

Quarterly Update

WRHS Special Education

Welcome to the 2022-2023 School Year

The WRHS special education department serves almost 300 students. We are committed to providing an inclusive education within the least restrictive environment that nurtures a student's successful post-secondary transition. In this first letter, we will provide information about our website, give a description of the curriculum our developmental program is utilizing, and describe the role of a special education liaison. Additionally, there will be a tour offered to parents/guardians on September 13. We look forward to working with our teams to ensure a successful transition for each student to the next grade and beyond.

Website: https://wrhs.wrsd.net/special_ed

Please browse the site paying special attention to the transition planning section. Two of our veteran teachers, Jessica Bahde and Ingrid Bosco, are contributors to this section of the site. Jessica created the transition planning site, and Ingrid teaches our transition seminar class. Ingrid keeps everyone up-to-date on the guest speakers and activities with a newsletter that can be found within the transition planning link titled "transition seminar".

Developmental Curriculum: The Essentials For Living is a curriculum-based assessment instrument, that is, a criterion-referenced assessment instrument that leads the teacher to design the curriculum and direct instruction. Essential for Living includes over three thousand skills sorted into domains of communication, language, daily living, social, functional academic, and tolerating skills, along with a domain of problem behavior. Skills within these domains are sequenced from must-have to should-have, to good-to-have, to nice-to-have, 'referenced against' safe. Essential for Living is the only life skills curriculum that is based on B. F. Skinner's analysis of the function of language as a speaker, and a listener [verbal behavior] (Skinner, 1957; Catania, 1998; Michael, 2004; Sundberg, 2007; Greer & Ross, 2007), effective, and high-quality participation in family, school, and community living and domains are linked to the Common Core State Standards.

Special Education Liaison: The special education liaison is the person listed on your student's PowerSchool schedule as an academic advisor. The liaison is the primary contact for parents and guardians regarding IEP questions and concerns. Additionally, the liaison writes the next IEP, conducts some assessments in preparation for the team meetings, and ensures the IEP is followed. Each parent/guardian can expect to hear from their student's special education liaison by the end of the first week of school.



 508-829-6771

WRHS parent tour

Tuesday, Sep. 13th, 6-7:15pm

1401 Main Street

Holden, MA

The special education administrator, Shanna Hauver, will guide parents and guardians to view the developmental program rooms, therapeutic learning center, and main areas of the building. At the conclusion of the tour, Shanna will stay in the auditorium for any parent/guardian with additional questions.