

2022-23 Special Education Priorities & Strategic Planning

Dr. Tania May, Assistant Superintendent, Special Education

Dr. Cassie Martin, Executive Director of Special Education

Cyndie Hargrave, Director of Operations, Special Education



Greetings from Tania!



Dr. Tania May is focused on collaborating with schools, community partners, families, and students in support of improved outcomes for students with disabilities in Washington. Tania has been at OSPI since 2014, and her experiences include elementary inclusive practices, high school co-teaching, multilingual supports for students with disabilities, and behavioral supports in non-public agencies. She also has a deep, personal connection to special education as the parent of an autistic teenager.



OSPI Strategic Goals

OSPI supports and empowers students, educators, families, and communities through equitable access to high-quality curriculum, instruction, and supports. Our shared focus is supporting all our state's learners by providing coordinated, data-driven resources and supports to school districts. At the center of our work are our commitments to eliminating opportunity gaps and to supporting students furthest from educational justice. We are committed to undoing deficit narratives, policies, and practices; and building our knowledge and leadership for anti-racist policy and implementation.

**Goal
1**

Equitable Access to Strong Foundations

Increase student access to and participation in high-quality early learning and elementary by amplifying and building on inclusive, asset-based policies and practices.



**Goal
2**

Rigorous Learner Centered Options in Every Community

Provide all students with access to challenging coursework, culturally responsive and anti-racist curriculum, and pathways to graduation and beyond that meet their unique interests.



**Goal
3**

A Diverse, Inclusive, and Highly Skilled Workforce

Prepare all students with educators who are reflective of our global society by increasing access to a workforce that is diverse, culturally responsive, and racially literate.



**Goal
4**

A Committed, Unified, and Customer-Focused OSPI

Support school districts through consistent, timely, and meaningful funding and supports that center the needs of students. Agency operations unified in facilitating services and resources.



OSPI Strategic Planning 2021-2024

Priority: Co-design and incentivize special education priorities to shape equitable outcomes for all students with disabilities by leveraging diverse, inclusive learning environments, and celebrating models of excellence.

Partnering for Equity

- Partner with students, families, CBOs, and PD providers.
- Anti-racist, accessible, culturally responsive, communications.
- Recruit, retain, and support staff of color & with disabilities.

Shaping Inclusionary Outcomes

- Resources & training to eliminate use of restraint and isolation.
- Support students served in district, in neighborhood schools.
- Inclusive early learning opportunities.

Leading with Intention

- Model alignment of fiscal, data, program, and dispute resolution.
- Data analysis for monitoring & dispute resolution trends.
- Fiscal guidance to support staffing & funding innovations.

Fostering Excellence

- Explore models of excellence in IPP & MTSS.
- Cross-collaboration, including ECSE and Tribal partners
- Explore diversity in local/regional "grow your own" routes.



2022-23 Legislative Priorities

- In 2020-21, federal IDEA funds accounted for 12% of the special education funds received by districts; state special education funds (including safety net) accounted for the other 88%.
- In 2020-21, school districts in Washington expended 18% more than they received in special education funding, a gap of over \$300M (covered through basic education and local levies).
- OSPI is working on a Decision Package to remove the 13.% cap on state special education funds AND increase the special education multipliers, paired with ongoing IPP & MTSS supports.

Welcome, Cassie!!



Dr. Cassie Martin is joining the OSPI Special Education team as our state's Executive Director of Special Education! For over 25 years, Cassie has dedicated her professional life and learning to equitable and inclusive education for students with disabilities in support of strong educational outcomes for all students across the educational system. Cassie's experiences have included specializing in the creation and scale of inclusive practices and systems in public schools in Washington state.



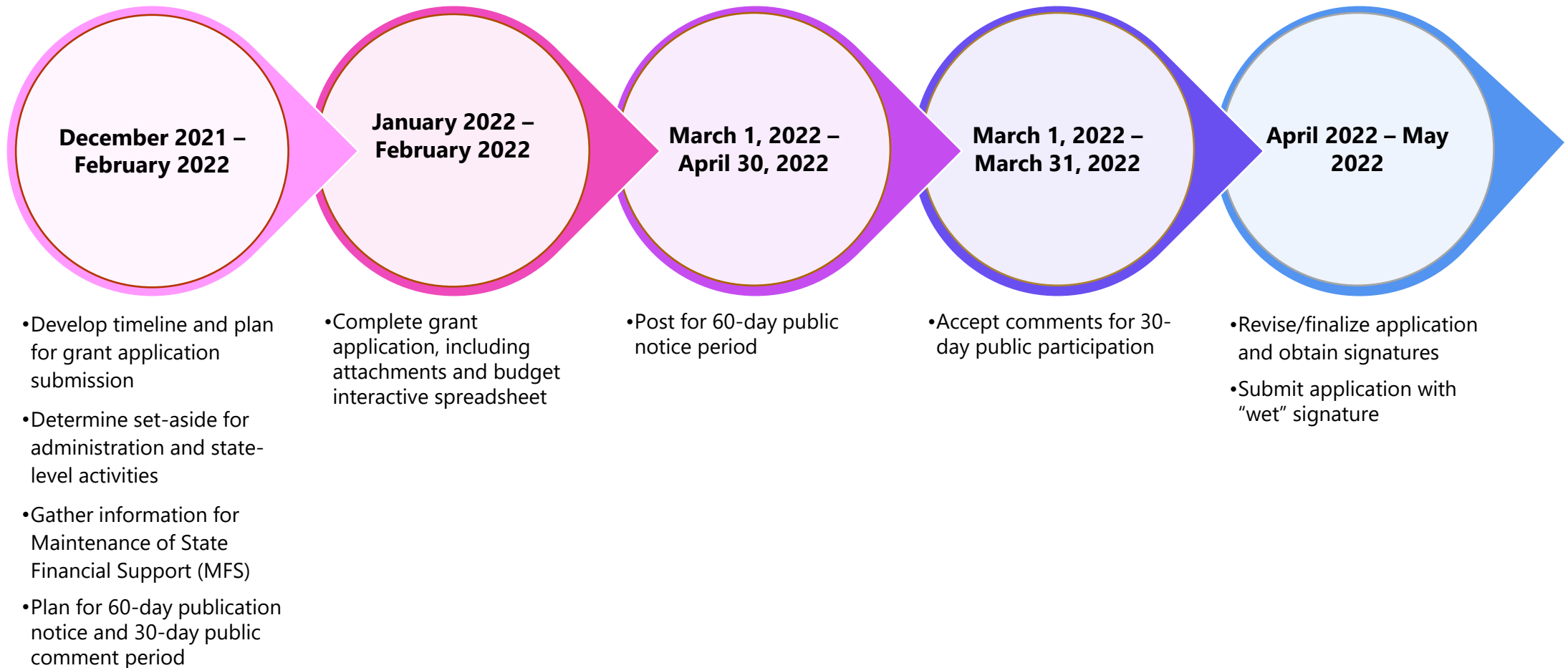
Congratulations, Cyndie!



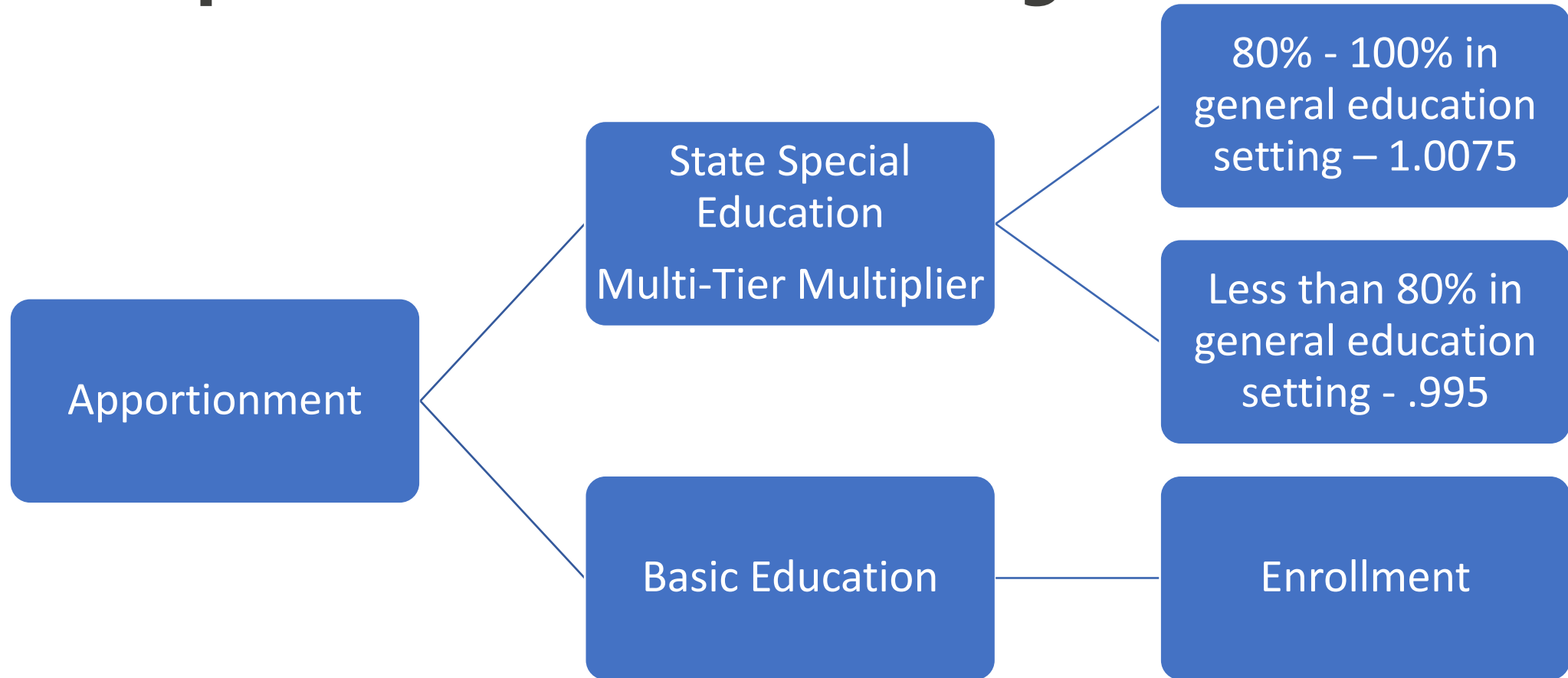
Cyndie Hargrave is a friendly and familiar face on our Special Education Operations team! We are thrilled that Cyndie has stepped into the role of Director of Operations for Special Education, and her leadership is helping to shape and frame new connections between program and fiscal partners.



OSPI Annual IDEA Grant Application Timeline



State Special Education Funding



Calculations can be found on the LEA's **Apportionment** and **1735T** Reports (<https://www.k12.wa.us/policy-funding/school-apportionment/safs-report-api>).

American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) IDEA Funds

ARP funds are intended to Prevent, Prepare, and Respond to the pandemic. These supplemental IDEA Part B funds follow the same requirements. [Click here to download the 2022-23 FP 149 allocations for all LEAs.](#)

2021-22 total Washington state allocations for FP 149 included:

- Section 611 (ages 3 to 21): \$53,703,790
- Section 619 (ages 3 to 5): \$4,410,281

As of July 1, 2022, school districts have expended the following amounts of FP 149 funds:

- Section 611: \$16,342,515 (30.4% of total allocation)
- Section 619: \$1,038,025 (23.5% of total allocation)

Starting in fall 2022, OSPI Special Education will start contacting LEAs that have not yet applied for or expended any FP 149 funds, to explore options for reallocating unused funds.

Allowable Expenditures for ARP IDEA B Funds

- Materials, supplies, and supplemental curriculum to mitigate gaps/challenges related to the pandemic, including the provision of recovery services.
- Professional development for special education and general education personnel who support students with disabilities.
- Mental health services for students and related supports for access to mental health resources.

Allowable Expenditures for ARP IDEA B Funds

- Activities to support returning to school, such as supplies for cleaning and disinfecting classrooms.
- Specialized equipment or devices to assist students with disabilities.
- Special education teachers and administrators; related services providers (e.g., speech therapists, psychologists), contracted staff and trainer of trainers, etc. – consider sustainability when utilizing these funds for staffing.

Contact Us

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