

Windsor Mill Middle School

Inclusion Policy

Principal of Inclusion

Students come to Windsor Mill Middle School with a variety of needs some of which require specialized instruction or support. The inclusive learning environment at Windsor Mill Middle ensures that all students have the opportunity to participate in every academic and extracurricular activity the school offers. In all cases, teachers work with students' unique set of strengths and challenges.

Examples of these special needs include:

- Intellectual Disabilities
- Speech/Language Disabilities
- Autism
- Other Health Impairments
- Emotional Disabilities
- Specific Learning Disabilities
- Medical Conditions
- Physical Impairments

Philosophy of Inclusive Education

The Windsor Mill Middle School community is one in which all students are instructed in a safe learning environment equipped with the resources necessary for them to succeed. Students with special needs are expected to master the same rigorous standards established by the Baltimore County Public Schools and the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program (MYP) unless otherwise noted. All students will develop into caring, open-minded individuals who understand that the world community is made up of people from diverse backgrounds with a range of abilities. Our Philosophy of Inclusive Education is evident in our instructional programs and resources provided to our students with special needs.

Instructional Program

Windsor Mill Middle School implements MYP utilizing an inclusive learning environment. Course schedules developed for all special needs students are based on their Individual Education Program (IEP) requirements in compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA). Special needs students are included in general education classes and are provided resource classes based on their (IEP) goals and requirements.

Lesson plans are constructed utilizing Universal Design for Learning (UDL) framework and include modifications based on student needs.

Windsor Mill Middle School has a department of dedicated special educators who formally and informally assess students, and analyze and present data, develop and implement IEPs as well as monitor student progress to ensure that the school is in compliance with the students' IEP or 504 plan as required under IDEA. The case managers schedule yearly IEP meeting and assessment reevaluations with parents/guardians and teachers and are responsible for making all necessary revisions to student programs/plans. The case managers and/or grade level administrators are available to address parent/guardian questions and concerns.

Resources for Students with Special Needs

Interventions at the school include self-paced, student centered computerized programs, para-educator assistance, self-contained resource classes as needed and the Student Support Team (SST). The SST process identifies students with academic or social issues which affect the student's success. The committee analyzes problems and applies interventions. They monitor results and make recommendations which assist students as needed. In addition to co-taught classrooms in English and math classes, there are some smaller resourced classrooms for special education students who exhibit problems in math and English.

Windsor Mill Middle School, in accordance with IDEA and BCPS policy, provides students with special needs one to one adult assistants when stipulated by their IEP. Inclusion classes, where special education students receive the general curriculum, are staffed with paraeducators to ensure students receive services stipulated in their IEP.

Additional Time

In accordance with BCPS policy, students are permitted to re-do assignments that they have completed for additional credit and to show growth in the taught skill. Students with special needs are encouraged to take advantage of these opportunities as well as attending "Coach Classes" after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Extended Time

Students who receive special education services through an IEP or 504 plan are provided extended time for assignments. This extended time allows students time and a half to complete assignments if they so choose. Teachers can provide this time and a half through the Special Education department, paraeducators, or through assignment completion at home.

Re-Evaluation of Inclusion Policy

Windsor Mill Middle will review and revise this policy as needed at the first Leadership Meeting

of the year in August. Members present will be provided with copies of this policy ahead of time in order to have educated discussion about the policy and revisions that might be necessary. Revisions will be made by the IB Coordinator, and copies of the policy will be re-delivered to staff regardless of whether or not changes were made.

