Joseph Navarro

Director of Special Education

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Summary

Director of special education with 12 years in special education, including 4 years leading services for 2,300 students with disabilities in a 22,000-student district. Oversees IDEA and state compliance, a $38M budget and 260 staff, and works with families, principals and SELPA partners to keep services strong and on time.

Experience

07/2022 - Present
Fresno, CA

Director of Special Education

San Joaquin Ridge Unified School District
Unified district of 22,000 students and 38 schools.

- Lead special education services for **2,300** students with 120 teachers and 140 paraeducators and related staff.
- Raise IEP compliance on timelines from 81% to 98% with a new case management dashboard.
- Manage a $38M special education budget, recovering $1.4M through Medi-Cal billing over 3 years.
- Cut due process filings from 11 to 3 a year through early mediation and parent training.

07/2018 - 06/2022
Clovis, CA

Special Education Program Coordinator

Sierra Foothill Unified School District
District of 15,000 students.

- Coordinated **14** special day classes and the district autism program for 400 students.
- Trained 200 teachers and aides on IEP goal writing and behavior support.
- Prepared 3 state compliance reviews with no findings of noncompliance.
- Opened 2 inclusive preschool classrooms serving 36 children with and without disabilities.

08/2014 - 06/2018
Fresno, CA

Special Education Teacher

Cedar Grove Elementary School
Mild-to-moderate resource program, grades 2-5.

- Taught a resource program for **28** students with mild-to-moderate disabilities.
- Wrote and managed 28 IEPs a year with 100% on-time annual reviews.
- Partnered with 6 general education teachers on co-taught reading and math blocks.

Skills

- IDEA
- IEP Compliance
- Special Education Budget
- Medi-Cal Billing
- Case Management
- Due Process
- Mediation
- Inclusive Preschool
- State Compliance Reviews
- Communication

Education

05/2018
Fresno, CA

Master of Arts

California State University, Fresno
Educational Leadership

Certificates

06/2020

Clear Administrative Services Credential

California Commission on Teacher Credentialing

06/2014

Education Specialist Instruction Credential (Mild/Moderate)

California Commission on Teacher Credentialing