

# Buckeye Local Schools

**Child Find: A search for all children with disabilities-birth through age 21**

## What is Child Find?

Child Find is the process of evaluating and identifying children who may be in need of special education and related services

## What is the purpose of Child Find?

- To promote public awareness of disabilities
- To alert parents, professionals, and the public about children who may have special needs
- To assist districts in finding children and families to receive the special education and related services they need

## Why is there Child Find?

Both state and local education agencies are given the responsibility by federal and state laws to conduct child find activities so that children who need special services have the opportunity to receive those services.

## Who Can Help?

Parent's relatives, public and private agency employees and concerned citizens are used to help Buckeye Local Schools find any child (birth - 21) who may have a disability and needs special education and related services. If you are aware of a child who may have specials, please notify our Student Services Dept. or a building principal.

## What Does a Disability Mean?

### Under IDEA

**For ages 3-5**--A documented deficit in one or more of the following developmental areas: communication, vision, hearing, motor skills, social emotional/behavioral functioning, self help skills, and/or cognitive skills.

**For ages 5-21**--A disability, in this instance, means such conditions as autism, deaf/blindness, multiple disabilities, deafness/hearing impairment, visual impairment/blindness, specific learning disabilities, preschoolers with a disability, emotional disturbance, cognitive disabilities, speech and language impairments, orthopedic and other health impairments or traumatic brain injury.

### Under Section 504

In addition and in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the American's with Disabilities Act of 1973 and the American's with Disabilities Act Amendment of 2008, Buckeye Local Schools is participating in Child Find efforts to locate, evaluate and identify all children who have a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity who may because of physical disability, needs or is believed to need special education, related services or aids accommodations/modifications. If a parent or guardian suspects that a child may be eligible under this federal definition, please contact the Director of Student Services.

## What Happens Next?

Buckeye's Department of Student Services will contact the parent(s) of the child to find out if the child needs to be evaluated. Free testing is available to families to determine whether or not a special need exists. If a need is identified, the child can begin receiving the appropriate special education and related services.

### **Department of Student Services**

Dawn Kochanek - Director  
(330) 722-8257 ext 1012  
dkochanek@buckeyeschools.org