

Target Program Description

Discovery Middle School, 510 McKay Ave. North Alexandria, MN 56308

Target Population: The target population includes students, grades 6-8, who meet special education criteria for Emotional/Behavioral Disorders (EBD), Other Health Disabilities (OHD) or other criteria as determined by the IEP team. These students demonstrate significant barriers to learning in a larger general education classroom setting due to their current emotional/behavioral needs.

Program Overview: The Target program provides students with a highly structured, predictable environment for learning based around daily behavior programming. There are clear and consistent expectations used to teach emotional regulation and behavioral skills. Academics are taught using a combination of the general education curriculum and special education curriculum as needed to meet individual needs of students.

Mission/Goals: Target students will learn social skills, emotional regulation, and communication skills/strategies to meet their maximum potential and return to the general education classroom.

Student Profile: The Target program provides individualized special education services that exceed current special education programming provided within a typical middle school setting. A Target student has significant needs in the areas of social, emotional and behavioral development. The students in this program need intensified staff support with reduced staff ratios and environmental space that accommodates individual behavior and emotional needs.

Program Components

Social/Behavior

- Students are instructed in developing appropriate social skills in school and the community.
- Students are instructed in coping strategies to manage self-control and increase self-esteem.

Academic Skills

- Emphasis on individualized goals and objectives as it relates to academic areas
- Students are assessed using the district and state assessment tests, as well as continuous progress monitoring

Family Collaboration

- Collaboration with community agencies to provide services to students and families

Other:

- Upon entrance to the Target program, each student will receive all educational services within the setting III classroom. As students gain skills, they may begin to transition to less restrictive special education programming and/or the general education classroom. Each student's transition is determined on an individual basis by the student's IEP team.

- For some students, the Target program will remain the most appropriate educational setting through 8th grade.
- Transitions for students back to the general education classroom are slow, mindful and well planned out. Alexandria Public Schools staff work together to create the transition supports that can make this successful.

Available Staffing per student IEP Includes:

- Licensed/Highly Qualified Instructors
- Paraprofessionals
- School Social Worker
- Therapeutic Social Work
- School Psychological Services Consultation