

Special Education:

The special education department will meet this month to go over a number of topics that have been updated by state regulations. The online resources that house IDEA guidelines and supporting documents have been updated and this summer, the DE will unveil a new IEP system called ACHIEVE. The guidance site can be accessed at <https://iowaideainformation.org/>. The site is referred to as “i3” which stands for Iowa IDEA Information. It is a comprehensive site that houses all special education policies and procedures. The teachers have participated in webinars last fall to acquaint themselves with the site, but it will take some time to become completely comfortable with it.

SEL:

The SEL team will be participating in a data analysis event with the building administrators to explore the responses from the teacher survey done first semester. This data analysis will be helpful to inform decisions as we move into the second half of the school year.

The SEL team will be meeting this month to revisit the district action plan for their work and make revisions based on new resources and challenges.

THRIVE:

Current enrollment-- 20 students

We have had two more students complete their graduation requirements, bringing our total to three with a number of seniors on track to graduate by the end of the year. Despite the challenges of COVID, THRIVE students and teachers have shown great resilience.

This week, THRIVE teacher, Lori Burton, led the students in each session in an activity called the Brain Architecture Game. It was a simulation which had teams of students building a “brain” based on the advantages and challenges a child might have based on life experiences. The students learned a lot and had an opportunity to work in teams. Here are some pictures capturing this learning experience:

