

BOARD POLICY

SPECIAL EDUCATION AND RELATED SERVICES FOR ELIGIBLE STUDENTS

The district recognizes that students whose disabilities adversely impact educational performance and who require specially designed instruction can improve their educational performance when they receive special education and related services tailored to fit their needs. The district adopts the state's full educational opportunity goal to provide students in need of special education services with a free appropriate public education.

Special education programs for students eligible for special education shall be an integral part of the general educational programs of this district, and shall be operated in compliance with federal and state requirements governing special education. The district will provide a continuum of placement options which may include services within and outside the district depending on the student's needs.

Not all students with disabilities are eligible for special education services. The needs of those students will be addressed individually and if, appropriate, the student will be provided accommodations or modifications required under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act in accordance with district policy and procedures.

In order to participate in commencement exercises, students must have met the minimum criteria for graduation prior to the date of the exercise and otherwise be in good standing with their school through the commencement date. Students who receive services from the special education program will be granted a diploma based on satisfactory completion of a course of study, as defined in the IEP, which meets graduation requirements.

The district seeks to resolve complaints that may arise through the mediation process. Mediation will be offered as an alternative to a formal due process hearing. The board authorizes the superintendent or a designee to bind the district to a mediation or resolution agreement.

The district superintendent shall develop and maintain special education procedures necessary to implement this policy. This policy and the procedures shall be available to the public.

Cross References:

Board Policy 3600

Student Records

Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students – 2161

Legal References:

RCW 28A.155	Special Education
RCW 49.60	Law against Discrimination
WAC 392-172A	Rules for the Provision of Special Education
20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.	Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004
42 U.S.C. 12131-12133	Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
28 CFR Part 35	Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in State and Local Government Services
34 CFR Part 99	Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
29 U.S.C. 794	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended by the Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1974, Pub. L. 93-516, 29 U.S.C. 794
34 CFR Part 104	Nondiscrimination on the basis of handicap in programs and activities receiving or benefiting from federal financial assistance
34 CFR Part 300	Assistance to States for the Education of Children With Disabilities and Preschool Grants for Children With Disabilities
34 CFR Part 303	Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities

Management Resources:

<i>Policy News</i> , Dec. 1999	Rule Adoption Leads to Special Education Policy
<i>Policy News</i> , June 2007	Graduation Ceremonies for Special Education Students
<i>Policy News</i> , Dec. 2007	Updated Special Education Policy and Procedure

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