



**Special Education
Program Directory
2019-2020**

**Dr. Elaine Hill
Director of Special Services**

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E. T. Hamilton School

Language and Learning Disabilities Moderate to Severe

Dawn Scholefield, Ashley Corcoran

This special class is designed according to the fundamentals of the Pyramid Education Approach. Lessons are individualized using the core curriculum content standards as a guide. The program is highly structured and consistent. Activities are multi-sensory and functional by design. The student to staff ratio allows for one-on-one instruction for much of the day. Functional communication skills and powerful reinforcement The needs of each child are considered in planning inclusion with typical peers to the greatest extent possible. Community-based instruction is provided throughout the year. Related services of speech, OT, PT, behavior management, assistive technology, etc. are planned individually. The age range for the current year is 5-9 with inclusion in grades K-2.

Resource Center Programs

*Kelli Courtney Caitlin Gillespie
Kathy Gallagher Robin Mazurek*

Pull-out resource center instruction is provided at all grade levels for literacy and math. In-class support or adult support is provided as needed to accommodate students with special needs.

Kresson School

Language and Learning Disabilities

Mild to Moderate

Melissa Starobinets

Kirsten Ambrozaitis

Allison Adams

This special class is designed to provide children with access to the Core Curriculum Content Standards in a smaller class setting using a multi-sensory teaching approach. The program includes a strong emphasis on literacy and math using multi-sensory strategies, differentiated projects and technology. Children learn to work effectively in small groups to promote communication, leadership and social skills. The needs of each child are considered in planning inclusion with typical peers to the greatest extent possible; inclusion in one or more content areas is common. Related services of speech, OT, PT, assistive technology, etc. are planned individually.

Resource Center Programs

Susan Blossom

Dionne Tropea

Melissa Farrell

Susan Meyer

Pull-out resource center instruction is provided at all grade levels for literacy and math. In-class support or adult support is provided as needed to accommodate students with special needs.

Osage School

Language and Learning Disabilities Mild to Moderate

Gordon Zwicker

Students with mild to moderate language and learning disabilities are provided a very structured setting with a strong emphasis on behavior management and self discipline. This class is designed to provide children in grades 2-5 with access to the general education curriculum at a slower pace with lessons geared to address individual learning needs. Self-esteem or social inadequacies are addressed in consultation with the district behavior therapist. Social skills training is embedded in the weekly routine. The needs of each child are considered in planning inclusion with typical peers to the greatest extent appropriate on an individual basis. Related services of speech, OT, PT, counseling, assistive technology, etc. are planned individually. Goals and objectives are developed using the Core Curriculum Content Standards as a guide.

Resource Center Programs

Colleen Canale Meghan LaGrossa

Julie Lenthe Caitlin Peluszak

Wendy Gaff Erin Putman

Tracie Kaign Lisa Stillwagon

In-class support and/or pull-out resource center instruction is provided at all grade levels for reading, literacy and math.

Signal Hill School

Preschool Disabilities Full Day Program Severe language, social and/or behavior needs

Ashley Izzo Molly Day

This special class is designed according to the fundamentals of the Pyramid Education approach. Lessons are highly individualized, play-based and developmental in nature. The student to staff ratio is generally 2:1. Functional communication skills and powerful reinforcement systems enable the children to gain meaningful progress. Instructors make ample use of visual cues, picture symbols, sensory-integration activities and communication skills. Children are included with typical peers for play and special activities as appropriate. Related services of speech, OT, PT, behavior management, assistive technology, etc. are planned individually. The age range for the current year is 3-5. Goals and objectives are individually designed using age related developmental tasks. The class meets five days per week from 9:00 AM-2:00 PM. Children eat lunch in their classroom which is part of the instructional day.

Resource Center Programs

Jessica Cianfrani

Laura Kots

Wendy Koenig

Tracey Redfearn

Danielle Riggs

Donna Trunkwalter

Pull-out resource center instruction is provided at all grade levels for reading, language and math. In-class support or adult support is provided as needed to accommodate Students with special needs.

Preschool Inclusion Half Day

Lauren Jacobus

Cari Cooper

Classes are held for both three and four year old students. These are general education classes established for the inclusion of students with disabilities. The typically developing children are selected each year by lottery. The three and four year old class size is typically fifteen. Lessons are theme based with play as a primary method of instructional delivery to expose children to all areas of pre-readiness skill development including social skills. The class is staffed by a regular or special education teacher and one instructional associate. Related services of speech, OT, PT, behavior management, assistive technology, etc. are planned individually. Goals and objectives are individually chosen from age related developmental tasks. The class meets in the AM or PM for five 2.5 hour sessions per week.



Language and Learning Disabilities Mild to Moderate

Danielle Frasca

Students in this kindergarten class participate in the general education curriculum with their nondisabled age mates with the support of a special education teacher. For the second half of the day they are provided individualized instruction by a special education teacher with an emphasis on language development, literacy and math using multi-sensory strategies. The principles of Applied Behavior Analysis are utilized to manage behavior and social skills are taught within the context of daily activities. Related services are provided on a need basis.

Language and Learning Disabilities Moderate to Severe

Stephanie Virden

This special class is designed according to the fundamentals of the Pyramid Education Approach. Lessons are individualized using the core curriculum content standards as a guide. The program is highly structured and consistent. Activities are multi-sensory and functional by design. The student to staff ratio allows for one-on-one instruction for much of the day. Functional communication skills and powerful reinforcement The needs of each child are considered in planning inclusion with typical peers to the greatest extent possible. Community-based instruction is provided throughout the year. Related services of speech, OT, PT, behavior management, assistive technology, etc. are planned individually. The age range for the current year is 5-9 with inclusion in grades K-2.

Voorhees Middle School

Multiple Disabilities Program

Stephanie Steinbeck

At the middle school level we offer a program for students with multiple disabilities between the ages of 11 and 14. The program focuses on the core curriculum content standards taught within a functional context of real life activities. Skills to be learned include:

- Functional Academics
- Daily Living Skills
- Personal Care and Hygiene
- Recreational/Leisure Skills
- Community Awareness and Exploration
- Workplace Readiness and Pre-vocational skills
- Social/Behavioral Competencies

Lessons are taught in a variety of settings within the school building with monthly opportunities to generalize skills in community settings. Students also participate in a variety of activities with typically developing peers for select activities.

Adult support for extracurricular activities is provided as needed.

Language and Learning Disabilities

Mild to Moderate

Allison Weintraub

This special class is designed to provide children with access to the Core Curriculum Content Standards in a smaller class setting using a multi-sensory teaching approach. The program includes a strong emphasis on literacy and math using multi-sensory strategies, differentiated projects and technology. Children learn to work effectively in small groups to promote communication, leadership and social skills. The needs of each child are considered in planning inclusion with typical peers to the greatest extent possible; inclusion in one or more content areas is common. Related services of speech, OT, PT, assistive technology, etc. are planned individually. The age range for the current year is 10-13.



Departmentalized Resource Center

The option of providing resource center pull-out replacement or in-class support for literacy and math exists at the middle school for all grade levels. Decisions are made individually for each subject. The schedule provides an option of attending regular classes with appropriate modifications including the option of adult support as appropriate. The resource center classes provide students with access to the Common Core Standards in a smaller class setting using a multi-sensory teaching approach. Students also learn to work effectively in small groups and the instructional techniques bolster self esteem and promote social skills. Related services of speech, OT, PT, assistive technology, etc. are planned individually. The age range for the current year is for a single grade.

6th grade

*Danielle Foley
Ryan Flynn
Danielle La Bella
Stephanie Levine
Tara Ratliff
John Shea*

7th grade

*Jim Brown
Karen Jacobs
Kristen Leber
Marnie Mitchell
Anne Scocca-Luscombe*

8th grade

*Trish Carter
Jordayn Katz
Brandi Miller
Holly Richter
Brandy Wheeler*

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Dr. Elaine Hill Director of Special Services

Child Study Teams

Hamilton & Osage Schools

Amy Behnke	Social Worker	x6132
Michael Kotch	Psychologist	x6131
Donna Ross	Learning Consultant	x6133

Kresson & Signal Hill Schools

Marguerite Stephens	Social Worker	x6136
Holly Rosica	Learning Consultant	x6137
Amanda Griffis	Psychologist	x6139

Voorhees Middle School

Dawn Danley	Learning Consultant	x5218
Donna Petersen	Psychologist	x5121
Francine Prager	Psychologist	x5217

Child Study Team

District-wide

Related Services Providers

Occupational Therapists

Denise Walters	Signal Hill
Brooke Yarnal	Hamilton, Kresson, Osage

Physical Therapist

Larry Berry	Signal Hill, Hamilton, Kresson, Osage, VMS
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Behavior Therapist

Jennifer Demski	All Elementary Schools
Kristen Thomsen	Voorhees Middle School

Speech Therapists

Kim Brand	Kresson
Ilene Ganzman	Osage
Debbie Hayden	Signal Hill
Sophie Nykiel	Signal Hill
Diane Romaniello	ET Hamilton
Alyson Snider	VMS
Beth Zanetich	Signal Hill

Resources in Special Education

For information about special education, state rules and regulations and/or parental rights, the following websites are available:

<http://www.state.nj.us/education>

<http://www.cec.sped.org>

<http://www.ed.gov>



The district *Special Education Parent Advisory Committee* is a forum for parents to have input to the district on issues concerning students with disabilities. Check the website for dates and times.

For additional information visit the special services page of the district website.

<http://www.voorhees.k12.nj.us>

