

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS AND ACCOMMODATIONS

PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

In keeping with the intention of the state of Massachusetts to offer educational opportunities to all students that will enable them to lead fulfilling and productive lives, the District will provide appropriate educational opportunities to all resident students in accordance with the requirements of state and federal law.

The requirements of regulations will be followed in the identification of children with disabilities, in referrals for their evaluation, in prescribing for them suitable programs and/or accommodations, and in assessing their educational progress. In keeping with state requirements, all children with disabilities between the ages of three through 21 who have not attained a high school diploma or its equivalent will be eligible for special education.

The School Committee believes that most children with disabilities can be educated in the regular school program if they are given specialized instruction, accommodations, modifications, and the support they need. These children should also be given the opportunity to participate in the school system's non-academic and extracurricular activities.

The Committee recognizes that the needs of certain children are so great that special programs, classes, or schools may be necessary. When appropriate programs, services, or facilities are not available within the public schools, the Committee will provide these children with access to schools and/or collaborative programs where such instruction and accommodations are available.

It is the desire of the Committee that the schools work closely with parent/guardians in designing and providing programs, accommodations, and services to children with disabilities. Parents will be informed, and conferred with, whenever a child is referred for evaluation. In event of any disagreement concerning diagnosis, program plan, special placement, or evaluation, the parent/guardians will be accorded the right of due process.

The Committee will secure properly trained personnel to work with children with disabilities. Since the financial commitment necessary to meet the needs of all of these children is extensive, the Committee will make every effort to obtain financial assistance from all sources.

The District's process and procedural manual for implementing special instructional programs and accommodations for students with disabilities will be made available on the District's website.

Revised: October 30, 2018

SOURCE: MASC October 2016

LEGAL REFS.: The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) (public law 108-446, adopted 12/03/04)
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With Disabilities Act, as amended

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M.G.L.71B:1 et seq.
603 CMR 28:00 inclusive

CROSS REF: AC, Non Discrimination

OTHER REFS: Mansfield Public Schools *Office Of Special Education
Process And Procedural Manual*

NOTE: A school district's procedures for implementing Chapter 766 are often too extensive to include in a policy manual. In such instances, a note can be added to the policy to point out the existence and availability of a document containing current procedures.