

Letter from Our Special Educators

Welcome

We are excited to work collaboratively with you to implement appropriate and productive programs for students. Our door is always open and we encourage a quick phone call or email to let us know how your child is doing.

Referral Process to CSE

Many of you have asked for clarification regarding the process of referral to the Committee for Special Education. The Federal Law, IDEA, mandates that prior to a referral to the Committee for Special Education a student must be provided with general education interventions. In Blind Brook, a struggling student is referred to the Instructional Support Team (IST) at their school. These teams are made up of general and special education professionals whose purpose is to recommend to classroom teachers general education interventions that might support the struggling student. If the student responds to the interventions, then a referral to CSE is not necessary. If the student does not make the anticipated gains the IST may recommend a referral to CSE. Parents are kept apprised of the process and must give consent for the CSE to evaluate their child. If you have any questions regarding the IST or the referral to CSE process please call the Office of Pupil Services.

Case Managers

In order to facilitate communication between you and the professionals who provide services to your child, each child is assigned a case manager. This case manager is responsible for gathering annual/reevaluation review information and serves as a trouble shooter should issues arise. By the end of September, you will be informed you of your child's case manager and the professionals who are working with your child. Your child's case manager is your first phone call should any concerns arise. Below you will find a list of staff by building and meeting chairpersons. We look forward to a year of working together for your children.

Eugene Wolotsky and Harry Burg

***Director and Assistant Director of Pupil
Personnel Services***

Staff Contact Information for the 2009-2010 School Year

Pupil Services Office

Eugene Wolotsky x 3058 – Director of Pupil Services
Harry Burg x 3033 - Asst Dir of Pupil Services, CSE/504 Chairperson
Nicole Greenberg x 3065-CPSE Chairperson
Tracey Parsehian x 3020 - Office Assistant Pre K- 5
Lori Paisley x 3054 - Office Assistant 6-12 and Out of District

Ridge Street School

Xiomara Rothmann- Special Education Teacher, Team Leader
Tracey Menn- Special Education Teacher
Penny Litchfield-Special Education Teacher
Nancy Knabl- Special Education
Jessica Yablow- Special Education Teacher
Jennifer Girone -Special Education Teacher
April Blacker- Speech Pathologist (District-wide)
Heidi Hansen-Speech Pathologist
Colleen Morgan-Speech Pathologist
Debra Vitagliano-Occupational Therapist (District-wide)
Jane Conde/Lisa Derfanyak-Occupational Therapist
Rita Brennan-School Psychologist (District-wide)
Roberta Bass – School Psychologist
Nicole Greenberg-School Psychologist
Tania Insigna-School Psychologist

Middle School

Carol Sellian – Special Education Teacher
Penny Weistrop -Special Education Teacher
Jackie Barrett- Special Education Teacher
Nancy Knabl- Special Education
Louise Miller- School Psychologist

High School

Gerri Caragliano-Special Education Teacher, Coordinator 7-12
Lisa Freund- Special Education Teacher
Ryan Collins-Special Education Teacher
Brian Lazere-Special Education Teacher
Glenn Klugherz/Carrie Merlo-School Psychologist

Parent Members

Linda Byron Glucksman
Sylvia Chandras
Jennifer Starr
Melissa Grossman
Kelly Lieberman
Kim Palumbo
Shari Feld-Moroch

