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MISD Special Services Newsletter



Mercer Island School District

Special Services Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 2

Transitions!

Spring is an exciting time that can evoke a variety of emotions. It's hard to believe that your child is ready for the next step in their education. Whether your child is moving from pre-school to elementary, elementary to middle school, middle school to high school or high school to college and career. Time flies!

Pre-School to Kindergarten: The riser process for pre-school students will begin in April. Case Managers will reach out to each student's family and schedule individual meetings to talk about the process and services.

Elementary to Middle School Transitions: Our teachers, staff and administration at Islander Middle School are preparing to hold transition meetings for incoming 6th graders for the 2022-2023 school year. These meetings are tentatively being scheduled for the week of April 4. Your student's current elementary case manager will be reaching out to you in the coming weeks with more information regarding Special Education transition meetings and middle school services.

Middle School to High School Transitions: Middle School to High School transitions are in the process of being scheduled. Your Middle School Case manager should be reaching out to schedule meetings for the week of March 14. Make sure that you have confirmed your meeting with the case manager.

High School to College and Career: Your high school case manager will be sending seniors that have completed all their credits and High School and Beyond Plan a Summary of Performance document

that is unique to those graduating. The [Center for Change in Transition Services](#) has some excellent resources about graduation and samples of the Summary of Performance document.

High School to Pathways: Pathways provides adult transition services for 18 to 21 year old students based on their unique needs as defined in their IEP. Does your student have significant needs and require explicit instruction in independent living, employment, and require on-the-job training? If so, Pathways might be an option. We will be hosting an open house on March 23 for parents and their adult student to learn more. Read all about it in the [Mercer Island Reporter!](#)



Pathways Staff with Dr. Bube and student

Recovery Services Update

Recovery Services are continuing to be rolled out in small group and individualized services. We have prioritized our students who graduated last year, as well as those that are close to graduation this year, as well as our students with the most significant needs. Jen Williamson has been assisting us in the main office to send out email communications to parents with a Google Form to sign up for specific services in alignment with your student's IEP. Examples of services that are being offered now (depending on individual student needs) include Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Job Skills, Independent Living, and writing instruction. Social emotional groups are being formed across the elementary and more information will be coming out via email to students served in the area of social emotional. We have also updated the [District website](#) with frequently asked questions.

Extended School Year

Extended School Year is not the same as summer school. ESY is specialized instruction for students who experience severe regression/recoupment during extended school breaks. The purpose of ESY services is the maintenance of the student's learning skills or behavior, not the teaching of new skills or behaviors. IEP teams will look at whether or not a student is at risk of losing skills and knowledge during a break from school. ESY considerations usually take place in the Spring but others may take place during annual IEP meetings. If you have specific questions about your student, please reach out to your child's case manager.

Dates: June 27 - July 1; July 5 - 8; and July 11 – 15

Have a question about Special Services? OSPI has a [Parent and Student Rights webpage](#) that includes [Procedural Safeguards](#) that explain your rights (translations available).

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