008.5 Interview with Principal Kasey Johnson

**Question #1: In what capacity do you interact with the Educational Diagnostician?**

As principal of Foerster Elementary I interact with the Educational Diagnostician when I attend ARD meetings. I often communicate with the Diagnostician when I have questions concerning student’s cognitive abilities and the extent in which the child is performing academically.

**Question#2: As an Administrator, how do your duties connect to the Special Services Department?**

As an administrator I make frequent visits to the special services department because the population of students in which they service have the most difficulty attaining an efficient rating on Formal Evaluations such as the STAAR Exam. I have frequent meetings with this department to ensure that out special needs students are receiving the accommodations that will help them to become successful learners.

**Question #3: When attending an Annual Review Dismissal (ARD), what is your role as an Administrator on the committee?**

As an administrator, my role as part of the ARD Committee is to provide the team with any administrative information that the school may have collected on the particular student present at the meeting. I often review the student’s behavior file and discuss attendance so that I can provide non-academic information to provide the team with a full picture of the student’s temperament.

**Question#4 In your opinion, How important is a diagnostic academic assessment for students with learning deficiencies?**

The Diagnostic Assessment of students with learning disabilities is extremely important because in order to provide interventions the current level in which the student is performing must be identified. The campus has many different support systems and interventions for students that struggle academically. The special needs population has additional in class support personnel that can assist in instructional practices to foster academic success amongst these students. Assistive technology is also provided to provide the very best education possible to our students.