Our Special Education Programs

A Look Back, A Look Ahead
Roseland’s Special Education Programs

We currently offer a continuum of Special Education classes at Noecker School.

- **Inclusion** (math and literacy)
- **Replacement** (math and literacy)
- **LLD Small Group Replacement** (math and literacy)
- **ABA One-on-One Goal Driven Instruction** (all day/specific periods)
- **Out-of-District**

If indicated in an individual student’s IEP, instructional aides support students across other learning environments (Science, Social Studies, Special Areas). The majority of our SE students receive instructional aide support in Science and Social Studies.

Additional services include: speech, OT/PT, multisensory reading, social groups, ESY.
Roseland’s Special Education Programs

Prior to the 2017-2018 school year, our special education program lacked the opportunity for our students to benefit from Inclusion.

Students, once identified through the IEP process, typically left their general education classrooms for replacement instruction in math and/or literacy.

Inclusion was not an option between the general education and replacement classrooms.

In 2017-2018, inclusion (differentiation) became a district goal; individual student achievement has continued to be a primary focus.
What is Inclusion at Noecker School?

- **Inclusion** allows special education students to be educated in general education classes with appropriate supports (SE teacher, instructional aides, modifications, accommodations).

- **Inclusion** is the Least Restrictive Environment of special education instruction; it is in lieu of Replacement for math and literacy for eligible students.

- Grade-level Curriculum is followed, and the curriculum dictates pacing. The Special Education and General Education teachers work together to support all students towards grade level expectations and in accessing the grade level curriculum.
Roseland’s Inclusion Program Development

While inclusive instruction was new to Noecker School in 2017, it was not new in our neighboring districts (or educationally - it first shows up in 1986 and began being implemented in the 1990s).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Essex Fells</td>
<td>- added staff as needed; now all SE instruction is inclusion; all academic subjects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>North Caldwell</td>
<td>- gradually added staff; currently they have inclusion and replacement classes at each grade level; all academic subjects.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Fairfield</td>
<td>- continuing to grow inclusion program. Currently inclusion for all academic subjects in grades 4-6; goal is grades 2-6.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Roseland</td>
<td>- continuing to grow inclusion program. Goal is to continue to build department towards inclusion in all academic subjects.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In most cases, academic subjects refers to literacy, math, science, and social studies.
Growing Our Inclusion Program

Year-over-year the district has made a financial commitment to support our special education programs. Some items are required and out of our budgetary control (out-of-district students, SE transportation, newly identified students, enrollment) but growth and improvement of the department is consciously planned and budgeted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017-18</th>
<th>2018-19</th>
<th>2019-20</th>
<th>2020-21</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inclusion began!</td>
<td>Added additional 0.5 CST position</td>
<td>Added an additional SE teacher</td>
<td>Budget Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Added an additional SE teacher</td>
<td>96 SE Students</td>
<td>96* SE Students</td>
<td>Goal is to add an additional 1-2 SE teacher positions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92 SE Students</td>
<td>31 Math</td>
<td>38 Math*</td>
<td>37 Literacy*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38 Math</td>
<td>37 Literacy</td>
<td>(*12 In-Process)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Planning for the Future of Inclusion

2020-2021, Budget Permitting:

- Addition of Inclusion Partnerships in Science and Social Studies in Grades 5 and 6
  (Note: Grade 4 GE teachers currently partner with our Science and Social Studies teachers; scheduling dependent - Inclusion is a possibility)
- Maintaining an LRE Range of Services (PreK-6 - Inclusion, Replacement, LLD, ABA, OOD, related services)

And Beyond

- Annual budgeting towards Inclusion for all academic subjects in grades K-6, as needed and appropriate (equates to 6-7 additional SE staff members) while maintaining our LRE Range of Services.
The district is fully aligned to the goals of the Roseland SEPAC, specifically goal #2

*To support, strengthen, and grow the inclusion program to ensure all students benefit from effective, comprehensive inclusionary services*

We ask for your assistance in supporting our annual budget towards the continued addition and professional development of special education teaching staff as we grow our inclusion program across grade levels and academic areas.