

PROGRAMS FOR PUPILS WITH DISABILITIES

The Governor Wentworth Regional School District shall provide a free appropriate public education and necessary related services to all children residing within the district, as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and New Hampshire Law.

It is the intent of the district to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services. Students may be disabled within the meaning of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act even though they do not require services pursuant to the IDEA.

For students eligible for services under IDEA, the district shall follow procedures for identification, evaluation, placement, and delivery of services to children with disabilities provided in federal and state statutes which govern special education. For those students who are not eligible for services under IDEA, but because of a qualifying disability as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, need or are believed to need special instruction or related services, the district shall establish and implement a system of procedural safeguards. These procedural safeguards shall cover students' identification, evaluation, educational safeguards, and educational placement. This system shall include notice and opportunity for the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) to examine relevant records, and impartial hearing with opportunity for participation by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s), and representation by counsel, the right to be represented by legal counsel and review procedure.

The district recognizes its obligation to provide an education for all students determined to be educationally disabled and in need of special education and related services. This obligation shall begin when a student reaches three years of age and shall continue until the student's **22nd** birthday or until such time as they receive a high school diploma, whichever occurs first, or until the child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team determines that the child no longer requires special education in accordance with federal and state law. At the discretion of the Superintendent and/or their designee, students who reach the age of **22** during the academic year may be allowed to complete the remainder of the school year.

Legal References:

20 U.S.C § 400 et seq., Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

34 C.F.R § 300 et seq., Assistance to the States for the Education of Children with Disabilities

RSA 186-C, Special Education

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 1100, Standards for the Education of Students with Disabilities

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