

## Special Education

Students who are eligible for special education services will have available to them a free appropriate public education with specially designed instruction to meet the unique needs of the eligible child with a disability. The needs are specifically defined in the child's Individualized Program (IEP).

### Individualized Education Program (IEP)

The term "individualized education program" or IEP means a written statement for each child with a disability that is developed, reviewed, and revised and includes:

- A description of all special education services, related services, and supplementary aids and services that the child will need to be able to derive benefit from his or her educational program
- A description of the special education program; and
- Accommodations and/or modifications necessary for the child to progress in the general education curriculum.

### The IEP Team Meeting includes:

- A local education representative (LEA)
- Special Educator or Service Provider
- General Education Teacher(s)
- An individual who can interpret instructional implication of evaluation results
- Parent(s), guardian or educational surrogate parent of child
- If appropriate, the child
- In the case of a child with a specific learning disability, at least one person qualified to conduct individualized diagnostic examination of children

## THE SUPPORT TEAMS OF BLACK RIVER HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL



*Working in the Best*

*Interests of Students*

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## Student Assistance Team (SAT)

The SAT team purpose is to assist staff members, students, and/or their families in dealing with social, emotional, and school climate related issues. The team's purpose is to:

- Recommend possible strategies/interventions for staff, student and or parents.
- Offer students, parents, and teachers support by enlisting the help of community resources.
- Make referrals to other school teams.
- Make referrals to specific school counselors.
- Identify school wide issues and trends and develop specific action plans.

The SAT team consists of:

- School Principal
- Student Support Specialist
- School Nurse
- School Counselor
- Home/School Liaison
- SAP Counselor
- School-Based Mental Health Clinician

**How It Works:** A team member will present a concern to the team based on information they have gathered from educators, staff members, community members, local agencies, students, and/or parents. The team will discuss the concern and then develop action plans if necessary. We encourage everyone connected with the school to contact a team member if they have any concern that will have a negative impact on the school or an individual.

## EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT TEAM (EST)

The EST team is a “think tank” to help solve the puzzle of what is going on for a student and determine what he or she might need to be more successful.

### EST CAN HELP STUDENTS WITH...

- Failing grades
- Problems with peers
- Behavior problems
- Attention problems
- Academic support
- Homework problems

### EST team consists of:

- School Principal
- Student Support Specialist
- School Counselor
- School Nurse
- Home/School Community Liaison
- Special Education Teacher
- Teacher(s)
- SAP Counselor
- Parent and Student

**How it works:** Discuss your concerns with the teacher and/or the school counselor. If beginning strategies and interventions are not successful, a referral form is completed by the teacher, student, or parent. The school's SAT team will review the request to determine the next step. If the SAT team believes a referral to the school's EST team is the best option for the student, an EST meeting will be scheduled. At this meeting a plan will be developed and implemented to help the student. The student plan will be monitored by a case manager and reviewed until the student is successful.

## 504 Team

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 protects people with disabilities from discrimination in any program or activity receiving federal funding. Students with disabilities that substantially limit a major life activity may require an individual accommodation or specific services to ensure access to education and school sponsored activities.

Major life activities include functions like such as the following:

- Caring for oneself
- Performing manual tasks
- Walking
- Seeing
- Hearing
- Speaking
- Breathing
- Learning
- Working

Members of the 504 team often include:

- Student
- Parent
- School Nurse
- School Counselor
- Special Educators
- School Administration
- Teacher(s)

**How it works:** A student who exhibits a disability but is not eligible for special education services may be eligible for accommodations. Anyone can make a 504 referral to the school counselor and decisions are made through the 504 Team. The team will need up-to-date documentation from a medical doctor and/or practitioner to make a determination and to develop appropriate plans.

## What Makes Black River Special?

First and foremost we are special because of our faculty and staff. Black River has a long tradition of faculty and staff providing exceptional educational services to all students. Our strength lies in our knowledge and ability to understand our students and to personalize educational opportunities for each student. We know our students and they know us.

Because we are a small school everyone must contribute to the overall quality of the school/community. Black River enjoys solid community support for its educational programs including a broad array of offerings and enrichment services that focus on student achievement:

- a comprehensive course of study
- a comprehensive special services program
- strong elective programs, including the arts, technology, and alternative programs
- two strong regional technical education centers
- an outstanding athletic program

