

PUSD Program Descriptors 2026/2027

Program	Service Level(s)	Description
In Class Support	A	<p>Special education teacher enters a general education classroom at specific times to provide targeted support and specially designed instruction to students with disabilities, supporting the general education teacher in the general education class with their expertise to the mainstream classroom environment, enabling students to learn alongside their peers with necessary differentiation, accommodations, and modifications; this approach emphasizes collaboration between the general education teacher and the special education teacher to ensure all students receive appropriate support within the general classroom setting.</p> <p>In school year 26/27, this program will be available at all campuses.</p>
Resource	A & B	<p>Our Resource Program provides academic support for students in a special education setting with qualifying disabilities who require additional assistance beyond what can be offered in the general education classroom. This program delivers targeted instruction tailored to each student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) goals.</p> <p>Students receive small-group or individualized, specially designed instruction in the Resource classroom in key areas such as reading, math, writing, organization, study skills, and social skills, ensuring they develop the necessary skills to succeed academically and socially. Our specialized educators collaborate closely with general education teachers to provide seamless support, fostering an inclusive learning environment while addressing each student's unique needs.</p> <p>In school year 26/27, this program will be available at all campuses.</p>
Extended Resource	A, B, & C	<p>Our Extended Resource Program is designed to support students in grades K-12 with a variety of disabilities, including cognitive impairments, adaptive impairments, and high-functioning autism. This program provides individualized and small-group specially designed instruction in basic academic, social, and behavioral needs for students who may be performing multiple grade levels below their peers or who require structured support to develop social skills. Additionally, it serves</p>

		<p>students who struggle to manage the demands of the general education setting due to cognitive challenges, emotional disabilities, social skills, or difficulty handling sensory stimulation.</p> <p>Students in this program may receive the majority of their instruction in a specialized setting outside the general education classroom. However, those recommended for the ER program through the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) process are included in general education classes as well, ensuring opportunities for integration and engagement with peers while receiving the necessary support to succeed.</p> <p>Teachers and/or staff respond to student needs as they arise throughout the day. Behavior Plans are often developed and implemented to support students in the general education environment.</p> <p>In school year 26/27, this program will be available at all campuses.</p>
<p>STEPS Specialized Teaching for Educational and Personal Success</p>	<p>B & C</p>	<p>Our STEPS Program is designed for students with cognitive and/or adaptive impairments who require an alternative academic curriculum and intensive adaptive and daily living skills development. This program serves students whose cognitive and developmental needs extend beyond what can be met in a Resource setting.</p> <p>Students receive a highly individualized instructional program that emphasizes academic progress, life skills, and adaptive behavior in a structured, supportive environment separate from the general education classroom. Instruction is designed to help students build essential skills for greater independence and success in everyday life, including communication, self-care, social interaction, community participation, and vocational readiness.</p> <p>By focusing on practical application and real-world experiences, the program ensures that each student progresses at their own pace, developing the skills necessary to navigate daily challenges and achieve their highest level of independence.</p> <p>In school year 26/27, this program will be available at Taylor Hicks (K-4), Granite Mountain (5-6), Mile High (7-8), and PHS (9-12).</p>

<p>RISE Reaching Independence through Structured Education</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Our RISE program is designed for students with autism or similar needs who require a highly structured and supportive environment. The program delivers individualized instruction tailored to each student's unique needs, with a strong focus on communication, social interaction, sensory integration, behavior support, and academic growth.</p> <p>Using evidence-based practices, such as visual supports, predictable routines, and targeted behavior interventions, the classroom fosters engagement, reduces anxiety, and builds essential skills. A low student-to-teacher ratio ensures intensive, personalized support, empowering students to develop independence, emotional regulation, functional academics, and life skills in a setting designed for their success.</p> <p>In school year 26/27, this program will be available at Abia Judd (K-4), Granite Mountain (5-8), and PHS (9-12).</p>
<p>Pathways</p>	<p>D</p>	<p>Our Pathways program is a specialized learning environment for students with emotional disabilities who qualify for a private placement. Pathways classrooms utilize the Boystown Specialized Classroom Management Program to teach social and behavioral skills in a highly structured and supportive environment, integrating core academic instruction with targeted social-emotional development.</p> <p>Through direct instruction, modeling, and reinforcement, students learn appropriate social interactions, emotional regulation, and positive behaviors that empower them to navigate diverse social situations and manage their behavior effectively. The program provides consistent, focused support to help students build the skills necessary for success, with the ultimate goal of successfully transitioning back into the general education setting.</p> <p>In school year 26/27 this program will be available at Lincoln (K-4), Mile High (5-8), and PHS (9-12).</p>