

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Stratford Public Schools offer a continuum of special education and related services during the student's secondary school years including transition planning to meet the individual needs of identified special education students. In accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), students receive their instruction in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE), which is determined by a Planning and Placement Team (PPT)/Individual Educational Plan (IEP) meeting. When appropriate, these recommendations are reviewed and modified based on student need and performance. Students are educated in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) which may range from general education classes to classes involving specially designed instruction.

The academic portion of a student's program includes the four major content areas—English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies—as well as other classes required for graduation. Depending on student need, there may be greater emphasis on acquiring daily living and prevocational skills across content areas through a combination of classroom instruction and work experience.

The following are examples of our Special Education services:

### **Collaborative/Consultative Practices**

Special education and regular education staff work together to deliver services. **Student services are determined by the Planning and Placement Team (PPT)/Individual Educational Plan (IEP) meeting.**

**Resource Support** Students are offered specially designed instruction to support specific student needs in the areas of literacy, numeracy and transition as well as identified classroom needs as outlined in their individualized education plan (IEP). Resource teachers consult regularly with other staff to monitor student performance and progress. **Student services are determined by the Planning and Placement Team (PPT)/Individual Educational Plan (IEP) meeting.**

**Learning Center** These courses are designed to meet the individual needs of the students who are placed in self-contained classes through their Planning and Placement (PPT) Teams. The curriculum provides a planned and coordinated program of study that is directed towards successful individual outcomes for students in the area of mathematics and English language arts. **Student services are determined by the Planning and Placement Team (PPT)/Individual Educational Plan (IEP) meeting.**

**Living Skills Classes (Transition Classes)** These classes are designed to meet the needs of students with significant disabilities to help prepare students for real world expectations and make the transition from high school to post secondary training and employment. Transition programs provide instruction in the areas of vocation, independent living, self-help skills and community awareness. **Student placement is determined by the Planning and Placement Team (PPT)/Individual Educational Plan (IEP) meeting.**

### **STEPS** (Support for the Enhancement of Pro Social Skills)

*(Currently located at Bunnell High School and Wooster Middle School)*

STEPS is designed to meet the individual needs of the students who require support services and a structured environment. Instruction may be provided in the general education classroom or within the STEPS classroom. The curriculum provides a planned and coordinated program of study that is directed towards successful outcomes for students. **Students are placed in the program through their Planning and Placement Teams (PPT).**

### **SAILS** (Stratford's Academic and Independent Living Skills)

*(Currently located at Flood Middle School and Bunnell High School)*

SAILS is designed to provide support and instruction in a structured environment for students requiring one to one or small group instruction to meet academic, behavior, and adaptive living skill needs. **Student placement is determined by the Planning and Placement Team (PPT)/Individual Educational Plan (IEP) meeting.**