

Special Services Annual Notices

Americans with Disabilities – Section 504/Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability

Pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and its implementing regulations (“Section 504”), no otherwise qualified individual with a disability shall, solely by reason of his/her disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. The Board of Education does not discriminate in admission or access to, participation in, or treatment, or employment in, its programs or activities. As such, the Board’s policies and practices will not discriminate against employees and students with disabilities, will provide equal opportunity for employment, and will make accessible to qualified individuals with disabilities its facilities, programs and activities.

A copy of the Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act may be obtained from the district’s Compliance Officers: Mr. Joseph Knoll or Mrs. Carole Sutton at 330-823-7458 or from the Special Services Director, Mr. Dan Swisher at 330-823-7453.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), school districts must give parents of a child with disabilities a copy of procedural safeguards once a year. However, a copy of procedural safeguards also must be given to parents upon initial referral or parental request for an evaluation, upon filing a request for a due process hearing and upon request of a parent (20 USC Section 1415 (d) (1)). School districts may post a copy of the procedural safeguards on its website (20 USC Section 1415 (d) (1)). See the Ohio Department of Education’s document on procedural safeguards at <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Special-Education/A-Guide-to-Parent-Rights-in-Special-Education> and click on “A Guide to Parent Rights in Special Education.”

IDEIA

The Marlinton Local School District provides educational services to disabled students from birth to age 21 utilizing federal assistance through IDEIA funds to enhance the basic program. Disabilities including the areas of hearing, vision, learning, behavior, speech/language, health/physical disabilities, traumatic brain injury, autism, or any combination of these, are considered handicapping conditions. An application is on file at the Special Services Department and is available for examination and recommendations by district residents. If you or someone you know, may be in need of special education and related services, please contact Mr. Dan Swisher, Special Services Director, at 330-823-7453.

Title I/IDEA-B Flow Through Notification

The Marlinton Local School District receives notification of their entitlement of federal funds allocated in accordance with the Title I/Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Public law 92-142. Utilization of the funds is designated to provide services and programs for disabled students. Persons who wish to comment on how to utilize these designated funds are welcome and encouraged to contact Mr. Dan Swisher, Special Services Director at 330-823-7453 or email at d_swisher@marlingtonlocal.org.

Child Find – A Search for all Children with Disabilities

Child Find is the process of identifying, locating, and evaluating children with disabilities who may be in need of special education and related services. Both state and local education agencies are given the responsibility by federal and state laws to conduct Child Find activities so that children who need special services have the opportunity to receive those services. Child Find's purpose is:

- To promote public awareness of disabilities
- Assist school districts in finding children who may have disabilities and who otherwise may not have come to their attention
- Enable children and families to receive the special education and related services that are needed

What does a disability mean?

- For age 3 – 5: an established condition known to result in delay, or a documented developmental delay.
- For ages 5 – 21: identification of one or more of the following conditions: autism, deaf-blindness, hearing impairment, other health impairment, emotional disturbance, specific learning disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, and/or visual impairment including blindness.

Parents, relatives, public and private agency employees, and concerned citizens are used to help school districts find children who may have a disability and need special education and related services. The school district will contact the parents of the child to find out if the child needs to be evaluated. Free testing is available to families to determine whether or not a special need exists. If a need is identified, the child can begin receiving the appropriate special education related services

Gifted Education Program

Our gifted/talented program offers a wide range of services to students. The Gifted Coordinator works within the district to identify and service gifted students. Gifted intervention specialists serve students directly through enrichment groups in math and reading, pullout classes, field trips, mentorship programs, and whole class enrichment presentations. In addition, the gifted program offers support to classroom teachers through staff development seminars, teaching materials, and funding to attend conferences that deal with issues in the gifted area. Our goal is to help students become independent, lifelong learners who have all the skills they need to pursue their passion.

**If you know of a child who may have special needs, help is available.
You can contact our Special Services Office (330-823-7453).**

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

The District implements PBIS on a system-wide basis. The Board directs the Superintendent/designee to develop a PBIS system that is consistent with the components set forth in the state Board of Education's (SBOE) policy on positive behavior interventions and supports. The District encourages family involvement as an integral part of its PBIS system. A copy of the district's policy may be viewed by clicking on board policy link at the beginning of these notices and searching for Policy 5630.01, or may be requested through the Administration Offices. Questions regarding the policy should be directed to Mr. Dan Swisher, 10320 Moulin Avenue NE, Alliance, Ohio 44601, telephone: 330-823-7453 or by email at d_swisher@marlingtonlocal.org.