

## PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

In the belief that all children are entitled to equal educational opportunity in accordance with their capabilities, the School Committee will ensure that the BWRSD will provide for a free and appropriate public education to children with disabilities in accordance with the applicable federal and state statutes and regulations.

In accordance with federal and state statutes and regulations, children will be provided access to a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment.

Implementation of this policy will be in accordance with current state law and regulations for identifying and serving the educational needs of children with disabilities, ages 3 to 21.

### Census and Identification

It will be the policy of the School Committee, as required by law, that the BWRSD will identify, locate and evaluate, regardless of the severity of their disabilities, children with disabilities who are in need of special education and related services on an annual basis. Such activities may be conducted solely by the school system or in cooperation with other public or private agencies. The school system will presume that each school-age child is without special educational needs until that child has been identified and evaluated as requiring placement in an appropriate individualized educational program.

Adopted: September 26, 2016

### LEGAL REFS:

Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004  
R.I. Gen. Laws 16-24-1 et. seq.  
R.I. Gen. laws 16-2-9 et. seq,

### CROSS REFS:

AC, Nondiscrimination  
Other IGB subcodes (all related to special instructional programs and accommodations)  
JB, Equal Educational Opportunity