



Medway Public Schools Special Education

The Medway Public Schools Special Education Department is committed to meeting the needs of all students living or attending school in Medway.

If you have or know of a child aged 3-21 years who may need support academically, socially or emotionally please contact the Student Services Office at:

508-533-3229 or

visit www.medwayschools.org



What is Child Find/Outreach?

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires that every school district conduct Child Find/Outreach. Essentially, this ensures that children receive services they need, regardless of how long they have lived in a community, whether they attend public school or how old they are (up to 22 year)

How Do I Find Out More Information about



Whether A Child Qualifies for Services?

Contact the Special Education Office of the Medway Public Schools for more information. When you call, be sure to let us know the child's name, age and the best way to get a hold of you. We will need to ask you some questions about the child, and will send out information that needs to be completed by you about the child's history. If you do not have a permanent address, let us know and we will arrange for you to come into the office and fill out forms.

Also, if you need a translator to help with communication and filling out the forms please let us know and we will make one available to you free of charge.

What Happens After A Student, Parent or Guardian Fills Out the Questionnaire and Referral Forms?

The referral will be forwarded to an Evaluation Team Supervisor (ETS) who will manage your case. The E.T.S. will send out a Evaluation Consent Form within 5 days of receipt of the referral for you to sign. This form will let you know what kind of testing the District recommends based upon the information you have given us. Until the form is signed, we are unable to start testing you (up to age 22 years) or your child.



What If I Don't Agree with the District's Proposal?

It is entirely appropriate to disagree with a proposal that you feel doesn't address the needs of you or your child. Your consent for evaluation is voluntary. You may take back your consent at any time. If you do, however, the withdrawal of consent will only apply to future actions by the school district not to something that has already happened. The school district may not use your refusal to consent to one service or activity as a reason to deny you or your student any other services, benefit or activity.

What If I Don't Agree With the District's Findings? (34 CFR 300.151, 300.506-300.518 and 603 CMR 28.08*)

As a first step to resolving your dispute, you may contact the Director of Student Services or the Superintendent to ask for help. If you feel that you need help from outside the school district, you may contact the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Office of Program Quality Assurance Services (PQA) at 781-338-3700 to use the state "Problem Resolution System" described at www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/prs/.

What Other Supports are Available?

Another venue for parental support can be found in Medway's SEPAC. This important organization offers moral support to caregivers of children with Special Needs; helps educate them as they navigate their way through the educational system and functions as an advisory body to the Special Education Department. For more information about meeting topics and dates, visit our website at : www.medwayschools.org.



Questions

For more information about Child Find/Outreach, please contact:

Kathleen M. Bernklow
Director of Student Services
Special Education Department
45 Holliston Street
Medway, MA 02053

Phone (508) 533-3229

Or email the school ETS:

Grades PK-1; O.O.D.: vfaneli@medwayschools.org

Grades 2-6: ccohen@medwayschools.org

Grades 7-12: cnoonan@medwayschools.org

The Medway Public School District (“Medway” or the “District”) is committed to promoting and maintaining equal opportunity and an educational environment that is free of all forms of discrimination, including harassment and retaliation.

Medway Public Schools is committed to promoting and maintaining an educational environment and workplace that is free of harassment and discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, active military or veteran status, genetic information or any other protected category as defined by state or federal law.

.*These sections are excerpted from the Massachusetts DESW document :PNPS, 2016

