

Special Education Student Services and Programming

Mainstream Support

Many students with an IEP are included in the general education curriculum. These students receive additional support through their Warrior Time or monitoring by a Special Education case manager.

Additionally, co-taught general education classes are available in the courses below. This program provides special education and reading support to all students within the regular education setting. Students will receive services including but not limited to: instruction or assessment accommodations according to their individualized learning needs as well as a variety of teaching strategies and the use of technology to teach concepts and vocabulary.

Reading 3
CT English 9
CT English 10
CT English 11
CT Biology
CT Physical Science
CT Animal Lab/Env. Sci.
CT Algebra
CT Geometry
CT Algebra II
CT Human Geography
CT US History
CT Economics
CT Government

Bridges Program (BDG)

This program serves students with a variety of disabilities that are currently functioning academically significantly below grade level in the areas of reading, math and written expression. The Bridge Program adapts core curriculum and standards to meet the individual learning needs of the student. The program offers a low student to teacher ratio including a paraprofessional to provide individualized instruction to no more than 13 students in each period. Consistent research based assessment is provided to monitor student growth and achievement frequently.



BDG English 9
BDG English 10
BDG English 11
BDG English 12
BDG Biology
BDG Physical Science
BDG Environmental Science
BDG Math Operations
BDG Math Concepts
BDG Pre-Algebra
BDG Human Geography
BDG American History
BDG Economics
BDG Government
BDG Health
BDG Consumer Management

Achieve Program

The Achieve Program is a highly structured environment for students that require intensive academic and behavioral support that offers skill development in educational, social-emotional and transitional skills. Many of the courses offered will be co-taught with regular education and special education staff to meet the needs of all students regardless of eligibility.

A primary focus of the program is helping each student accept responsibility for his/her own academic progress and behavioral choices in the school setting. This will be accomplished in the context of a highly structured classroom environment which offers clear expectations, consistency and supportive therapeutic component. Each student's choices will be reinforced through direct and immediate feedback throughout the day, as well as group and/or individual counseling as needed.

By fostering a supportive relationship with each student, we will work together with that student to achieve the following goals: 1) development of appropriate problem-solving skills, 2) development of appropriate interpersonal skills, 3) increased school success, 4) development of a vocational plan, including goals to be accomplished in the high school program, as well as long-range goals for work and/or education and ultimately, 5) high school graduation.





The LINK Program

The LINK programs is designed to provide a Life Skills focus to integrating a student's skills in the following areas of their complete life experience: Community, Vocational, Functional Academics, Social Awareness, Self – Reliance.

Students will participate in a variety of transition experiences that include but are not limited to:

Cooking Experiences: Menu Planning and Budgeting, Ordering at a restaurant;

Field trips: Mall, Grocery Store, Apple farm, Pumpkin picking, Zoo, Robert Crown Center, Navy Pier, Theater;

Safety/Transportation: Metra, Pace, Police/Fire departments;

Teamwork: Fundraising, Problem Solving real life situations, Cooperative creation of products, peer mediation, Special Olympics day as well as basketball;

Money skills: Budgeting, bank accounts.

Developmental Learning Program (DLP)

This district-wide program focuses on life skills. It also includes a community component. Students in this program are supervised during all transitions and lunch, as well as on and off transportation.

Extended School Year (ESY)

Extended school year is a program for students who may show a regression in skills without schooling during the summer months.

District 88 LIFE Transition Program

The LIFE program is housed at our district office. This program is designed for students ages 19-22 who need additional assistance preparing for their adult lives. The focus of this program is vocational and life skills.

Related Services (as needed)

Social Work
Speech-Language Pathology
Occupational Therapy
Transportation
1:1 student aides
Art & Music Therapy

Overview

Special Education helps personalize the learning environment for students. Through each child's Individualized Education Plan (IEP), the best blend of services and placement is designed. That being said, each plan is unique. The information provided in this brochure gives an overview of services offered. Some of these included services may be part of your child's IEP, and others may not. Each year, the IEP is reviewed at a team meeting, and eligibility for services is determined every three years.

Who We Are

Sara Courington, Dept. Chair
Matt Cochran, IEP Coordinator
Carmen Avdilu, Counselor
James Bolsinger, Teacher
Brandon Collings, Teacher
Maggie Lamb, Teacher
Tiffany Lamberty, Teacher
Nicholas Metcalf, Teacher
Bernie Nash, Teacher
Vanessa Palm, Teacher
Christopher Perkins, Teacher
Michael Phillips, Teacher
Joyith Pompei, Teacher
Jeffrey Reher, Teacher
Elizabeth Stady, Teacher
Rachel Tacito, Teacher
Gary Walker, Teacher
Margaret Wealton, Teacher

Willowbrook High School Special Education Services & Programs