

Arlington Public Schools

HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM ACCOMMODATIONS

Program and Structure Characteristics Supporting Curriculum Accommodation for Regular Education Students

- Level Courses in core subjects at grades 9-12
- Multiple Computer Labs
- Elective Program for exploration and to meet interest areas
- Reading evaluations and support
- Foreign Language Lab
- Dual Enrollment Process
- Use of Continuing Education options
- Portfolios
- Standardized (and other) testing results, including: MCAS, Common Assessments, College Board Testing
- AP courses and exams
- ELL Support
- Media Center – Extended Hours
- Technology - Availability of Google Applications and electronic learning environments, Powerschool access, network infrastructure and classroom supports.
- Extracurricular and contest activities related to academic performance
- Detention, service to community
- Course/grade level acceleration
- Retention or repeating of specific courses
- After school help in all disciplines
- Alternative Education Programs
- Learning Center
- Transitional Program
- Internship opportunities
- Senior Project
- Heterogeneous classes
- Online Courses
- Plato – Credit recovery
- Peer Tutors
- In School Suspension Program/Tutoring

Personnel Resources Providing Consultation/Support/Intervention in the Regular Education Setting

- Guidance Counselors
 - Liaison between home and school, parent consultation, teacher support, referrals, student support, academic planning, personal counseling and post graduate planning.
- Social Workers
 - Direct student support for at-risk students, consultation with outside agencies and medical providers, run support groups, consultation with staff and coordination of services for students transitioning from hospitalization and extended absences.
- Department Chairs
 - Curriculum and instruction oversight, teacher assistance with curriculum modifications, curriculum resource acquisition and allocation, professional development planning
- School Psychologist
 - Conducts evaluations for students , interprets results and consults with staff and parent on interventions and accommodations
- Learning Center
 - Tutors available for academic support throughout the school day and after school.
- Literacy Support
 - Extended time for grade 9 ELA, Literacy Lab
- Research and Technology Support
 - Computer labs, Media Center and support personnel
- Reading Specialist
 - Testing, consulting and Instruction
- METCO Director
 - Support for METCO students and families
- Principal, Assistant Principal and Deans
 - Support to teachers on social/behavioral issues, behavioral interventions with students, scheduling accommodations, articulation and modeling of vision and principles, supervision and evaluation of staff
- School Nurse
 - Direct service for individual students, health instruction, develop health accommodation plans, consultation with parents and outside medical providers
- School Resource Officer
 - Develops relationships with students, supports health decision making and acts as the liaison with local law enforcement.
- Diversion Program
 - Contracts with students who are first time offenders involved in legal situations in an effort to keep them out of the court system.
- Community Based Justice with Middlesex DA's Office
 - Monthly consultation between school staff and the DA's office regarding on-going cases and concerns
- Advocates
 - On call outside crisis intervention service
- AYCC

- Community based mental health facility that provides onsite and offsite counseling and support
- Substance Use Support
 - Individual assessment and counseling, weekly psych educational support group support for students,
- Arlington Youth Health and Safety Coalition
 - Community based coalition working to reduce substance use in Arlington
- Student Support Team
 - Team comprised of teachers, administrators, school nurse, mental health professionals and School Resource Officer. Strategizes interventions for academic and social/emotional support to at-risk students.
- ELL
 - Classroom and Director Supports
- Athletic Director and Coaches

Arlington Public Schools- District Curriculum Accommodation Plan

Teaching Strategies/Accommodations for the General Education High School Classroom

INTRODUCTION

The school and classroom accommodations listed below are available to ALL students regardless of eligibility for special education or a 504 Plan. These accommodations are designed *for teachers to implement* and *are not required* for all students but rather in order to ensure that all students have the opportunity to be successful.

1. COMMUNICATION

a. *Parent/Student/Teacher Communications*

- Develop parent/student/school contacts
- Schedule necessary parent/teacher meetings
- Encourage self-advocacy as effective communication (e.g., extra help, check blog or website)
- Employ technology to facilitate communication outside of building (e.g., class blog or website)

b. *Staff Communications*

- Network with teachers and other Personnel Resources as needed
- Identify resource staff as needed

2. ORGANIZATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

a. *Classroom Organization/Structure*

- Adjust placement of student within classroom (e.g., proximity to teacher, preferential seating, etc.)
- Increase/decrease opportunity for movement
- Reduce external stimuli
- Allow student reasonable time to pass in hallways
- Allow breaks as needed
- Establish classroom routine (e.g. bell ringers, agenda)

b. *Positive Behavioral Support Systems*

- Monitor and support social interactions with peers
- Provide opportunity for conflict resolution
- Provide opportunity for stress reduction and relaxation

3. ALTERNATIVE TEACHING STRATEGIES

a. *Teaching Methods*

- Provide study guides, outlines, and graphic organizers
- Repeat instructions based on student's best mode of learning
- State behavioral and academic objectives clearly
- Provide clear criteria for all assignments
- Break down lessons into smaller segments
- Check for understanding frequently
- Provide consistent feedback

- ❑ Provide cues (transitions, staying on task, etc.)
- ❑ Adjust classroom/homework assignments
- ❑ Utilize technology (computers, tape recorders, calculators, etc.) that supports student engagement, organization, and learning style
- ❑ Utilize materials that address the student's learning style (e.g., visual, tactile, auditory)
- ❑ Vary teaching strategies (group work, student-centered activities, etc.)
- ❑ Scaffold instruction
- ❑ Diversify assessment methods
- ❑ Keep page format simple
- ❑ Peer tutoring/study buddy

d. *Organizational Strategies:*

- ❑ Incorporate time management, study and organizational skills into instruction
- ❑ Incorporate note taking and test taking skills into instruction
- ❑ Use a schedule or planner to teach planning for long term assignments
- ❑ Provide periodic review of student notes, planner, etc.
- ❑ Reinforce student preparedness for class
- ❑ Encourage use of agenda book