

Special Education

Dr. Sarah Knudsen, Director of Special Education



Current Status

- Early Childhood Special Education Birth to Three
 - Birth to Three providers are housed at offices at VSHS due to lack of office space at Goodview or WK
- Early Childhood Special Education WK
 - Programs are in different locations
- There is not currently Early Childhood programming at Jefferson

Current Status

- Special Education Goodview
 - Extremely limited space for confidential special education services
 - Disruptive behaviors interrupt the learning of others
 - Open space concept is difficult for distracted learners
 - No ramps from classroom to playground
 - Only changing station is located in the Early Childhood wing

Current Status

- Special Education Jefferson
 - Students with limited mobility cannot access basement gym
 - When main floor gym is in use, Developmental Adapted Physical Education (DAPE) and Physical Therapy (PT) do not have a location to provide services
 - Students in wheelchairs:
 - Difficult pathway to track
 - Have to access the playground by going out the front door, down the ramp and around the building to get to the playground

Current Status

- Special Education Jefferson - continued
 - Programs designed to meet the needs of student with more significant disabilities (Setting II/III EBD/ASD) do not have a separate space
 - Causes disruptions to other classrooms/programs
 - Causes entire building to need lockdown during student crisis
 - Lack of air conditioning in general education classrooms where climate control is required

Current Status

- Special Education WK
 - Students with limited mobility cannot access basement gym
 - When main floor gym is in use, Developmental Adapted Physical Education (DAPE) and Physical Therapy (PT) do not have a location to provide services
 - Green space is across Mankato Ave making access difficult for students with limited mobility
 - Lack of air conditioning in general education classrooms where climate control is required

Current Status

- Special Education WK - continued
 - Handicap accessible restrooms are limited
 - No changing tables are available except in Early Childhood classrooms
 - Noise concerns/disruptions in classrooms above the sensory room
 - Two special education classrooms are joined making entry into one impossible without disruption to the room with a door

Current Status

- Special Education WALC
 - LEO/Setting III EBD program located at WALC does not have sufficient space
 - Extremely limited opportunity for general education courses and opportunities; too restrictive

Current Status

- Health Services
 - Elementary Health Offices:
 - Lack confidential spaces
 - Insufficient room for children that are ill

Future Vision

- Setting III Programs at Elementary Level
 - DCD, ASD, EBD
 - Adequate space
 - Noise control
 - Confidentiality
 - Safety
 - Distributed across buildings OR all in one building
- Setting III LEO
 - More space with better access to WSHS programming/courses

Future Vision

- Early Childhood
 - Birth to Three providers offices housed with other Early Childhood programs
 - Programs at all Elementary buildings or all in one location
- Accessibility
 - Readily available handicap accessible restrooms with changing stations
 - More reasonable access to playgrounds, track, outdoor spaces

Barriers

- Older facilities not having space/structural options for needed renovation to make handicap accessible
- History of programs being provided in specific locations
- Some students may not be served in home boundary (Setting III)

A group of approximately 15 students and two adults are posed outdoors in front of a large, thick tree trunk. The students are of various ages, from young children to teenagers, and are dressed in casual summer clothing. Some are wearing athletic gear like 'WinHawk Softball' and 'WinHawk Football' shirts. Two adults, a man and a woman, are also present. The background shows a grassy area and a white building under a clear sky.

Questions?

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