

## SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS AND ACCOMMODATIONS

### (PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES)

The goals of the North Middlesex Regional School District's (NMRSD) special education programs are to allow each child to grow and achieve at their own level, to gain independence and self-reliance, and to return to the mainstream of school society as soon as possible.

The requirements of law and regulation will be followed in the identification of students with disabilities, in referrals for their evaluation, in prescribing for them suitable programs and in assessing their educational progress. In keeping with state requirements, all students with disabilities between the ages of three to twenty-two who have not attained a high school diploma or its equivalent will be eligible for special education.

The special education process is outlined in the 'Parents Guide to Special Education' provided by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and is referenced here:

[http://fcsn.org/parents\\_guide/pgenglish.pdf](http://fcsn.org/parents_guide/pgenglish.pdf).

The school committee believes that most students with disabilities can be educated in the regular school program if they are given specialized instruction, accommodations and the support to be successful. These students should also be given the opportunity to participate in the school district's non-academic and extracurricular activities.

The committee recognizes that the needs of certain students are so great that special programs, special classes or special schools designed to meet their needs 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 where such instruction and accommodations are available.

It is the desire of the committee that the schools work closely with parents/guardians in designing and providing programs and services to students with disabilities. Parents/guardians 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 parents/guardians will be accorded the right of due process.

The committee will secure properly trained personnel to work with students with disabilities in the district. 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.

SOURCE: MASC October 2016

UPDATED: March 2019

LEGAL REFS.: The Individuals with Disabilities Ed. Act (PL 108-446, adopted 12/03/04)

Rehabilitation Act of 1973

M.G.L. [71B:1](#) et seq.

603 CMR [28:00](#) inclusive

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