

## **District 148 Support Programs Services**

School District 148 requires that all students with disabilities be given an appropriate education in the least restrictive environment (LRE) as mandated by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). The focus is to improve the school climate with a more robust continuum of services to ensure that students with individualized education programs (IEPs) have greater access to the regular education environment. Children with disabilities must be educated with their grade level peers to the maximum extent appropriate with the use of supplemental aids and services as needed. Thus, the first placement option considered is a regular education environment with the use of supplemental aids and services as needed. The continuum of services for District 148 is outlined below. Any questions regarding the continuum should be addressed to Dr. Dunleavy, Director of Support Programs (708- 841-5959).

### **Continuum of Special Education Services**

#### ***Early Childhood Special Education***

Our Early Childhood Program supports students with identified developmental delays. This program works closely with the State of Illinois Early Intervention (EI) program and conducts preschool screenings throughout the year. Programs are located at the Early Childhood Center. (Grades: Preschool)

#### ***Speech & Language***

Speech-language services are provided to students with an identified impairment which adversely affects their educational performance in one or more of the following areas: articulation, voice, fluency, language. Programs are located at all District 148 schools. (Grades: Pre K – 8)

#### ***Support Services Center***

The Support Services Center is designed for students who require special education services. This center is used for students based on their IEP (Individual Education Plan) when modifications and accommodations in the regular education room do not meet their needs. Programs are located at all District 148 schools. (Grades K – 8)

Based on individual student need, services may include:

- consultation between the special education teacher and regular education teacher
- co-teaching in the regular education classroom
- individual or small group direct instruction as a pull – out service in the Support Services Center

- Special Education teacher or paraprofessional providing support in the general education classroom. (push-in service)

### ***Low-Incidence Program (Hearing, Visual, Orthopedic Impairment)***

Programs for students with a visual, hearing, or orthopedic impairment are available in cooperation with ECHO. Students may be serviced by an itinerant teacher who comes to the child's district school or in a self-contained structure.

### ***ECHO (Exceptional Children Have Opportunities) Programs***

School District 148 is part of the ECHO Joint Agreement Cooperative. ECHO placements are utilized when a child's needs cannot be met with the supports available within District 148 programs. Programs include: Adaptive Behavioral Learning Environment Program (ABLE); Communication Development Program (CD); Deaf/Hard of Hearing Program (DHH); Pace Program; Physically/Health Impaired – Visually Impaired Program; ECHO School; ECHO Satellite; ECHO Early Childhood. Programs are located at various sites throughout the south suburbs. (Grades Pre K – 8)

### ***Other Related Services***

School District 148 also offers related services as needed by a student. Related services are listed within a child's IEP when there is a need. These services include, but are not limited to: school health services, social work services, speech-language services, occupational therapy, physical therapy, visually impaired itinerant, hearing impaired itinerant and physically impaired itinerant. Related services are offered at all schools in District 148. (Grades Pre K – 8)

### ***Home Instruction/Hospital***

School District 148 offers home instruction and instruction in hospitals and as deemed appropriate per ISBE guidelines.