



HAZLETON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of the Superintendent

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Child Find Notice

The Hazleton Area School District strives to provide a free, appropriate public education (FAPE) to exceptional students consistent with the individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). To qualify as an exceptional student, the child must be of school age, in need of specially-designed instruction, and meet eligibility criteria for one or more of the following physical or mental disabilities set forth in federal regulations: a specific learning disability, traumatic brain injury, autism, intellectual disability, a hearing impairment, including deafness, a speech and/or language impairment, a visual impairment, including blindness, emotional disturbance, an orthopedic impairment, deafness, blindness, multiple disabilities, and other health impairments.

Identification procedures ensure that eligible students receive an appropriate program consisting of individualized special education and related services. These services are provided at no cost to parents, in compliance with federal law and regulations.

Identification of exceptional students is conducted through various screening activities and on an ongoing basis. Identification procedures include: hearing, vision, physical and review of cumulative group-based data (academic records, standardized testing, health records, enrollment records, as well as teacher and parental input in response to questionnaires.) When screening results suggest that a student may need special education services, the Hazleton Area School District will, with parental consent, conduct a psycho-educational assessment. Parents who suspect their child may have a disability should submit a verbal/written request for an evaluation to the school administrator.

PARENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE IEP PROCESS AND SHOULD BE PHYSICALLY PRESENT AT IEP MEETINGS. The Hazleton Area School District WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE PARENTAL PARTICIPATION.

The IEP team determines the extent of the special education services and the location where these services will be carried out. Considerations include the student's identified needs and abilities, chronological age, and the intensity of the specified intervention.

The school also provides related services, such as speech and language services and occupational therapy, as necessary for the student to benefit from the special education program.

PARENTS MAY OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES AND PROGRAM AND DUE PROCESS RIGHTS BY CONTACTING THE SPECIAL EDUCATION OFFICE- 570-459-3111, ext. 3155.