

Special Education and Intervention Services

What is Special Education?

Special Education Is a continuum of services and supports designed for children with disabilities. Our success as educators is measured against the achievement of all children entrusted to our care. The mission of Special Education in the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek School District is to ensure the provision of appropriate services and supports to all children with exceptionalities and their families, in every school, so that all students graduate from high school prepared for college, careers, and fulfilling independent lives.

Research confirms that the most effective schools are those that design a system of integrated service delivery models that provide **targeted interventions, access to rigorous curriculum, social-emotional learning, and positive behavioral supports** for both general and special populations. Through teamwork, collaborative problem-solving, a focus on student learning, and a belief that all children have a right to quality education, we will **ensure educational opportunity for all**.

What does Special Education look like in the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek School District?

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| All Students Receive specialized instruction in their Least Restrictive Environment. | Every district building provides special education and related services. | The district provides programming for all students regardless of need. |
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For students with mild to moderate learning or behavioral needs, all district schools provide a full continuum of services. Depending on the child's specific needs and his/her Least Restrictive Environment (LRE), he or she may receive intervention and/or therapy services **in the regular education classroom with accommodations and/or support, or in a small-group resource room setting**. All district schools have access to speech and language pathology, occupational therapy, physical therapy, adaptive physical education, vision, audiology, and orientation & mobility services. The district offers specialized classes within schools and/or county programs that include services to meet students' individual needs.

What is the purpose of my child's Individualized Education Plan (IEP)?

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| An IEP provides support so that students can access the core curriculum. | An IEP provides for Specially Designed Instruction to address a student's areas of refinement | An IEP addresses the unique needs of your child and specific goals for him/her. |
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Special Education - What Families Should Know

My child has an IEP. I have a concern/questions about his/her services. What should I do?

You have the right to reconvene your child's IEP team at any time if you do not feel that your child is receiving the appropriate support and services. However, before you request an IEP meeting you may choose to:

Step 1: Speak with your child's case manager / special education teacher.

➤ If you cannot resolve the concern through a conversation, try Step 2.

Step 2: Speak with your child's Principal and School Psychologist. At this step you should **always** include the principal making them aware of your concern.

➤ If still not satisfied, try step 3

Step 3: Ask to reconvene the IEP team to address the concern.

➤ If no agreement is reached, contact the Director of Special Education (please note that school staff and/or district staff will contact Director of Special Education)

What should I expect to happen in an IEP meeting?

- You should be invited to an annual IEP review each year, and more often if needed. It is best to attend in person, though you may participate by phone or video conference.
 - You should receive an invitation to your child's meeting.
 - You should be asked to participate in the development of IEP goals.
 - You may receive a draft of the IEP before the meeting takes place.
 - At the meeting, you should be asked about your future plans for your child.
 - At the meeting, you should be able to review any data collected about your child.
 - At the meeting, you should receive a copy of your Procedural Safeguards.
 - After the meeting, you should receive a signed final copy of the IEP and a Prior Written Notice (PR-01) summarizing the meeting.
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Need help understanding the IEP process?

Call a Parent Mentor

Ann Maguire

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