

# Special Services Overview and Discussion

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SEPAG presentation 10/28/2021

Kim Conti - Director

Chris Carew - Supervisor

Joseph Seugling - Supervisor

# Department Administrators

- Director of Special Services
  
- Supervisors of Special Services

# Roles of Department Staff

# Child Study Team

- School Psychologist
- Learning Disability Teacher Consultant (LDTC)
- School Social Worker
- Speech Language Specialist \*

# Case Managers

- LDTC, School Psychologist and School Social Workers case manage students who are eligible for special education and related services
- Speech Language Specialists case manage students who are eligible for Speech Language Services
- Coordinates the development, monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of the IEP
- Facilitate communication between home and school
- Coordinates: annual review and initial and reevaluation process

# Special Education Teachers

- Assist in developing the IEPs
- Provide unique instruction
- Implement modifications to curriculum and/or accommodations to facilitate access to curriculum
- Provided updates on student progress
- Communicate and coordinate with other staff and parents
- Trained to work with various educational disabilities and settings

# Other Possible Supports and Services

- Applied Behavior Analysis
- Counseling
- Consultation
- Transportation
- Nursing
- Related Services
  - PT, OT, Speech, Counseling
- Behaviorist
- Paraprofessionals
  - Support for students during and/or after the school day (Instructional, transition, movement, personal care, etc.)
  - At the direction of the teacher, communication is provided by teacher to family
  - Classroom, Shared, Personal Aides

# Steps for assistance for parents regarding special education concerns

1. Case Manager/Teacher
2. Supervisor of Special Services
3. Director of Special Services



# General Overview Process for Referrals/Child Find

# Process for Referrals

## **What is a referral?**

A referral is a written request for an evaluation that is given to the school district when a child is suspected of having a disability and might need special education services.

# Process for Referrals

## Who can make a referral?

- Parents
- Instructional, administrative and other professional staff of the local school district
- Agencies concerned with the welfare of students

# Process for Referrals

Referral for Special Education Services and Related Services:

A parent or guardian of a child in the district may request a referral to the  
Child Study Team

by contacting the building principal

or

by sending a signed written request for CST evaluation for your child to the attention of Ms.  
Kim Conti, Director of Special Services:

Kim Conti

Department of Special Services

1231 Burnet Avenue

Union, NJ 07083

Signed written requests sent via email will be accepted if the email contains a photo of the signed request or a scanned attachment of the signed letter.

# Process for Referrals

## **What happens when a referral is made?**

Within 20 calendar days (excluding school holidays, but including summer vacation) following receipt of a referral of a student, the Child Study Team shall meet with the parent and the student's regular education teacher to determine the need for a comprehensive evaluation and to design an Evaluation Plan. Upon receipt of parental consent the evaluation will begin.

# Process for Referrals

## **Timeline:**

After completing the evaluation, the Child Study Team will hold a conference with the parent(s) and the student's teacher to share findings and determine eligibility for special education and related services/eligible for speech language services. If the student is found eligible, then an Individual Education Program (IEP) can be developed. Implementation of any new program is to be effected within 90 calendar days from the date of parent consent to evaluate

# Child Find

The Township of Union Public School District has a responsibility to locate, identify and evaluate all resident students with disabilities who are in need of special education and related services, including students with disabilities attending nonpublic schools, and highly mobile pupils such as migrant workers' children and homeless children regardless of the severity of their disabilities. The school district locates, identifies and evaluates, where appropriate, the following: Children below school-entry age (3-5); school age children; children entering school for the first time; children enrolled in public and private schools; transfer pupils and school age children who are eligible to attend school but who are not attending school and who are residents of Township of Union School District.

# Child Find

Upon written request, the district will conduct an initial identification meeting for any resident child to determine whether a referral for special education and related services is appropriate. Such a request may be made by contacting Kim Conti, Director of Special Services, Township of Union Public Schools at 908-851- 4426 or by writing her at 1231 Burnet Avenue, Union, NJ 07083. The school district provides special education and related services for children ages 3 to 21. Information for children with potential disabilities or those with disabilities from birth to three is available through Project Child Find, (a service established by the N.J. Department of Education through I.D.E.A., Part B funds from the U.S. Department of Education) at 1-800-322-8174.



# Child Find

Link to Notice of Child find/Project Child Find from district website

[Click here to access](#)

# **The Role of the Department of Special Services**

# Department of Special Services

- Functions within and as a part of the general education system.

# Department of Special Services

- Programs
  - Preschool Disabilities
  - Learning and/or Language Disabilities
    - Mild to Moderate
  - Autism
  - Behavioral Disabilities
  - Multiple Disabilities
  - Resource Program
    - In Class
    - Out of Class

# Current and Ongoing Initiatives

1. Project UNIFY
2. Child Assault Prevention (CAP)
3. Community Based Instruction (CBI) with the assistance of Rutgers Boggs Center
4. Equity Training Social Emotional Learning

# Current and Ongoing Initiatives

5. Rethink Social Emotional Learning
6. Nonviolent Physical Crisis Intervention Training
7. Parent/Student/Staff Workshops -
  - Suicide training
  - Planning for Adult Life
8. Positive Behavioral Supports in Schools
9. Effective School Solutions-Professional Development

# Current and Ongoing Initiatives

10. DARE TO DREAM
11. EACH ONE TEACH ONE
12. Student Support Services at Union High School
13. Department Website ([click here to access](#))
14. Assistive technology
  - Learning Ally
  - Don Johnston