

SPECIAL EDUCATION

In compliance with state and federal law, notice is hereby given by the Panther Valley School District that it conducts ongoing identification activities as a part of its school program for the purpose of identifying children who may be in need of special education and related services (eligible children). If your child is identified by the District as possibly in need of such services, you will be notified of applicable procedures. Individualized services and programs are available for children who are determined to need specially designed instruction due to the following conditions:

1. Mental retardation
2. Emotional disturbance
3. Orthopedic impairment
4. A hearing impairment
5. Deafness
6. A speech or language impairment
7. A visual impairment including blindness
8. Autism
9. Traumatic brain injury
10. Other health impairment
11. A specific learning disability
12. Deaf-blindness
13. Multiple disabilities

If you believe that your school-age child may be in need of special education services and related programs, or young child (age 3 to school-age) may be in need of early intervention, screening and evaluation processes designed to assess the needs of the child and his/her eligibility are available to you at no cost, upon written request. You may request screening and evaluation at any time, whether or not your child is enrolled in the District's public school program. Requests for evaluation and screening are to be made in writing to the Special Education Office at Panther Valley High School.

In compliance with state and federal law, the Special Education Office, Panther Valley School District will provide to each protected child with a disability without discrimination or cost to the student or family, those related aids, services or accommodations which are needed to provide equal opportunity to participate in and obtain the benefits of the school program and extracurricular activities to the maximum extent appropriate to the child's abilities. In order to qualify as a protected child with a disability the child must be school age with a physical or mental disability with substantially limits or prohibits participation in or access to an aspect of the school program. These services and protections for "protected children with disabilities" are distinct from those applicable to all eligible or children with exceptionalities enrolled (or seeking enrollment) in special education programs. For further information on the rights of parents and children, provision of services, evaluation and screening (including purpose, time and location), and rights to due process procedures, you may contact in writing the Special Education Office at the Panther Valley High School.

Panther Valley High School

912 Coal Region Way
Lansford, PA 18232
(570) 645-2171
Fax 645-2507

The following three websites can provide additional information for families.

Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network
Pennsylvania Parent Guide to Special Education for School Age Children
<http://www.pattan.net/resources/request.aspx?UniqueID=04795>

Pennsylvania Council for Exceptional Children
<http://www.pacec-sped.org>

Pennsylvania Department of Education-Special Education
http://www.pde.state.pa.us/special_edu/site/default.asp?q=0&special_eduNav=|978|&k12Nav=|1141|

Confidentiality: All information gathered about your child is subject to the confidentiality provisions contained in federal and state law. The District has policies and procedures in effect governing the collection, maintenance, destruction and disclosure to third parties of this information. For information about these policies and procedures, as well as rights of confidentiality and access to educational records, you may contact in writing the Special Education Office at Panther Valley High School.