



**GRAND ISLAND CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAM**

**EXTENDED SCHOOL
YEAR 101:
WHAT TO KNOW
ABOUT THE ESY
PROGRAM**

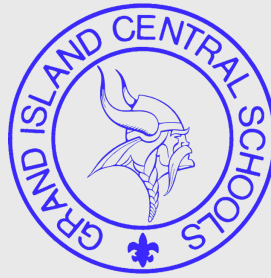




**GRAND ISLAND CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAM**

**SECTION 1:
WHAT IS THE
EXTENDED SCHOOL
YEAR PROGRAM?**





What Is the Extended School Year (ESY) Program?

Extended School Year (ESY) is a special education program that provides eligible students with continued instruction and related services during the summer or other scheduled school breaks. ESY is designed to help students maintain the critical skills they have learned during the regular school year and to prevent significant regression that could interfere with their educational progress.

ESY is not the same as summer school and is not available to all students. Eligibility is determined annually by the Committee on Special Education (CSE) based on each student's individual needs and is documented in the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP).

Services may include specialized instruction, speech-language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, counseling, or other related services identified in the student's IEP.

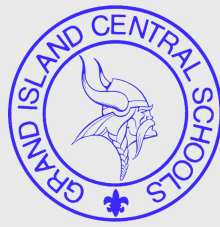




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SECTION 2: ESY FAQs





How do I find ESY information on the Grand Island Central School District's website?

1. Navigate to www.grandislandschools.org
2. At the top of the page, click on "Departments & Services".
3. Scroll down and click "Pupil Personnel Services".
4. Look under "Pupil Personnel Services" in the blue box on the left. Scroll down and look for "Extended School Year Summer Program." Click that link for online information about the ESY Program.





Who receives Extended School Year Services?

Extended School Year (ESY) services are provided to eligible students with disabilities whose Individualized Education Program (IEP) team has determined that services beyond the regular school year are necessary for the student to receive a free appropriate public education (FAPE). ESY is not automatically provided to all students with an IEP or a Section 504 Plan. Eligibility is determined on an individual basis, based on the student's unique needs and the criteria outlined in their IEP.

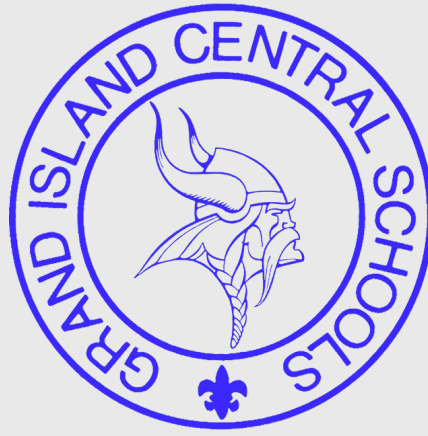




How do I know if my child is eligible for ESY services?

If your child is eligible for Extended School Year (ESY) services, the Committee on Special Education (CSE) will discuss this with you during your child's annual IEP meeting. If the CSE determines that ESY is necessary, it will be included in your child's Individualized Education Program (IEP), including the services to be provided, their frequency, and the dates of service. If you have questions about your child's eligibility, please contact the District Office CSE/CPSE Department.





My child has been accepted into the ESY program. What happens next?

After the district has determined your child is eligible for ESY services, the **Front Desk Clerk at the District Office** will call you to notify you about your child's participation, discuss next steps, and what to expect.

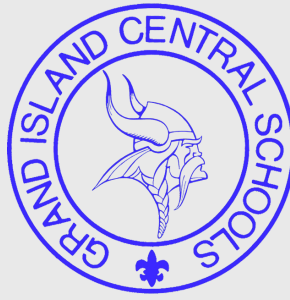




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**SECTION 3:
WHAT HAPPENS
BEHIND THE SCENES**





The Grand Island Central School District values open and consistent communication and transparency. We understand that the ESY process can raise questions, especially for families participating for the first time. Once your child has been determined eligible for ESY services, this section will help you understand what to expect, answer common questions, and explain what happens behind the scenes before the program begins.

1. The ESY program runs for six weeks during the summer and begins after the Fourth of July holiday. The tentative dates for ESY 2027 are July 6th - August 14th 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
2. The ESY Program always takes place at Veronica Connor Middle School (VCMS).
3. ESY dates/times are not finalized until approved by the Board of Education. ESY dates are normally approved in April/May.





3. Once program dates/times are finalized, the District Office Front Desk Clerk will notify you via phone and email.
4. The hiring process for summer school teachers and aides typically happens towards the end of the school year. The district will not know who your child's summer school teacher is until closer to the start of the ESY program.
5. Your child's summer school teacher will reach out to you the week before the program begins and after they complete ESY orientation.





6. Many students require transportation accommodations, and approximately 100+ students attend the ESY program. All students are entitled to receive transportation services if they are attending the **full day** ESY program. **Please note: if your child is receiving Related Services Only (RSO), the district is not required to provide transportation.**
7. Bus drivers are not assigned routes until after the regular school year ends. Once they receive their routes, the bus drivers must complete trial runs to ensure timing accuracy. **Transportation will notify you about pick up and drop off times a few days before the ESY program begins.**





For questions or concerns, see the list below:

Pupil Personnel Service Contacts:

**Cheryl Cardone, Assistant Superintendent of
Special Education and Pupil Personnel Services**

716-773-8815

**Angela Amato
CSE/CPSE Chairperson**

716-404-1217

**Lisa O'Leary
CSE/CPSE Secretary**

716-773-8806

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