

**South Ridge Elementary
Primary Years Programme
Inclusion Policy**

Revised: Apr 10, 2024 May 1, 2024 Jun 25, 2024

South Ridge Elementary Inclusion Policy

Beliefs:

At South Ridge Elementary School, we believe that every student is able to be a successful learner. Some students need different instruction to be able to access the general curriculum successfully. Classroom teachers, specialists, and interventionists collaborate with students and families to guide and determine instruction and next steps. The team identifies what a student already knows, a student's progress, and a student's needed growth. South Ridge encourages and promotes a more inclusive model of instruction for students. South Ridge values the individual community of each classroom and the reciprocal benefits of inclusion.

Purpose:

- Identify students, through the iMTSS process, who need additional support or specialized instruction.
- Provide support tailored to each student's individual needs.

IEP Plans:

The Individualized Education Plan (IEP) is a federally mandated document designed for students with disabilities, ensuring they receive specialized instruction in the least restrictive environment. Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA) and Colorado law, students aged 3-21 may qualify for an IEP under various categories such as Developmental Delay, Intellectual Disability, Specific Learning Disability, and others.

504 Plans:

For students who require accommodations for a disability or suspected disability that substantially impacts daily life activities, South Ridge implements 504 plans. These plans are tailored to provide necessary accommodations, fostering independence and reflective learning among students. While students on a 504 plan participate fully in the IB program, accommodations are provided to facilitate access to the curriculum.

Differentiation:

South Ridge Elementary strives to address the individual needs of every student through personalized learning pathways, empowering them to take ownership of their educational journey.

Tiered Programming and Services Offered:

A range of services is available at South Ridge to meet the needs of students on an IEP. Each student is assigned a case manager who collaborates with grade-level teams to ensure their IEP needs are addressed effectively. Services include:

- General education with minimum support
- Multi-Tiered Support System to address diverse learner needs
- Self-contained classes provided by certified learning specialists
- SSN (Significant Support Needs) program following IB guidelines and ensuring least restrictive environment practices
- Speech-Language Services, Mental Health Services, and Occupational Therapy Services tailored to individual student needs.

Advanced Learning Plans:

South Ridge implements state-mandated Advanced Learning Plans (ALPs) for Gifted and Talented (GT) students. These strength-based documents provide challenges in the student's areas of strength, with specific goals for affective guidance and accommodations to support their success.

Multilingual Learner Plans

Once a student is identified as a multilingual learner via the WIDA screening process, this student is provided with a specific ML plan created by an ELD specialist.

(This screening process is mandated by the federal government for all students who have another language of influence other than English indicated by the parent during the registration process.)

The ML plan ensures that the student has access to content taught within the classroom through various types of language and academic support by the ELD specialist or ELD team. Each multilingual learner has language and academic specific goals within the ML

plan. These goals are communicated with the classroom teacher and parents in order to promote student growth and success. Once a student has reached a 4.0 in literacy and 4.0 composite score on the yearly ACCESS test, an ML plan is no longer required. However these students are still monitored to ensure equitable access to content and to ensure academic growth is still occurring.

Inclusion resources-

- Three full-time Learning Specialists (LS) for students with mild to moderate disabilities
- Two full-time Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) for students with speech and/or language impairments
- School Psychologist
- School Counselor
- School Educational Assistants
- Itinerant services are provided from District Behavior Specialist, District Autism Team, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Vision Specialists, Audiologists, and teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing on an as needed basis.
- External agencies (example: AllHealth, WrapAround, Court Appointed CASA representatives)
- One half time Gifted and Talented Teacher
- One full time and one half time intervention specialist
- Two full time Literacy Specialist
- One half time School Nurse
- 2.5 ELD Specialists