

## **Ridgeview Charter Middle School Special Educational Needs Policy**

Ridgeview fully implements and supports in all ways the Special services for Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The school executes differentiation, inclusion, and scaffolding to bridge prior knowledge and new knowledge. This bridge affirms a student's identity and builds self-esteem while allowing for fair access to rigor and enrichment through a variety of clubs and extended learning opportunities to show growth and mastery over time. Special Services such as ESOL, TAG, and Services for Exceptional Children will offer accommodations and modifications to enhance a student's learning through the following: ESOL, Language Plans, and IEPs.

Ridgeview follows the policies put in place by federal law, as well as state and district regulations. That means each student is treated fairly by considering his/her physical, emotional or academic need. Teachers and parents work together as a team to develop accommodations and supports to give each student an opportunity to reach his/her highest potential level of success.

Ridgeview offers a variety of options for students with special needs including self-contained classes, co-taught classes, supportive instruction classes and general education classes where the teachers follow the students' specific accommodations and/or modifications to meet students' individual needs.

MYP gives access to all students. As such, students with disabilities in each level of classes, complete summative assessments in the spirit of the IB, meaning the teacher makes necessary adjustments while still maintaining the framework of IB and the state-mandated curriculum and assessments.

### **Management of Services**

We have designated staff to support the variety of student needs at our school.

- The RTI (Response to Intervention) Coordinator monitors the progress of students with 504s, coordinates evaluation of students who have been referred, maintains communication with parents, and supports teachers.
- The school psychologist administers psychological testing as needed and supports service students with social and emotional needs.
- The ESOL program chairperson manages all testing of ESOL students and coordinates teacher and student schedules for ESOL.
- The Special Education chairperson coordinates student and teacher schedules for Special Education and ensures the Case Managers and team-teachers comply with students' plans.
- The IST (Instructional Support Teacher) ensures school plans follow state and federal regulations.
- The Speech therapist works with students and teachers to support language needs.
- This policy is to be reviewed by school administration annually.