

FAQ FOR RESOURCE/SPECIAL EDUCATION CLASSES

How do I help my student in junior high—a time that is naturally challenging?

Junior high, while a challenge physically, mentally, and socially, is also a lot of fun. They get to make new friends from various elementary schools, experience new classes, work with teachers, and learn new procedures all while figuring out how to become adults. If your student is having specific challenges, please contact Mrs. Muirbrook, Mrs. Ward, Ms. Thomas, Mrs. Baggs, or Mr. Rice. We do not want your student to be overwhelmed while experiencing all this newness.

What do resource/special education classes look like in middle school?

Your student goes to their resource/special education classes like any other class. Your student is not identified as being in resource/special education in a pull-out setting. The classes on average have about 14 students in them. Special education means your student is in a class taught with specially designed instruction. This means your student has specific goals we work on in class to improve his or her writing, reading, social, and/or life skills depending on his or her needs.

Our goal as a special education department is to use specially designed instruction to help your student master the core (walkaways show that progress) and move into mainstream classes as quickly as possible.

How do walkaways fit into my student's IEP goals?

Walkaways are tests, or in some classes assessments, your student can take as many times as he or she needs to in order show mastery of the core. Our goal with walkaways is that students move from their current level to mastery. We do not want to lower expectations for your student, but if your student is having a challenge with walkaways in several classes, please contact Mrs. Muirbrook, Mrs. Ward, Ms. Thomas, Mrs. Baggs, or Mr. Rice and we will hold a meeting to discuss solutions. Walkaways are not meant to be stressful. If you are experiencing a lot of stress with walkaways, please contact us.

If you have specific questions about your student, please schedule an appointment with the teacher or come to parent teacher conferences on Thursday, September 25, from 3:30 to 8 p.m. Our contact information is below. The phone number at Willowcreek is 766-5273.

For your information, several of us share rooms with other teachers. If you leave us a phone message about your student, another teacher may hear it. We want your student's information to remain confidential. Please email us if you have a sensitive issue to discuss with one of us.

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