SPECIAL EDUCATION

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The High School Special Education Department consists of four different programs: The Inclusion Program, Resource Room Program Consultant Teacher Services, and Special Class RCT Program. The goal of the Special Education Department is to provide each of our students with the most appropriate educational program based upon his/her individual needs.

Consultant Teacher Services

These services are provided to students who are making the transition to a less restrictive special education setting. Typically, this intervention is recommended when a student no longer requires Resource Room assistance but would be assisted through teacher support during this time period. In this case the special education teacher acts as a consultant to the mainstream teacher(s) to help with the student's transition. Students in this category receive a minimum of two hours of service per week. The assistance may be indirect by helping the student's regular education teacher to modify instruction to meet the unique needs of the child and to assist the student with adjustment to the learning environment. The assistance may also be direct, in which case the student receives specialized instruction from his/her special education teacher.

Integrated Co-Teaching Program (1 year - 1 credit per subject area)

-This program is available to students with disabilities who require alternative teaching strategies and inclass support. It is designed to provide primary instruction and provisions of appropriate special education services to students with disabilities in the age appropriate general education class. In addition, a skills support class is provided for the special education student in the Integrated Co-Teaching Program. Special Class/RCT Program - These classes are designed to provide a highly structured learning environment with emphasis on a modified curriculum of English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and RCT Prep. Students participating in this program can either earn an IEP Diploma upon graduation or will earn a Local or Regents Diploma if they successfully pass the required courses and RCT's. Students participating in the Resource Room Program and the integrated Co-Teaching Program work toward receiving a Regents/or Local Diploma upon graduation.

Resource Room

This program is designed to meet the needs of students with disabilities who benefit from being mainstreamed into regular classes with the assistance of supportive individualized instruction in basic skills and tutorial assistance in their mainstream subjects. Pupils may not be scheduled for special education classes without prior approval from the Department of Special Services and the recommendation of CSE. All special education pupils are offered vocational training at BOCES in 11th and 12th grades.

SKILLS FOR LIFE

This program is for students with developmental delays who require a basic skills program. Students are provided modified academic instruction and social skills guidance with opportunities for integration into the school and community environments. Students enrolled in this class will become experts in negotiating a wide range of life situations. Discover the skills needed to travel throughout local communities, secure gainful employment, locate and interpret information made available through

research, understand and utilize selected computer applications and other technologies. Students will learn what steps to take to find out just what they need to know to be confident members of their community. Library visits and instruction will be an integral component of their learning. The main goal of the skills class is to provide students with the skills that will enable them to become independent learners. The life skills curriculum approach blends academic, daily living, personal/social, and occupational skills into integrated lessons designed to help students learn to function independently in society.