

Special Education is the provision of specialized instruction services that are mandated by an Individualized Education Program (IEP). These services are designed to maximize a student's ability to access the general curriculum and work toward reaching their learning and developmental potential. All specialized instruction and related services (special education) are determined from the Team evaluation, discussion and recommendations. Special education and related services are mostly provided in inclusive settings unless the student's needs require an alternative placement.

Danvers Public Schools provides specialized instruction services in each of the seven buildings. The following is a breakdown by school of these services. All services are provided or overseen by highly qualified, certified teachers and/or therapists and are available to students district-wide with an identified need.

Riverside:

Intensive Preschool -- Children in this program are all those who require significant attention to functional skills. All the children in this program are children with IEPs. There are typically eight or less students in this program with a large child to staff ratio.

Integrated Preschool -- Children in this program are mixed. Some children need specialized instruction in communication, social skills or pre-academic skills. Other children need no specialized instruction. There are no more than 16 children per class. There is one teacher and two paraprofessionals that attend to the children.

K-5 Learning Centers -- The students in these programs (there are currently two classes) are those who need specialized instruction for much of the school day. All of the students are mainstreamed with typically learning students, as is appropriately determined by the Team.

Basic Skills -- The students who require basic skills are those who need specialized instruction primarily in the reading, writing or math areas. Basic skills can be direct instruction outside of the general education class or inside the general education class, depending on the student's needs.

Related Services -- These services include Speech/Language, Occupational and/or Physical Therapy and counseling. These services can be given in conjunction with other specialized instruction or by themselves, depending on the individual student needs.

Highlands:

Language Based Learning Disabilities Program --The students who are part of this program are currently 4th and 5th graders who have overall average cognitive skills with relative strengths in Verbal Comprehension and Perceptual Motor Skills with relative weaknesses in Processing Speed and Working Memory. The instruction is targeted reading as determined by the student's skills. The program includes direct service outside the regular education class for ELA and co-teaching in other curriculum areas once a week for modeling and generalization purposes.

Basic Skills -- The students who require basic skills are those who need specialized instruction primarily in the reading, writing, or math areas. Basic skills can be direct instruction outside of the general education class or inside the general education class, depending on the student's needs.

Related Services -- These services include Speech/Language, Occupational and/or Physical Therapy and counseling. These services can be given in conjunction with other specialized instruction or by themselves, depending on the individual student needs.

Great Oak:

Basic Skills -- The students who require basic skills are those who need specialized instruction primarily in the reading, writing, or math areas. Basic skills can be direct instruction outside of the general education class or inside the general education class, depending on the student's needs.

Related Services -- These services include Speech/Language, Occupational and/or Physical Therapy and counseling. These services can be given in conjunction with other specialized instruction or by themselves, depending on the individual student needs.

Smith:

TLC (Therapeutic Learning Center) -- The students in this program (generally third through fifth grade, but not exclusively) are primarily those that need extra special emotional attention including social/emotional and communication. These students may require direct instruction outside the general education classroom or inside the general education classroom. Generally, these students also have in-school counseling as part of their services.

Basic Skills -- The students who require basic skills are those who need specialized instruction primarily in the reading, writing or math areas. Basic skills can be direct instruction outside of the general education class or inside the general education class, depending on the student's needs.

Related Services -- These services include Speech/Language, Occupational and/or Physical Therapy and counseling. These services can be given in conjunction with other specialized instruction or by themselves, depending on the individual student needs.

Thorpe:

“ASD Class” – The students in this program are students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) requiring intensive specialized instruction who might otherwise not be able to learn in a public setting. The staff is highly trained in ASD, ABA (Applied Behavioral Analysis) and de-escalation strategies. The highly qualified lead teacher is Special Education Certified. Each student is paired with a paraprofessional. A BCBA consults with the staff regularly. The students are mainstreamed as much as possible depending on their individual needs.

TLC (Therapeutic Learning Center) -- The students in this program (generally Kindergarten through third grade, but not exclusively) are primarily those that need extra special emotional attention including social/emotional and communication. These students may require direct instruction outside the general education classroom or inside the general education classroom. Generally, these students also have in-school counseling as part of their services.

Basic Skills -- The students who require basic skills are those who need specialized instruction primarily in the reading, writing or math areas. Basic skills can be direct instruction outside of the general education class or inside the general education class, depending on the student's needs.

Related Services -- These services include Speech/Language, Occupational and/or Physical Therapy and counseling. These services can be given in conjunction with other specialized instruction or by themselves, depending on the individual student needs.

Holten-Richmond Middle School:

Co-taught classes -- These general education classes have both a general education teacher and a special education teacher delivering instruction. At Holten-Richmond Middle School, the co-taught classes are in ELA and Math. In general, students that require this type of service are those that need modifications to the curriculum.

Sub-separate (self-contained) classes -- The students who are enrolled in these classes require specialized instruction beyond modification or accommodations in that subject area.

All the students enrolled in these classes are students on IEPs. There are self-contained classes in ELA, Reading, Math, Social Studies and Science depending on the needs of the students. For the 2015-16 school year, these classes are not multi-grade.

Life Skills -- This program is multi-grade for those students who need academic instruction and a functional skills curriculum. All instruction is individualized to accommodate the varying needs of each student. This program provides opportunities for integration with non-disabled peers whenever and as often as possible.

Academic Support -- Students who require academic support are given specific skill instruction in an area of need (such as math, reading or executive functioning) in order to maximize the student's ability to access the general curriculum. Academic Support can be 3 times or 6 times in a 7 day cycle depending on the student's needs.

Related Services -- These services include Speech/Language, Occupational and/or Physical Therapy and counseling. These services can be given in conjunction with other specialized instruction or by themselves, depending on the individual student needs.

Danvers High School:

Co-taught classes -- These general education classes have both a general education teacher and a special education teacher delivering instruction. At Danvers High School, the co-taught classes are in ELA, Math, Social Studies and Science. In general, students that require this type of service are those that need modifications to the curriculum.

Sub-separate (self-contained) classes -- The students who are enrolled in these classes require specialized instruction beyond modification or accommodations in that subject area. All the students enrolled in these classes are students on IEPs. There are self-contained classes in ELA, Reading, Math, Social Studies and Science depending on the needs of the students. For the 2015-16 school year, these classes are multi-grade and multi-age.

Life Skills and Transition-- These programs are multi-grade and age for those students who need academic instruction, a functional skills curriculum, vocational skills and even travel training. The Life Skills program provides instruction for students up to 18 years of age and the Transition program provides instruction for students 18 to 22 years of age. All instruction is individualized to accommodate the varying needs of each student. This program provides opportunities for integration with non-disabled peers whenever and as often as possible as well as skills toward independent living, working and traveling within the community.

Academic Support -- Students who require academic support are given specific skill instruction in an area of need (such as math, reading or executive functioning) in order to maximize the student's ability to access the general curriculum. Academic Support can be 3 times or 6 times in a 7-day cycle depending on the student's needs.

Related Services -- These services include Speech/Language, Occupational and/or Physical Therapy and counseling. These services can be given in conjunction with other specialized instruction or by themselves, depending on the individual student needs.