

Fort Smith Public School District

Huddle Up partner since 2022

Fort Smith Public School District (FSPS) is one of the largest employers in Fort Smith, Arkansas, with 26 schools located across the state's River Valley region. FSPS serves 14,000 students, with over 2,000 qualifying for special education services.



The Challenge

How to support more students in need of quality speech therapy services?

Prior to partnering with Huddle Up, FSPS faced a critical shortage in Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs). As the district's existing providers left for retirement, parental leave, or new jobs, the district struggled to hold enough SLPs on staff to keep up with the demand for speech therapy that their IEP population required.

The Solution

Amplify support system with our reliable SLPs while empowering families to participate in the care journey

Thanks to Huddle Up's nationwide pool of 250+ specialized providers, FSPS was able to hire and retain enough SLPs to achieve IEP compliance. Though one principal was initially weary of using virtual providers, all skepticism dissolved after sitting in on a session and observing the student's high level of engagement. As the district's special education director emphasizes, the quality of care is what matters most - not the medium through which it is delivered.

FSPS was also an early adopter of our Family Care Hub, which has improved engagement with parents. From resources to help support therapy progress and child growth at home to a dashboard that notifies families of upcoming sessions, FSPS feels perks like these are what set Huddle Up apart from the rest.

Our Partnership

22,000+

Sessions delivered during the 23-24 school year

27

Huddle Up providers serving the district

18

Schools supported

4x

Students able to receive services

“

If I could use one word to describe Huddle Up, it would be **responsive**. They heard my cry for help and they responded with exceptional support ... **They really care about the needs of our students and the needs of our families.**”

-Domonique Alexander

FSPS, Director of Special Education