

WestEd Study: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

(last updated on 7/24/26)



The purpose of this document is to share frequently asked questions and their answers regarding the WestEd Study with our community. We will update the list every couple of weeks based on the questions we receive.

Who is WestEd, and why the study?	EGUSD recently partnered with WestEd, a leading nonpartisan, nonprofit education research agency, to conduct a comprehensive Special Education System Review. Elk Grove Unified School District is committed to continuous improvement in our processes, services, and programs to ensure that all students with disabilities achieve positive outcomes through their school experiences. The ultimate goal is to strengthen our special education services and improve student outcomes. And, by strengthening these systems, we also improve the quality of our programs and services for all students.
What does the study review?	This study is an objective review of our organizational, fiscal, and instructional systems. The study is centered around three key questions: • Are the programs and services of the District appropriately designed to maximize the outcomes for the students receiving special education services, including dually identified students who are multilingual learners? • Are the District's processes and organizational structures designed for effectiveness, efficiency, and fiscal sustainability in improving results for students receiving special education and related services?

	Are the District's staffing and fiscal management structure designed for effectiveness, efficiency, and fiscal sustainability in improving results for students receiving special education services?
Who initiated the study?	The District initiated this study on its own. This reflects our deep commitment to student outcomes, continuous improvement, and transparency with our community. This study is in alignment with our learning vision of "Every Student Learning, in Every Classroom, in Every Subject, Every Day".
How does our District benefit from this study?	This process has been an exciting opportunity for us to engage with staff, families and partners to do a full review of our program and identify areas where we are being successful as well as areas where we can improve. Identifying areas of improvement can feel challenging at times, but there is such opportunity too as we plan to continuously improve. The ultimate goal of the study is to strengthen our special education services and improve student outcomes. What is more inspiring than improving outcomes for students? We anticipate that our improvements in this area will also benefit all students as it will also improve the ways that we work together to provide support to all students.