

FALL RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SPECIAL EDUCATION
PROGRAMS AND SERVICES



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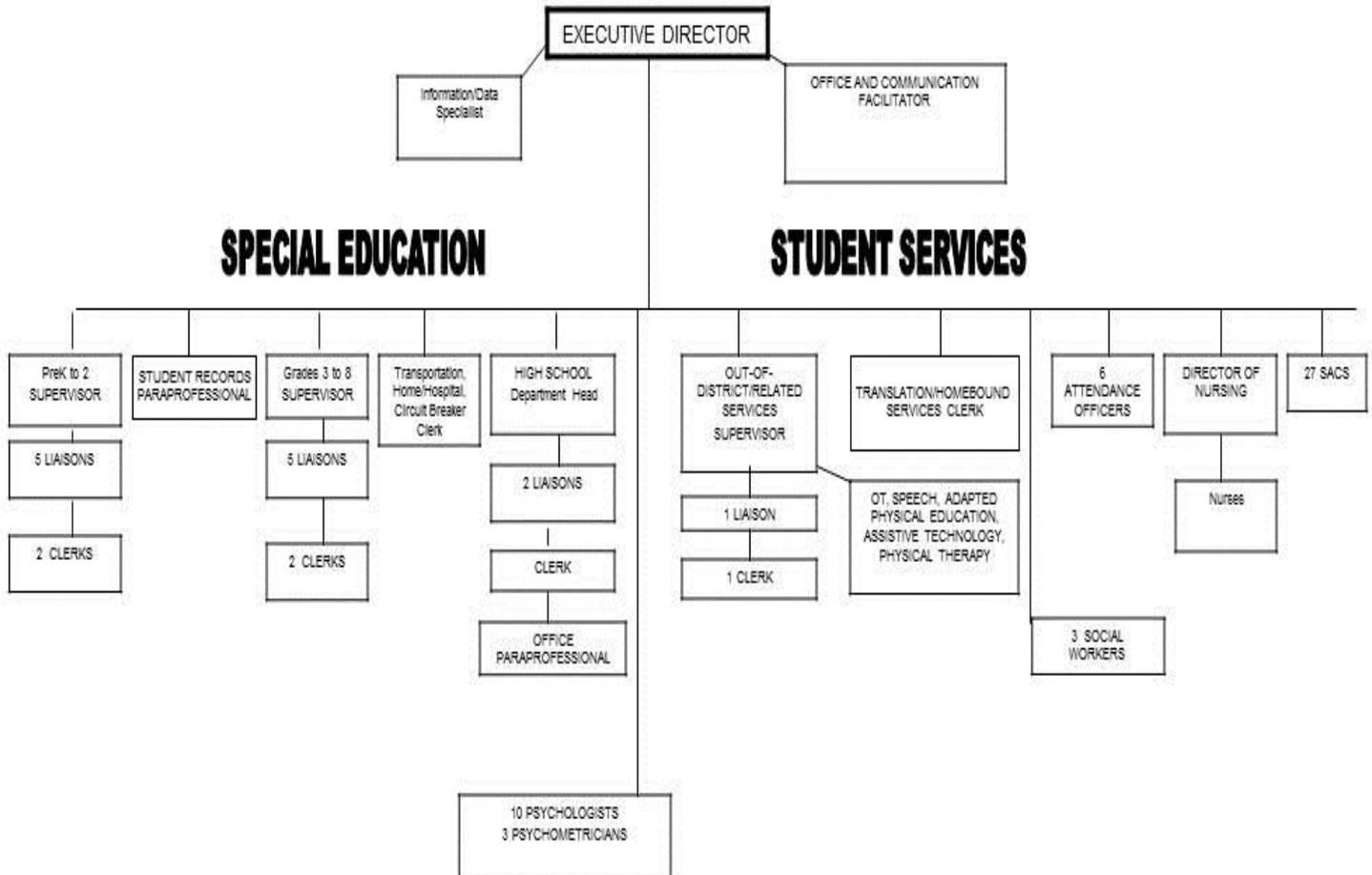
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ORGANIZATIONAL CHART SPECIAL EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES



Special education programs and services in Fall River are designed to meet the specific needs of students with disabilities in the least restrictive setting. Fall River offers several programs to meet the needs of students with disabilities which are described below. Related services are also provided and are listed following the program descriptions. The professional staff that delivers special education services are certified and trained to work with a wide range of students with specific disabilities. When the nature and/or severity of the student's disability is such that a less restrictive environment with the use of supplementary aides and services would not meet the student's needs consideration is given to district-wide programs and then to out-of-district placements. Through the IEP TEAM process students can receive services in any composite program designed individually and drawing from our comprehensive resources.

Programs

Inclusion

Students with disabilities participate with their non-disabled peers in the general education setting. The program's purpose is to provide academic, behavioral, and social support to students with identified disabilities within the general education setting. Delivery of services is provided through a variety of models: consultation (Indirect service), collaborative consultation (direct service), co-teaching, and small group.

Partial Inclusion

Partial Inclusion services students with disabilities to enable them to participate and make progress in the general education classroom. Students participate with their non-disabled peers in the general education setting, with direct support provided outside the general education classroom by a special education teacher for part of the school day.

Language Based

The program serves students with learning and language (receptive and expressive) disabilities. The class provides specialized reading and language instruction with a multi-sensory approach. Instruction incorporates strategies to address expressive and receptive

language skills across the curriculum. Direct support is provided outside the general education classroom by a special education teacher and a classroom paraprofessional.

Social Emotional

The program serves students with a primary disability in emotional disorders. Students are provided with a level behavior management program to address anger management, impulse control, compliance issues, and/or social skills. Direct support is provided outside the general education classroom by a special education teacher and a classroom paraprofessional.

Therapeutic support is provided by a social worker.

Autism/PDD

The program serves students on the Autism Spectrum who require more social-pragmatic, academic, and behavioral support. The programs provide intensive behavioral training relying upon ABA principles and total communication techniques in order to develop social skills and academic readiness skills. The program blends social/developmental as well as behavioral approaches whenever possible to address the educational challenges faced by this population of students. In addition to the special education teacher, there is a paraprofessional in the classroom. An autism specialist provides direct social skills support to students and collaborative consultation to the special education teacher.

Community Based

The program serves students with moderate to severe developmental delays (ages 3-9) or intellectual impairments (ages 9+). Students in this program may participate in general education environments including lunch, recess, assemblies, and special events. Services are delivered by a full-time certified special educator and at least one full-time paraprofessional, with additional staff as necessary.

Medically Fragile

The program serves students with moderate to severe multiple disabilities. This program is designed to address the development of communication, mobility, social, and independent daily living skills. The staffing in this program is comprised of one full-time certified special educator, two paraprofessionals (CNA), one nurse, with additional staff as necessary.

Therapeutic Day (K – 8)

The Therapeutic Day programs provide a day treatment program for students in grades K-8 who have emotional and behavioral disabilities. The small school setting provides close monitoring, opportunities for academic successes, and a therapeutic program interwoven throughout the school day. Staffing includes: special education and content teachers, paraprofessionals, behavior specialists, psychologist and/or social worker.

Related Services

Related services are provided when the special education Team deems them necessary in order for the student to access, participate in, and make progress in his/her educational program based on entrance criteria. Related services are provided in varied locations and group arrangements including general education, small group, and one-to-one. All services can be provided within the general education class or in a separate setting dependent upon the decision of the special education Team. Following is a list of related services. Note that this is not an exhaustive list.

- Adaptive Physical Education
- Behavioral Consultation
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- School Counseling
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Visual Impairments
- Chapter 688 Transition Planning