the District. This investment by the community provides a separate dedicated funding source to support SSD's programs and services. SSD's unique status as a countywide public school district with its own tax base provides stability as well as equal access to a quality education for students across the county.





# Overview of SSD

## SSD Mission & Vision

Special School District of St. Louis County, the largest specialized education provider in the state, equips and empowers students of all learning abilities to excel to their greatest potential. This is realized through an inclusive, collaborative approach, supported by our comprehensive resources and deep expertise - all of which is centered on each student's unique needs.

### Mission

To support and empower students of all learning abilities to excel to their greatest potential.

### Vision

All students realize their full potential in life and learning.

### Values

Equity • Commitment • Collaboration



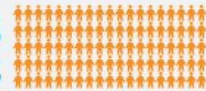
SPECIALIZED FOR SUCCESS



## SSD At A Glance



**24,728** STUDENTS



**265** SCHOOLS  
across St. Louis County

### our students

**648** Special Education  
**20,289** Partner Districts  
**868** Early Childhood  
**1,410** Career & Technical Education  
**953** SNAP (avg)  
**556** Homebound (avg)  
**47** Courts (avg)

**47%**  
Caucasian

**41%**  
African-American

**6%**  
Hispanic

**2%**  
Multi-Race

**2%**  
Asian

**1%**  
Native American/  
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander



Attend school in their home district



Receive free/reduced price lunches

### our staff

**477** Part-time staff  
**5,296** Full-time staff  
**76%** Hold Advanced Degrees  
**13** Average years of teaching experience



**236** Administrative-level staff  
**1,743** Paraprofessional-level staff  
**2,747** Teacher-level staff  
**470** Operational staff  
**477** Other staff members

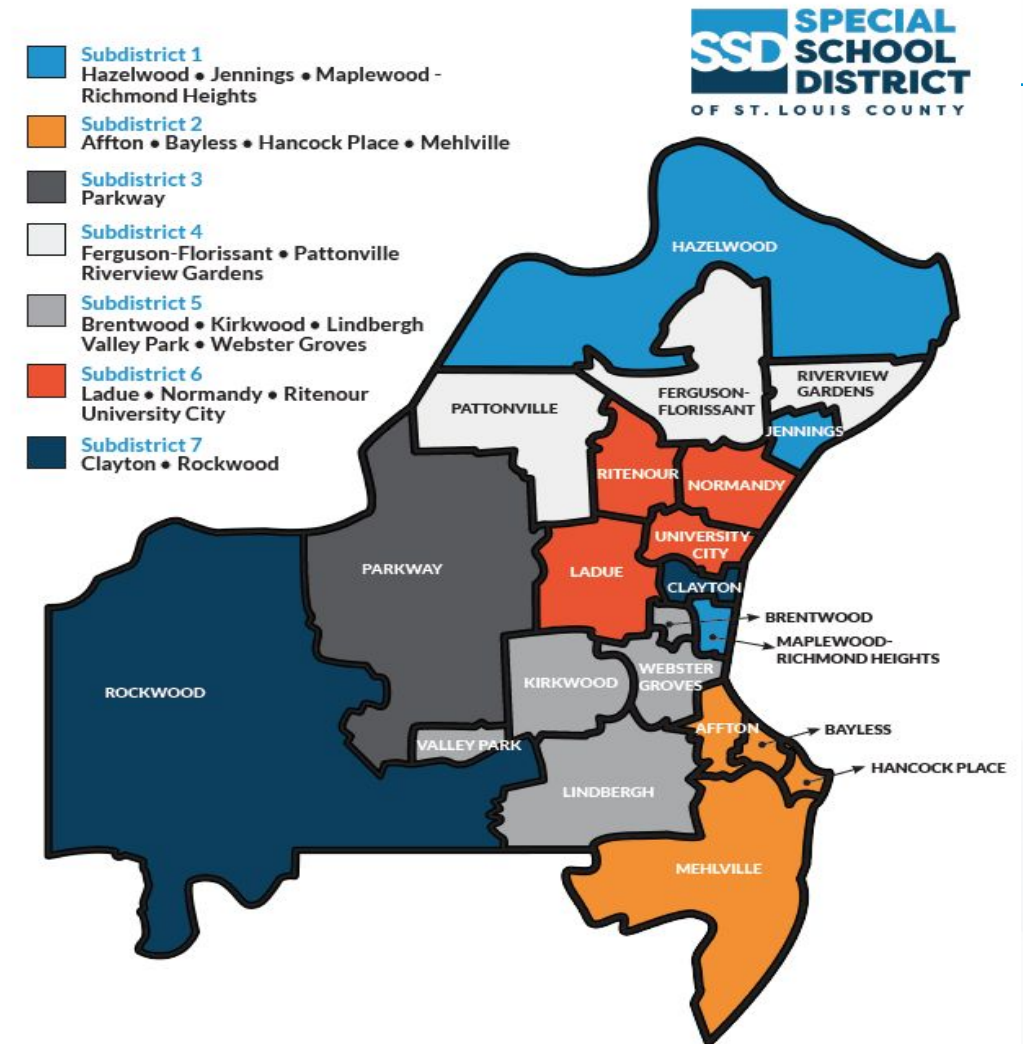
### our schools



# Partner Districts

SSD provides special education services to students in a variety of placements, which are governed by the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Services are based entirely on a student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

More than 97 percent of students who receive services from SSD staff attend a school in the school district in which they live. This means that the vast majority of special education services provided by SSD are delivered by SSD staff in 265 schools in 22 public school districts in St. Louis County. Students with more significant disabilities are educated in one of [SSD's five special education schools](#).



SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT • 12110 CLAYTON ROAD • TOWN & COUNTRY, MO 63131  
314.989.8100 • 314.989.8552 TTY

# SSD Stakeholders in Partner Districts

Your partner district and school will be supported by the following stakeholders from SSD:

- Administrators:
  - Special Education Director (partner district-wide)
  - Special Education Coordinator (partner district-wide with assigned schools)
- Certified Staff:
  - SSD Instructional Coach (partner district-wide)
  - Special Education Teacher(s)
  - Speech-Language Pathologist(s)
  - Occupational & Physical Therapist(s)
- Support Staff (as appropriate)
  - Paraprofessional(s)
  - Registered Behavior Technician(s)
- Additional Staff As Needed



# Partnership Agreement (revised May 2022)

## Background

Special School District (SSD) of St. Louis County, the largest specialized education provider in the state, equips and empowers students of all learning abilities to excel to their greatest potential. This is realized through an inclusive, collaborative approach, supported by our comprehensive resources and deep expertise - all of which is centered on each student's unique needs.

SSD provides special education services for all St. Louis County students with disabilities and career technical education for area high school students. SSD's status as a public school district with its own tax levy provides St. Louis County and Partner Districts with a unique educational delivery system for special education and career technical education. Another unique aspect of SSD is its governing structure. The SSD Governing Council, which is made up of one member of the Board of Education from each of the 22 Partner Districts, approves SSD's budget and its Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP), and elects the members of the SSD Board of Education.

This governance structure coupled with a distinctive educational delivery system provides many opportunities for partnership among SSD and Partner Districts.

## Categories

- 1: Staffing
- 2: Teaching, Learning & Accountability
- 3: Collaboration of Responsibilities & Resources
- 4: Student Services
- 5: Data & Technology
- 6: Transportation
- 7: Career and Technical Education (CTE)



# Resources and Supports

## THE WHAT:

[Multi-Tiered Systems of Support](#)  
[Tiered Models & Professional Learning Plans](#)  
[Resources for Literacy](#)  
[Resources for Numeracy](#)  
[Resources for Social Emotional Learning](#)  
Special Education Process/FA & BIP  
Co-Teaching  
Classroom Universal Supports  
[Autism & Applied Behavior Analysis](#)  
Data Team Process  
[Career & Technical Education/Programming](#)  
[Assistive Technology/Augmentative Communication](#)  
[Early Childhood Special Education](#)  
[Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion](#)  
[Family and Community Engagement](#)  
[Parent Education & Diversity Awareness](#)  
[Family & Community Resource Center](#)

## THE WHO:

[Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports Facilitator](#)  
Instructional Coaches  
[Literacy Coaches](#)  
[Math Coaches](#)  
[Social-Emotional Effective Practice Specialist](#)  
[Autism Effective Practice Specialist](#)  
[Paraprofessional Facilitator](#)  
[Applied Behavior Analyst \(ABA\) Associates/Coordinators](#)  
[Measurement & Assessment Coaches](#)  
Director-Compliance Liaison  
[Executive Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Accessibility](#)  
[PEDA Liaisons](#)

# Thank you ~

For your time today ~

For your participation ~

For your work with students every day ~

