## Academics and Special Programs

## Section 504

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973, commonly referred to as "Section 504," is a federal statute that prohibits discrimination against persons on the basis of disability by institutions, such as Maricopa Unified School District, that receive Federal financial assistance. It states:

- No otherwise qualified individual with a disability shall solely by reason of her or his disability, be excluded from the participation in,
- be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

Section 504's purpose is, among other things, to assure that students with disabilities have educational opportunities and benefits equal to those provided to students without disabilities. Responsibilities of school districts under Section 504 include Child Find, Evaluation, Free Appropriate Public Education, Placement, and Procedural Safeguards. An eligible student under Section 504 is a student who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity. If a student is covered by Section 504, Maricopa Unified School District must provide a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE), including accommodations when necessary to ensure that the student has equal access to services, programs, and activities offered by our schools.

Section 504 Compliance Coordinator Dr. Lindsay Slover, Director of Exceptional Student Services Istollarslover@musd20.org (520) 568-5100 ext. 1018

## **FINAL EXAMS**

Students may not take semester final exams prior to the date/time they are scheduled. Students with excused absences during semester final exams will receive a zero for any final exam missed and are required to make arrangements with their teachers within the first two weeks of the following semester to complete each exam. Once the exam is administered, the zero will be converted to a score and a grade change will be completed.