

Specialized Programs

*Blue Ribbon Task Force
May 31, 2022*



Charge to the Task Force

The task force will be charged with reviewing current programming and practices associated with FCPS specialized programs. In addition, the task force will be asked to explore proactive best practices for behavioral intervention. Through recommendations of the task force, program structures, resources and training will be augmented to guarantee optimal outcomes for the students of FCPS.

Dr. Michael Markoe



Agenda

1. Expressions
2. Learning for Life
3. Pyramid
4. Rock Creek School
5. RISE
6. Non-Public Schools
7. Activity

Expressions

Purpose:

Expressions provides integrated and enhanced special education supports for students with functional communication needs. Students are provided with a variety of communication methods as they develop verbal speech and/or a functional communication system in a small, structured classroom with opportunities for inclusion also provided. The program uses a variety of instructional strategies and evidence-based practices, including principles aligned with Applied Behavioral Analysis. Programs are staffed with a high adult-to-student ratio. Students work on the Essential Elements of the Maryland College & Career Readiness Standards, adaptive, self advocacy, life, and functional communication skills. Students pursue a High School Certificate of Completion and graduation status is reviewed annually beginning in third grade.

Expressions- Snapshot



Elementary

- ❖ Carroll Manor ES (4)
- ❖ Deer Crossing ES (3)
- ❖ Middletown Primary (3)
- ❖ Middletown ES (2)

Middle Schools

9-11 students per classroom

- ❖ Gov. Thomas Johnson MS (3)

High Schools

- ❖ Gov. Thomas Johnson HS (3)

Staff

- ❖ 1.0 Special Education Teacher
- ❖ 3.0 Special Education Instructional Assistants (SEIAs) for every classroom
- ❖ 1.0 Special Education Specialized Program Coordinator at each school



Students

- ❖ Elementary- 70
- ❖ Middle- 15
- ❖ High- 20
- ❖ **Total- 105**



Learning for Life

Purpose:

Learning for Life provides integrated support to students with a variety of developmental and cognitive disabilities in a small, structured classroom with opportunities for inclusion with non-disabled peers, as appropriate. Students learn functional academic and life skills and receive instruction in modified Common Core Standards. After third grade, students pursue a High School Certificate of Completion. Graduation status is reviewed annually.

Learning for Life- Snapshot



Elementary	Middle Schools	High Schools	
9-12 students per classroom	10-12 students per classroom	12-15 students per classroom	
❖ Glade ES	❖ Crestwood MS	❖ Brunswick HS	❖ Middletown HS
❖ Monocacy ES	❖ Middletown MS	❖ Frederick HS (2)	❖ Oakdale HS
❖ Orchard Grove ES	❖ Oakdale MS	❖ Gov. Thomas	❖ Tuscarora HS
❖ Twin Ridge ES	❖ Walkersville MS	Johnson HS (3)	❖ Urbana HS
	❖ West Frederick MS	❖ Linganore HS	❖ Walkersville HS



Staff
❖ 1.0 Special Education Teacher
❖ 2.0 Special Education Instructional Assistants (SEIAs) for every classroom
❖ 2.0 Special Education Specialized Program Coordinators (Elementary/Secondary)



Students
❖ Elementary- 32
❖ Middle- 47
❖ High- 102
❖ Total- 181

Pyramid

Purpose:

Pyramid provides integrated support to students with significant social and emotional needs. Intensive special education and therapeutic services are provided in a small, structured setting within a general education school. Students have opportunities for inclusion in general education classes with non-disabled peers, as appropriate, and are pursuing a high school diploma.

Pyramid- Snapshot



Elementary

9-11 students per classroom

- ❖ Blue Heron ES (5)
- ❖ Lewistown ES (4)

Middle Schools

10-12 students per classroom

- ❖ Ballenger Creek MS (3)
- ❖ New Market MS (3)

High Schools

10-12 students per classroom

- ❖ Gov. Thomas Johnson HS (3)
- ❖ Tuscarora HS (3)
- ❖ Walkersville HS (3)

Staff

- ❖ 1.0 Special Education Teacher
- ❖ 2.0 Special Education Instructional Assistants (SEIAs) for every classroom
- ❖ 1.0 Special Education Specialized Program Coordinator at each school



Students

- ❖ Elementary- 28
- ❖ Middle- 35
- ❖ High- 43
- ❖ **Total- 106**



Rock Creek School

Purpose:

Rock Creek School is a special education day-school that serves diverse functional academic, medical and behavioral needs, as appropriate, for students ages 3-21 who have significant cognitive disabilities and are working on a Maryland High School Certificate of Completion. While there is an emphasis on functional academics, instruction is also based on the Maryland College and Career-Ready Standards. Communication, decision-making, interpersonal, career/vocational, recreational/leisure and community-based skills as well as other IEP needs are addressed, as appropriate. Related services may include adapted art, music and physical education, assistive technology, occupational and physical therapy, and hearing, vision and speech/language services.

Rock Creek- Snapshot



- ❖ 1.0 Principal
- ❖ 1.0 Assistant Principal
- ❖ 1.0 School Therapist
- ❖ 1.0 Behavior Support Specialist/BCBA
- ❖ 2.0 Speech/Language Pathologists (SLPs)

Staff

- ❖ 14.0 Special Education Teachers
- ❖ 42.0 Special Education Instructional Assistants (SEIAs)

Separate Day School

- ❖ Rock Creek School (PreK- 12th Grade)



Students



- ❖ Elementary- 27
- ❖ Middle- 12
- ❖ High- 37
- ❖ **Total- 76**

RISE- Responsive Interventions for Student Excellence

Purpose:

The Hillcrest Elementary RISE program at Frederick County under the authority of Sheppard Pratt Health System, Inc. is a Type II School program developed to assist students with autism spectrum disorders, emotional disabilities, or other appropriate disabilities, transition to a less restrictive setting. The school serves male and female students in grades 1-5 that are expected to earn a high school diploma. The program has a capacity of ten student and is a collaborative effort between the Sheppard Pratt Health System (SPHS) and the Frederick County Public School System (FCPS). SPHS provides classroom, related service and various support staff. FCPS provides classroom space, materials and access to the general and special education resources of Hillcrest Elementary School. The Frederick County curriculum (MD College, Career and Readiness Standards) is used as the basis for instruction.

RISE- Snapshot



Staff

- ❖ Educational Director/Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)
- ❖ 2.0 Special Education Teachers
- ❖ 5.0 Paraprofessionals/SEIAs
- ❖ School Therapist (*itinerant*)

Non-Public Type II

- ❖ RISE at Hillcrest Elementary School



Students

- ❖ Elementary- 10



Non-Public Placements

- ❖ For students requiring more comprehensive services and supports that are unable to be provided by FCPS' current continuum of services, non-public placements may be considered.
- ❖ Funding is provided for FCPS students who require support offered through Maryland School for the Blind (MSB), Maryland School for the Deaf (MSD), as well as other locations such as the Regional Institute for Children and Adolescents-Baltimore (RICA).

Non-Public Placements

- ❖ FCPS supports 106 students in non-public placements
- ❖ Over 80% of students who go to non-public in FCPS have a diagnosis of Autism and/or Emotional Behavior Disability
- ❖ Non-Publics*
 - ❖ Foundation School- Montgomery County
 - ❖ Ivymount School
 - ❖ Kennedy Krieger School (Greenspring, Powder Mill, and Fairmount)
 - ❖ Laurel Hall
 - ❖ Sheppard Pratt (RISE, Glyndon, Rockville)
 - ❖ Strawbridge School
 - ❖ The Harbour School at Baltimore

**Schools that account for more than 5% FCPS non-public enrollment*

START



STOP



CONTINUE

