



WINOOSKI SCHOOLS

We are the future.

**POLICY #6160
REQUIRED**

WINOOSKI SCHOOL DISTRICT

POLICY ON EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT SYSTEM

It is the policy of the Winooski School District to provide a continuum of educational services through a comprehensive educational support system to increase the ability of the school to meet the needs of all students in the general education environment.

State and Federal Law require the Winooski School District to identify the support necessary so that every child benefits from a public education. The District has a responsibility to support the educational support system through scheduling time for the team to meet, providing training, clarifying job functions, and on-going evaluation of the effectiveness of the system.

Definitions:

1. General educational environment means school and non-school environments used for educational purposes by students with and without disabilities such as regular classrooms, school libraries, learning centers and community job sites.
2. Accommodations means those evaluation procedures, curricula, materials or programmatic adaptations, behavior management interventions and supplemental aids and services that are necessary for a student to benefit from his or her education or to participate in co-curricular activities.
3. Supplementary aides and services means special assistance, materials, equipment and other supports that are provided in regular education classes or other education related settings to enable students to be educated in the general education environment.

PROCEDURES: (also referred to as rules or regulations) are the specific directions that indicate exactly how school personnel and others will carry out the policies adopted by the School Board. Procedures will be developed by the Superintendent in consultation with staff and are attached. Procedures may change more frequently than the underlying policy and do not require adoption by the Board.

Reviewed and Updated:

1st Reading: September 11, 2019

2nd Reading: October 9, 2019

Approved by Board of School Trustees: October 9, 2019

Legal Reference(s): Act 230 of the 1990 Vt. Leg.
..... Act 157 of the 1996 Vt. Leg.
..... Act 117 of the 2000 Vt. Leg.
..... 16 V.S.A. §2901, 2902, 2904 (General Policy, ESS and EST)
..... 16 V.S.A. §2961 (Special Education Funding)
..... VT State Board of Education, Manual of Rules and Practices, Sect. 2120,
8.1.3.1, 2194

Cross Reference(s):

PROCEDURES:

Each school in the District shall develop a comprehensive system of education services to create an Educational Support System (ESS), designed and implemented in consultation with parents, to assist teachers in accommodating children in the regular classroom. The system shall consist of an Educational Support Team composed of staff from a variety of teaching and support service positions and shall incorporate a range of referral, support and remedial services as well as the means to determine the effectiveness of accommodations or services recommended by the Educational Support Team (EST).

1. The ESS shall:
 - a. Be integrated to the extent appropriate with the general education curriculum;
 - b. Provide a range of support and remedial services, including instructional and behavioral interventions and accommodations;
 - c. Be designed to provide students with needed accommodations and supplementary aids and services regardless of their eligibility for categorical programs;
 - d. Assist all students in working toward attainment of the standards;

- e. Provide clear procedures and methods for handling a student who disrupts a class, including provision of educational options, support services and consultation or training for staff where appropriate;
 - f. Ensure collaboration with families, community supports and the system of health and human services;
2. The EST shall:
- a. Be composed of staff from a variety of teacher and support services positions;
 - b. Screen referrals of individual students to determine what classroom accommodations and supplementary aids and services have been tried (see attached referral form);
 - c. Determine whether any additional accommodations, supplementary aids and services, or referral to other public or private agencies may appropriately meet a referred student's educational needs;
 - d. Assist teachers in planning and providing supplementary aids and services and other accommodations to students in need of classroom supports or enrichment activities;
 - e. Collaborate, to the extent appropriate, with families and community health and human services agencies to assist educators in meeting the academic needs of all students;
 - f. Collect data to determine the effectiveness of accommodations and supplementary aids and services provided through the ESS;
 - g. Maintain a written record of its actions;
 - h. Review student plans periodically.
3. The principal or his/her designee shall:
- a. Appoint the members of each school's Educational Support Team;
 - b. Provide professional development and other resources needed to enable the Educational Support System;
 - c. On an annual basis provide information regarding the existence, purpose and function of the Educational Support System to parents;
 - d. Develop and maintain written administrative procedures in accordance with state board regulations to implement this policy;
 - e. Complete and submit reports required by the Secretary of Education to comply with Vermont statutes and regulations;
 - f. Provide the school board a copy of the report to the Commissioner.