Individualized Education Program

Programs for Handicapped Students

I. Comprehensive Local Plan for Special Education

The Cambrian School District provides a high quality full educational opportunities for to all students, including those with disabilities. The Board recognizes that all individuals with disabilities have the right to receive a free and appropriate public education. Students with disabilities shall receive a free appropriate public education (FAPE) and, to the maximum extent possible, shall be educated in the least restrictive environment with nondisabled students.

For each student with disabilities, an individualized education program (IEP) shall be developed which identifies the special education instruction and related services to be provided to the student. The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations regarding the membership of the IEP team, the team's responsibility to develop and regularly review the IEP, the contents of the IEP, and the development, review, and revision processes.

The district shall make FAPE available to individuals with disabilities ages 3-21 who reside in the district, including: (Education Code 56040; 20 USC 1412; 34 CFR 300.17, 300.101, 300.104)

- 1. Students who have been suspended or expelled from school
- 2. Students who are placed by the district in a nonpublic, nonsectarian school

The district shall provide special education instruction and services for individuals with exceptional needs in accordance with the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

In order to meet the needs of individuals with disabilities and employ staff with adequate expertise for this purpose, the district participates as a member of the Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA).

The Superintendent or designee shall extend the district's full cooperation to the SELPA. The policies and procedures of the SELPA shall be applied as policies and regulations of this district, with the exception of those that apply to complaints, unless the local plan specifically authorizes the district to operate under its own policies and regulations.

II. Individualized Education Program Students with disabilities shall be placed in the least restrictive environment which meets their needs. The Governing Board provides a full range of educational alternatives to facilitate this placement so that these students may interact with students without disabilities in an understanding, cooperative and mutually respectful environment. Students shall be placed outside of the regular classroom only when the student's specific needs cannot be met in that setting.

Upon the identification of a student's disabilities, the Superintendent or designee shall appoint an individualized education program (IEP) team. This team shall consider the student's needs, determine the content of his/her IEP and make placement decisions. Students and parents/guardians shall have the right to participate in the development of the IEP in accordance with law.

The IEP team shall consider the factors specified in law and administrative regulation, as well as the educational and nonacademic benefits of placing the student in a regular class. The IEP team shall determine what support services would be needed in order to maintain this placement. All placement decision should promote maximum social interaction between students with disabilities and their nondisabled peers, in a manner that is appropriate to the needs of each.

Each IEP shall be consistent with the curriculum and course of study pursued in the regular education program. Students with disabilities should also receive instruction which fosters their independence and integration into the community.

Students and parents/guardians shall have the right to approve the student's placement in a special education program, and written parental consent shall be obtained before any such placement is made unless a due process hearing officer authorizes the placement. Once an IEP team has determined an appropriate placement with the parent/guardian's approval, that placement remains in effect unless the parties agree otherwise or a due process hearing officer so orders.

The Governing Board shall employ certificated resource specialists to provide services, where required by law, for students who have exceptional needs their parents/guardians, and school staff.

The resource specialist program shall be directed by a resource specialist full qualified in accordance with law.

Modifications and/or special services and aids shall also be provided as needed for students who are eligible for services under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act and related federal regulations.