



What is a speech and language therapist? A Speech/Language therapist is a trained professional who evaluates and treats children and adults who have difficulty with speech and language. **“Speech”** refers to coordinating the muscles and movements necessary to articulate sounds and words. **“Language”** refers to the ability to comprehend what is heard and organize messages to effectively express thoughts and feelings.

Course Description: The speech and language program at Lehigh Area Middle School is offered to those students in grades 6-8 identified as having communication disorders which adversely affect social, emotional or academic performance.

Speech and language services include: assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of communication disorders which adversely affect a child's educational performance. An evaluation of speech skills may include articulation, voice, fluency, and oral motor skills. Language assessment may involve receptive and/or expressive language, including phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics/social interaction skills.

Course Objective: Speech and Language goals and objectives are written based on in-depth assessment of each individual's needs.

Considerations for School-Based Speech/Language Therapy:

- Results of standardized speech/language testing
- Phonemes (sounds) in errors
- Overall intelligibility
- Impact on the child: does the student's speech/language difficulty impact their abilities (academically and/or socially) within the classroom?

Getting your child help:

- Children are referred to the speech therapist through teacher referrals, parent referrals and MTSS
- If you notice that your child is experiencing difficulties in speech/language, please speak to their classroom teacher or contact the speech/language therapist directly.

Contact Information:

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