



Arlington
Public
Schools

Services for Students with Special Needs

Program Evaluation

ASEAC
December 12, 2017



Students with Special Needs

Special education

504

Multi-tiered system of support (MTSS, or ATSS)

Intervention Assistance Teams (IAT)





Evaluation Process

2017-18

- Publish RFP
- Select contractor

2018-19

- Contractor works with APS to collect data
- Contractor reports findings and recommendations





Program Evaluation Goals

- Spur **continuous improvement** of outcomes
- Ensure the **effective use of resources**
- Facilitate **effective decision-making**
- Hold staff, students, schools, departments, programs, and the school system **accountable** for their contributions to the achievement of these aims





Opportunities for Input

RFP Process

- December 4: Meeting
 - School, central staff
 - County staff
 - ASEAC reps
- Meeting participants casting a wider net for input
- “Shortlist interviews,” provide input into selection of contractor

Next Year: TBD in collaboration with selected contractor





Evaluation Questions

- Overarching questions about experiences of students with special needs in APS
- Multiple data sources will answer questions.
Examples:
 - Assessments
 - Classroom observations
 - Interviews, surveys, focus groups
 - Document reviews
- Evaluation questions are not survey questions





Evaluation Questions

Source of draft questions:

- Prior evaluation's RFP
- Discussion with Special Education, Student Services, and ATSS about what's missing
- Borrowed from ESOL/HILT evaluation

As you review questions, consider:

- Does data exist that can answer the question?
- If not, will a contractor be able to collect data to answer the question?





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