

**SCHOOL DISTRICT SPECIAL EDUCATION PLAN
PROGRAMS FOR HANDICAPPED STUDENTS**

The Fall Mountain Regional School District recognizes and affirms the rights of all children to a free and appropriate public education in compliance with the rules and regulations governing the provision of special education services. The District recognizes its obligation to implement policies and procedures in accordance with Federal and State laws. The District's policies will govern the provision of educational services to handicapped students, age three through 21 years.

Child Identification:

To assure that all school-age children are appropriately served, the District will carry out comprehensive child identification activities to encourage the referral of potentially un-served children. The District will inform the community of the benefits of early identification and intervention, inform the community of the services available for handicapped children and youth and assist in the location and identification of un-served and underserved handicapped children through ongoing screening activities.

Referral:

The District will carry out all referrals in accordance with New Hampshire State and Federal laws. The administration has developed forms for processing all referrals in a uniform and timely basis. All referrals shall be summarized and logged on a monthly basis. The District keeps a referral system which documents the disposition of each referral and which provides a current, ongoing record of each student's position within the identification, evaluation and placement process.

Protection in Evaluation:

The district will carry out all testing, assessment and evaluation activities in such a manner that the identification, diagnosis and placement of the student does not discriminate against a child's linguistic, racial or cultural background or handicapping condition. Before placement or denial of placement in a special education program takes place, a complete and accurate assessment will be carried out in accordance with New Hampshire State and Federal laws.

The Individualized Education Program:

The District will develop an individualized education program (IEP) for each student who receives special education or support services.

Placement of Handicapped Students:

The District will educate handicapped students to the maximum extent appropriate with non-handicapped students and that separation from the regular educational environment will occur only when the nature and severity of the handicap is such that with the use of supplementary aids and services appropriate education cannot be achieved satisfactorily.

Program and Facilities Accessibility:

The District affirms the rights of handicapped students and adults to share fully in the benefits of the District's educational facilities and services. All nonacademic and extra-curricular

services and activities will be available on an equal opportunity basis with non-handicapped students. Handicapped persons will not be excluded on the basis of handicap from preschool or adult education programs or activities.

Due Process Procedures:

The District affirms the rights of consumers to utilize the protection afforded under New Hampshire State and Federal laws and will utilize complaint procedures pertaining to prior notice, parent consent, placement in a private facility and independent evaluations.

Due Process Hearing Procedure:

The District affirms the rights of parents/guardians of handicapped students to instigate a due process hearing if agreement cannot be reached regarding a change or refusal to change the identification, referral, evaluation or placement of a handicapped student, and on request from a parent/guardian, will carry out due process hearing procedures in compliance with New Hampshire State and Federal law.

Parent Involvement:

The District recognizes the positive impact of parent/guardian involvement in their child's educational program and will support and encourage parent participation throughout their child's educational career.

Confidentiality of Records:

The District will make all student records available for inspection and review by parent/guardian or authorized designee. All educational records shall be maintained in compliance with the New Hampshire State And Federal law confidentiality requirements.

Transportation:

The District will provide transportation, at no charge, to all qualified handicapped students. The District may utilize the following options, including but not limited to, scheduled school buses, contracted transportation (including public transportation) or parent or adult student transportation.

Compliance Monitoring:

The District will designate an administrator who is responsible to facilitate and monitor compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and who shall respond appropriately to State Education Agency monitoring procedures of the New Hampshire State Plan under Part B of the Education of the Handicapped Act as amended by Public Law 94-142.

Personnel Development:

The District will provide in-service training opportunities for Board members, administrators, instructional and support staff, ancillary personnel and parents of handicapped students through the District's Staff Development Plan.

FMRSD

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