Autism Spectrum Disorder
Cluster
Broward County Public Schools
Demographics

- 260,000 Students (6th Largest)
- 315 Schools (83 Charters)
- 32,125 Students with Disabilities
- 3,662 Students with ASD
Increase in ASD Student Population

- 1987 - between 70 and 80 students
- 2000 - 1,000 students
- 2010 - 1,900 students
- 2012 - 2,475 students
Reasons For Growth

- World wide growth in identification
- Geography
- Nationally recognized diagnostic center
- Services and reputation
History

- Early 90’s first students were removed from centers and placed in a typical elementary school (1 class)
- By the mid 1990’s 6 sites
- Today 31 sites
- Next year 32 sites
What is an ASD Cluster?

- Locations
- Ratios
- Staff
Locations

- Elementary Schools Located Throughout the District
  - Geographic
  - Transportation
  - Space available
Staff

- 3:1 ratio for the overall cluster
  - Autism Coach
  - Speech Language Pathologist
  - Para Educator (1 per class)
  - Teacher
  - Transition Para Educator (2 per cluster)
  - Pool Sub
Autism Coach

◆ Staff Development
◆ Behavioral Support
◆ Curriculum Assistance
◆ Scheduling
◆ Parent/Community Liaison
◆ Leadership/Cluster Meetings
◆ Transition Support
SLP

◆ Communication Goals

◆ Connects Communication to Curriculum

◆ Assistive Technology

◆ Behavior As It Relates To Communication

◆ Social /Leisure
Teacher

- Curriculum/Schedules
- Student Assessment
- Data Collection/Analysis
- Behavior Management
- Daily/Weekly Home Communication
- IEP development
Para Educator/Teacher Assistant

- Assist with Implementing Curriculum
- Centers
- Behavior
- Independent Functioning
- Specials, Lunch, Recess, Duties
- Set Up/ Clean Up
- Data Collection
- Transitions
Transition/Inclusion Para

- Link Between Self Contained Classes and General Education Classes
- Assist the General Education Teacher
- Can Assist All Students
- Reinforcement of IEP Goals
- Data Collection
- Transitions/Behavior/Duties/Independent Functioning
Pool Sub

- Participates In All Staff Development
- Substitutes for Cluster Classroom Teachers or Paraprofessionals
- Provides Coverage for Meetings
- Assists Classroom Teacher When Not Needed As A Substitute
Funding

- $178,000/class

- FTE revenue

- IDEA funds (covers the deficit costs)
  Approximately $11,000,000
A Day In The Life...
Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Cluster Standards

- Structured Teaching
- Communication
- Academic Curriculum
- Individual Student Learning Needs
- Behavioral & Social
- Home & School Connection
Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Cluster Standards

- **Schedules (Visible)**
  
  Classroom/ staff/ student object/picture/icon/word/sentence

- **Defined Physical Structure**

  Break/Leisure /Play
  Small group
  Direct Teaching
  Transition
  Large group
  Independent task area

- **Structured Work Systems**
Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Cluster Standards

- **Alternative Communication Systems**
  PECs, sign language, visuals, total communication, paired with verbal

- **Systematic Direct Language Instruction**
  Ex: STAR & Social Thinking

- **All Language Intents**

- **Collaboration/Pragmatics/Visuals**
Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
Cluster Standards

Standard-3
Academic Curriculum

- Evidence of research/evidence based classroom materials
- Evidence of grade level general education materials

Key: Systematic & Explicit Instruction
Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Cluster Standards

- School Wide Positive Behavior Management
- Data Data Data
  - Antecedent, Behavior, Consequence
- Frequency, Duration, Intensity
- Zone Management By Staff
- Evidence Based Techniques
- Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
- Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA)
- Positive Behavior Intervention Plan (PBIP)
- Systematic Social Skills Instruction
Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Cluster Standards

- Alignment with State Standards
- Teacher Lesson Plans Reflect Differentiation
- Sensory Needs
- Organizational Strategies
- Errorless Learning, Reinforcement, First/Then
- Leisure/Play
- Conducive Learning Environment
- Generalization of Skills Taught (Systematically)
Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
Cluster Standards

- Daily Home Communication
- Collaboration Among Service Providers
- Documentation of Services
- Cluster Team Meetings
- Parent Meetings/Training
- Matriculation (5th Grade to Middle School)