

STUDENTS

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Pursuant to Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 U.S.C. 1411 *et seq.*, the Board of Education provides a free appropriate public education to all children with disabilities residing in the school district between the ages of 3 and 21, inclusive, including children with disabilities who have been suspended or expelled.

The Board is committed to ensuring that, to the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities are educated with children who are not disabled. Special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of children with disabilities from the regular educational environment occurs only when the nature or severity of the disability of a child is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily in accordance with IDEA.

Parents are encouraged to bring specific concerns about their child's potential need for special education and related services to the Director of Special Services.

Administrative Regulations

In the provision of special education and related services, the Board complies with the requirements established by state and federal laws and regulations. The Superintendent of Schools in conjunction with the Director of Special Services shall establish and implement administrative regulations consistent with the mandates of federal and state law that address, at minimum, the following aspects of the District's special education program:

- *Child Find and Identification*

A process to ensure that all children with disabilities residing in the District who are in need of special education and related services are identified, located, and evaluated. This includes children with disabilities who are homeless or wards of the state and children with disabilities attending private schools, regardless of the severity of their disabilities. The District shall participate in transition planning conferences for children in early intervention programs entering preschool programs.

- *Individualized Education Programs*

Specific procedures for developing, implementing, reviewing, maintaining, evaluating and revising individualized education programs for children requiring special education and related services.

- *Procedural safeguards*

Practices to ensure that children with disabilities and their parents are given required notices including the procedural safeguards.

- *Confidentiality*

Procedures to maintain the confidentiality of records and personally identifiable information at the collection, storage, disclosure and destruction stages of handling.

- *Discipline*

Specific procedures for handling the discipline of students receiving special education and related services.

Legal References: Connecticut General Statutes:

10-76d Duties and powers of boards of education to provide special education programs and services.

R.C.S.A. 10-76d-1 *et seq* (State special education regulations)

20 U.S.C. 1411 *et seq*, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

34 C.F.R. Part 300, (IDEA regulations)