

3/9/2026 Sped Webinar Q & A

Q. Is this webinar being recorded? I don't see the last mtg on the AUSD website.

A. The Special Education PowerPoint is now available on our website for families to review. This presentation provides valuable information about Special Education services, supports and budget. You can also view the Special Education Presentation to the Board on March 11, 2026 here:

<https://youtube.com/live/xidTEHcmQHo>

Please take a moment to explore the content, and contact the Special Education Department if you have any questions.

Q. The presentation that is being shown is very small. Is this presentation going to be available on the district website so that we may see these important slides and gain a better understanding?

A. The Special Education PowerPoint is now available on [our website](#) for families to review. This presentation provides valuable information about Special Education services, supports and budget. Please take a moment to explore the content, and contact the Special Education Department if you have any questions.

Q. I am able to access the Q & A but have not been admitted to the meeting. Who else is being denied participation?

A. The meeting was set up in a webinar format rather than a Teams/Zoom meeting, therefore only presenters were shown on the screen.

Q. Would you say it's because needs aren't being met?

A. The team is unsure what this question is referring to.

Q. Can you read numbers out going forward? We can't see because it is too small

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Q. Regarding chronic absenteeism, many parents are sending sick kids to school consistently. Many of our neurodivergent children are immunocompromised or have a very hard time while sick and are unable to attend school after this occurs. I do think that sending very ill children to school needs to be addressed classroom by classroom moving forward. Just a thought.

A. Here is the district's policy on illness:

[When is too sick for school?](#)

[District Website - Attendance](#)

[Board Policy 5113 Absences and Excuses](#)

Q. What do we believe is causing higher NPS enrollment? Tied to compliance?

A. Nonpublic Schools (NPS) provide specialized instructional and behavioral support for students whose needs are determined by an IEP team to be too intensive for public school services, offering therapeutic learning environments, support for extensive medical needs, and intensive behavioral, mental-health, and academic interventions through small class sizes and highly individualized programming.

Q. Are all questions asked in this forum when shown as anonymous all privately shown who is in this meeting? some parents want to remain anonymous, but are not sure if the district is tracking their participation. Can you please verify during this meeting.

A. The district has a list of emails from those who joined the webinar, but all Q&A questions and comments are anonymous.

Q. Are questions from the Q&A going to be answered out loud?

A. The panel was unable to answer the Q&A questions during the webinar.

Q. Can "overidentifying" be defined please? How does Child Find come into play here and is it being utilized or are most referrals coming from families, advocates, and outside agencies?

A. Over-identification in special education refers to situations where students are incorrectly or unnecessarily identified as having a disability and placed in special education. This often disproportionately affects students from certain racial, cultural, linguistic, or socioeconomic backgrounds. Contributing factors can include biased or culturally insensitive assessment tools, misinterpretation of

behavior or language differences as disabilities, and systemic practices that do not adequately account for environmental, instructional, or cultural factors. When over-identification occurs, students may be separated from general education peers and experience limited access to grade-level curriculum and opportunities, even though special education services are not actually required.

Child Find is a federal requirement under IDEA that obligates school districts to actively identify, locate, and evaluate all students who may have disabilities and need special education services—including students who are homeless, highly mobile, English learners, or attending private schools. The intent of Child Find is early identification and support, not automatic placement in special education. Child Find must be balanced with appropriate safeguards. While schools are required to identify students with suspected disabilities, they must also ensure that referrals are based on documented educational need and not on factors such as language acquisition, cultural differences, lack of appropriate instruction, or temporary behavioral challenges. Proper implementation of Child Find includes the use of general education interventions, progress monitoring, and data-based decision-making before moving toward special education eligibility.

Q. Is all of this analysis going to be done internally (just AUSD)? And is the district going to analyze risks to compliance and safety PRIOR to May?

A. AUSD will have an outside representative from the California Department of Education assigned to AUSD as part as the Compliance and Improvement Monitoring (CIM) process.

(CIM) is a multi-year process and the CDE recognizes that meaningful improvement likely does not occur in a short period of time and requires a substantial focus on areas in need of improvement to effect positive outcomes for Students with Disabilities, therefore, it will not be completed by May.

School Services Organization is currently performing a review of the Special Education Department.

Q. We like the meetings, the ad hoc committee was great, and the recent resource collaboration was wonderful! SPED is doing a very hard job and you have been instrumental for our students and this community. We want to support and help in any way that we can. I do think that more information regarding meetings needs to be put out to the public. A lot of SPED parents do not know about the meetings you are holding. Can social media be utilized?

A. Thank you. We will explore the ability to post on social media. Currently, meetings are placed on the [front page of the AUSD website under EVENTS.](#)

The Special Education department posts events on the [Special Education Department website](#). The Special Education Department also communicates events through Parent Square. We will also be launching our CARES (Collaboration, Advocacy, Resources, Engagement, Support) group bi-monthly. More information is coming soon.

Q. Can we have this PowerPoint available I wasn't able to see all the slides because they were small

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Q. I hope you are seeing our questions... because they are not being answered.

A. The panel was unable to answer the Q&A questions during the webinar.

Q. Wow. No answers then. Why have a Q&A open? We still had 12 minutes left in the meeting. Surely some questions could have been answered.

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