

SUBJECT: Grouping by Similarity of Needs

The Board of Education, in an effort to provide an appropriate special education and related services to students with disabilities, supports the grouping of students with disabilities by similarity of needs according to the following guidelines:

- a) That each student with a disability shall be identified, evaluated and placed as determined by the Committee on Special Education (CSE).
- b) The Committee shall develop written goals and corresponding short-term instructional objectives for each student with a disability by considering the special and individual needs of each student with a disability.
- c) The Committee shall recommend to the Board of Education appropriate educational programs and services for each student with a disability based upon the CSE evaluation.
- d) The CSE shall provide information to those teachers and professionals who arrange instructional groups for students with disabilities. Information shall include physical, psychological and social/emotional information as well as achievement test results.
- e) The curriculum and instruction provided to students with disabilities who are grouped by similarity of needs shall be consistent with the individual needs of each student in the group.
- f) Student with disabilities will be grouped according to (1) academic or educational achievement and learning characteristics; (2) social needs; (3) physical development; and (4) management needs.
- g) When grouping students by similarity of needs, the social needs or physical development of a student shall not be the sole determinant for placement of a student in a special education program.
- h) A student's range of needs should be limited to the extent that one student's needs do not infringe on another student's ability to learn.