

## ANNUAL NOTICE – CHAPTER 15

### Services for Protected Students with Disabilities

In compliance with state and federal law, East Allegheny School District will provide to each protected disabled student without discrimination or cost to the student or family, those related aids, services or accommodations which are needed to provide equal opportunity to participate in and obtain the benefits of the school program and extracurricular activities to the maximum extent appropriate to the student's abilities. In order to qualify as a protected disabled student, the child must be of school age with one or more of the following physical or mental disabilities: Autism, Deaf-Blindness, Deafness, Emotional Disturbance, Hearing Impairment including Deafness, Intellectual Disability, Multiple Disabilities, Orthopedic Impairment, Other Health Impairment, Specific Learning Disability, Speech or Language Impairment, Traumatic Brain Injury, Visual Impairment including Blindness that substantially limits or prohibits participation in or access to an aspect of the school program.

Identification procedures ensure that eligible students receive an appropriate program consisting of individualized special education and related services at no cost to the parents. These services are provided in compliance with local, state and federal law and planned to ensure meaningful educational benefit and student progress.

Parents who suspect their child may be in need of special education services may also submit a written request the Coordinator of Special Education or the School Principal.

Services designed to meet the needs of exceptional students include: a timely evaluation and the annual development of an Individualized Education Program (IEP). Parents are considered to be an integral and equal partner in the IEP process. We strongly recommend that you attend or participate in all IEP meetings. If you are unable to participate in person, alternative means of participation are acceptable such as a phone conference, video conference, etc. East Allegheny School District will make every effort to ensure parent participation and satisfaction.

The extent of special education services and the location for the delivery of those services are determined by the IEP team and based on several factors, primarily upon the student's identified needs and abilities. Consideration is also given to the student's chronological age and level of intensity of the specified intervention. The district provides supplementary aids and services, such as transportation, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and classroom and other setting accommodations and modifications as necessary for the student to benefit from the regular education and special education program.

These services and protections for protected disabled students are distinct from those applicable to students with disabilities enrolled or seeking enrollment in special education programs.

For further information about the evaluation procedures and provision of services to protected disabled students, contact the Coordinator of Special Education, at 412-824-8012, x1502.

### Services for Preschool Children

Act 212, the Early Intervention Services System Act, entitles all preschool children with disabilities to appropriate early intervention services. Young children experiencing developmental delays or physical or mental disabilities and their families are eligible for early intervention services. At-risk children are eligible for screening and tracking.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education is responsible for providing services to preschool children from ages three through five. For information, contact Project DART, 475 East Waterfront Drive, Homestead, PA 15120, 412-394-5736.

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### Special Services for School-Age Gifted Children

East Allegheny School District provides individualized educational services to students identified as gifted. To qualify as a gifted student, the student must be of school age, possess outstanding intellectual and creative ability, the development of which requires specially-designed programs or support services, or both, not ordinarily provided in the regular classroom.

The District engages in procedures to ensure that all students within the District who are thought to be gifted and in need of specially-designed instruction are identified to receive an appropriate educational program and related services that are individualized to meet student needs. These services are provided to the child at no cost to the parent.

To identify students who may be eligible for gifted education, screening activities are conducted on an ongoing basis. These screening activities include review of group-based data (cumulative records, report cards, ability and achievement test scores) and review by a building-level Student Support Team. When screening results suggest that a student might be gifted, the District seeks parental consent to conduct a Gifted Multi-disciplinary Evaluation. Parents who suspect that their child is gifted may request a Gifted Multi-disciplinary Evaluation of their child at any time, with a limit of one request per school term.

Services designed to meet the needs of gifted students include the annual development of a Gifted Individual Education Plan (GIEP), support services and specially-designed instruction based on the student's need and ability.

Parents may obtain additional information regarding education services and programs for gifted students as well as due process rights by contacting the child's school principal or the Coordinator of Special Education at 412-824-8012, x1502.

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In compliance with state and federal law, East Allegheny District will provide to protected disabled students, services or accommodations that are needed to provide equal opportunity to participate in and obtain the benefits of the school program and extracurricular activities to the maximum extent appropriate to the student's abilities. These related aids are provided without discrimination or cost to the student or family. In order to qualify as a protected disabled student, the child must be of school age with a physical or mental disability that substantially limits or prohibits participation in or access to an aspect of the school program. The District will complete an evaluation to determine the presence of a physical or mental disability and whether it substantially limits or prohibits participation in or access to an aspect of the school program.

Services and protections for protected disabled students are distinct from those applicable to students with disabilities enrolled or seeking enrollment in Special Education programs. For further information about the evaluation procedures and provision of services to protected disabled students, contact the Coordinator of Special Education, 412-824-8012, x1502.