

Exceptional Children's Resource Guide

Graves County Schools

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Child Find

The Graves County School District is responsible for locating, identifying and evaluating children between the ages of 3-21 who may have a disability and live in the Graves County School District. The contact person at each school to make a referral is the school principal, assistant principal or school counselor. Teachers and parents may also make referrals to the special education director at the Graves County School Board district office. Your district contact for a referral is:

Judith Self Director of Special Education/Preschool
2290 State Route 121 N.
Mayfield, KY 42066
270-328 1549 or 674-1549
judy.self@graves.kyschools.us

Referral Process

Graves County Schools have a committee at each school comprised of the following to assist teachers with struggling students. Committee members are selected by the principal at each school:

- . Principal
- . Counselor
- . General ed. teacher
- . General ed. teacher
- . Special ed. teacher

This committee is referred to as a PLC (Professional Learning Committee) .They meet to provide support to teachers and to help those who have students experiencing difficulties achieving at grade level or in meeting state standards. Students are placed in a TIER process based on their classroom performances, state assessment, and universal screenings to work in skill areas when they are below grade level expectations.

Each school has resource manuals with research based reading strategies to assist teachers in implementing and in compiling data to monitor a child's progress. There are many resources online on the district website to address math skills.

New federal regulations require that regular education teachers implement scientifically based researched strategies in areas where a child is below benchmark on Universal

screenings or grade level assessments before a referral for possible special services can be made.

Evaluation

If after repeated interventions and multiple assessments using different curriculum based measures, a student has not made progress when compared to their same age/grade level peers the PLC requests an ARC to discuss a possible referral. The Admission and Release Committee meeting is scheduled with the parent(s) of the child, a district representative, a regular education teacher and a special education teacher. If a referral is accepted, an evaluation is conducted in the area of suspected disability with no cost to the parent.

Evaluations are conducted by a multi-disciplinary team, which may include school Psychologists, psychometrist, speech/language pathologists, physical and Occupational therapists, guidance counselors, teachers and input from the parent.

. Evaluations are required to be completed within 60 school days from date of parent permission for the evaluation. Special education services may not be provided until a full and individual evaluation has been completed, and the ARC determines whether the student is eligible for services and an individual education plan has been written.

Eligibility

Eligibility is determined in an ARC (Admission and Release Committee) after a full and individual evaluation has been completed in the area of the suspected disability. The committee must use Kentucky Administrative Regulations to determine if the disability adversely affects the student's educational performance and prevents them from completing a standard curriculum without supports.

Categories of Disability are:

- . Autism
- . Deaf/Blindness
- . Developmental Delay
- . Emotional Behavioral Disability
- . Hearing Impairment
- . Mental Disability
- . Multiple Disability
- . Orthopedic Disability
- . Other Health Impairment
- . Specific Learning Disability
 - Reading Comprehension
 - Basic reading
 - Reading Fluency
 - Math Calculation
 - Math Reasoning
 - Written Expression
 - Oral Expression
 - Listening Comprehension

- . Speech or Language Impairment
- . Traumatic Brain Injury
- . Vision Impairment

Eligibility requirements and planning forms for evaluation purposes can be found on our district web site at www.graves.k12.ky.us under help and support, then under district services, testing center, and then under referral and evaluation forms. If you need assistance locating these forms please call Dana Wyatt at 270-328-4985

Individual Education Program

When a student is determined eligible by an ARC for special education and /or related services an Individual Education Plan (IEP) will be developed. The IEP includes the services the student will receive during the school year. The plan also includes any modifications and specially designed instruction that is needed for the student to access the general education curriculum. These IEP's are reviewed annually with the parent.

Placement

Graves County Schools are dedicated to providing the least restrictive environment for all students. We offer a continuum of services required under Federal and Kentucky State regulations and to the maximum extent appropriate, disabled students are educated with their non-disabled peers.

Options include:

- . general education classes
- general education classes with collaboration
- . special education resource classes,
- . special classes
- . special schools
- . home instruction
- . hospital instruction

Unless the IEP requires otherwise the student must be educated in the school he/she would attend if he/she were not disabled.

Special Education District Staff

Judith Self Director of Special Education Selise Ridolfi Sp.Ed. Consultant

Judy.self@graves.kyschools.us Selise.ridolfi@graves.kyschools.us

270-328-1549---office 270-328-1558 office

270-493-0763--cell

Jane Goff School Psychologists Sherry Adams Psychometrist

Jane.goff@graves.kyschools.us sherry.adams@graves.kyschools.us

270-328-4987—office 270-328-4986--office