

School District of Spencer annual notices

NOTICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION REFERRAL AND EVALUATION PROCEDURES

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SPENCER ANNUAL NOTICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION REFERRAL AND EVALUATION PROCEDURES

Upon request, the Spencer School District is required to evaluate a child for eligibility for special education services. A request for evaluation is known as a referral. When the district receives a referral, the district will appoint an Individualized Education Program (IEP) team to determine if the child has a disability, and if the child needs special education services. The district locates, identifies, and evaluates all children with disabilities who are enrolled by their parents in private (including religious) schools, elementary schools and secondary schools located in the school district.

A physician, nurse, psychologist, social worker, or administrator of a social agency, who reasonably believes a child brought to him or her for services is a child with a disability has a legal duty to refer the child, including a homeless child, to the school district in which the child resides. Before referring the child, the person making the referral must inform the child's parent that the referral will be made. Others, including parents, who reasonably believe a child is a child with a disability, may also refer the child, including a homeless child, to the school district in which the child resides.

Referrals must be in writing and include the reason why the person believes the child is a child with a disability. A referral may be made by contacting Brittany Eilers - School Psychologist, Spencer School District, at 715-659-4642, or by writing Brittany Eilers – School Psychologist, Spencer School District, 300 School St., Spencer WI 54479.

SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

This notice from the School District of Spencer serves to inform parents and guardians of students with disabilities that the State of Wisconsin has established the "Special Needs Scholarship Program." Under this scholarship program, a child with a disability may be eligible to receive a scholarship from the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) that allows the child to attend a private school that is participating in the scholarship program.

A parent or guardian who is interested in the Special Needs Scholarship Program should independently verify the participating private schools and the specific terms, eligibility criteria, and application procedures of the scholarship program with the DPI.

The 2022-23 eligibility is as follows: A student must be a Wisconsin resident and must either have: (1) an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or services plan that is currently being implemented or (2) an IEP or services plan that was developed no earlier than September 15, 2019 and have not subsequently been determined to no longer have a disability.

Additional information about the Special Needs Scholarship Program should be available on the website of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction: <http://dpi.wi.gov/>. (Wis Stats. §115.7915(5).

Equal Educational Opportunities

The School District of Spencer is committed and dedicated to the task of providing the best education possible for every child in the district for as long as the student can benefit from attendance and the student's conduct is compatible with the welfare of the entire student body.

The right of a student to be admitted to school and to participate in curricular, extracurricular, student services, recreational or other programs or activities shall not be abridged or impaired because of a student's sex, race, color, religion, age, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability.

In keeping with the requirements of state law, the school district shall strive to remove any vestige of discrimination in admission to any school, class, program or activity; standards and rules of behavior, including student harassment; disciplinary actions, including suspension and expulsions; acceptance and administration of gifts, bequests, scholarships and other aids, benefits or services to students from private agencies, organizations or persons; instructional and library materials used in the district; methods, practices and materials used for testing, evaluating and counseling students; location and use of facilities; opportunity for participation in athletic programs or other extracurricular activities; and in school-sponsored food service programs.

Complaints regarding the interpretation or application of this policy shall be referred to the district administrator and processed in accordance with established procedures.

For additional information refer to policy 411 on the district website of www.spencer.k12.wi.us

Non-Discrimination Notice for Spencer Public Schools

The School District of Spencer prohibits all forms of unlawful discrimination against students, employees, and other persons in all aspects of the District's programs, activities, and operations. The term "unlawful discrimination" encompasses any unlawful policy, practice, conduct, or other unlawful denial of rights, benefits, or privileges that is based on any legally-protected status or classification (e.g., race, national origin, sex, disability, religion, etc.). Various state and federal laws establish the actions that do (and do not) constitute unlawful discrimination with respect to each protected status or classification. Where applicable, unlawful harassment that is based on a legally-protected status is one form of unlawful discrimination.

The District requires and will enforce nondiscrimination in a manner that is consistent with applicable constitutional provisions and with the rights and obligations that are established under all applicable state and federal civil rights laws, including but not limited to the current provisions of the following federal laws, which jointly serve to identify and protect the rights of students, employees, and other persons:

- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (sex discrimination);
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (disability discrimination);
- The Americans with Disabilities Act (including both the employment-related provisions of the ADA as well as Title II of the ADA, which broadly prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in state and local government services);
- Titles IV and VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (addressing discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, or religion);
- The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (age discrimination);
- The nondiscrimination provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act;
- There are a significant number of additional state and federal nondiscrimination laws that are not listed above that further establish the rights of students and/or employees. In recognition of such laws, the District maintains additional nondiscrimination policies and rules that specifically and uniquely cover students within the District's policy manual and all aspects of employment and personnel administration within the District.

Special Statement Regarding Sex Discrimination under Title IX

As mandated by the federal Title IX statutes and the regulations set forth in Chapter 106 of Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations ("the federal Title IX regulations"), the District does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of sex in any education program or activity that the District operates. Title IX's requirement not to discriminate in any education program or activity extends to District students, certain admissions processes, and District employment. Inquiries regarding how Title IX and the federal Title IX regulations apply to the District may be referred to a District Title IX Coordinator (as designated below), to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Education, or to both.

Designation and Authorization of Nondiscrimination Coordinator(s)

Any questions concerning the District's nondiscrimination and equal opportunities policies, general policy compliance, the application of any nondiscrimination law to the District, or the District's reporting and complaint procedures may be directed to either of the District's nondiscrimination and equal opportunity coordinators, each of whom also serves as a District Title IX Coordinator:

<p>The staff member holding the following position serves as the District's designated [Student Nondiscrimination Coordinator], with a primary focus on student matters and other non-employment-related matters:</p> <p>MS/HS Principal School District of Spencer 300 N. School St Spencer, WI 54479 715-659-2411 ext 3051 jgorst@spencer.k12.wi.us</p>	<p>The staff member holding the following position serves as the District's designated [Equal Employment Opportunities Coordinator], with a primary focus on employment-related matters:</p> <p>Elementary Principal School District of Spencer 300 N. School St. Spencer WI 54479 715-659-4642 ext 1221 eikert@spencer.k12.wi.us</p>
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For complete information regarding the School District of Spencer non-discrimination practice, refer to Policy 180 on the district website www.spencer.k12.wi.us

Printing Names

The **School District of Spencer Board of Education** has designated the following student record information as directory data: student's name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, photographs, degrees and awards received and name of school most recently previously attended by the student. This information may be disclosed to any person UNLESS the adult student, or parent, legal guardian or guardian ad litem of a minor student informs the school that all or any part of the directory data may not be released without the prior consent of the adult student, parent, legal guardian or guardian ad litem. The District will not release directory data earlier than two weeks (14 days) after receipt of this notice or the opening of school.

Asbestos Notification

In compliance with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), this is notice that the Spencer School District has an Asbestos Management Plan at the school district office. The plan is available for inspection by the public, parents, and district employees. The district performs six month periodic surveillance of asbestos in January and July and full re-inspections every three years. For more information please contact the district office.