

Educational Services Commission of Morris County

Park Lake School

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Marci Spadafora, Principal

ESC MISSION STATEMENT :

The Educational Services Commission of Morris County believes that parents and school personnel should work together to achieve an optimal learning experience for all our children.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

Park Lake School focuses on the needs of a special education population, which includes children with autism, pervasive developmental disorders, and multiple disabilities. Classrooms are structured for small group instruction and infused with occupational and speech therapies. Park Lake is a place where academics and therapeutic activities, social growth, and feelings of belonging create an optimal environment for each child to grow and develop to their fullest potential.

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM:

Experienced Based Activities (EBA)- an intensive approach to provide students with hands on, fun, meaningful and functional experiences in and out of the classroom. Teachers are trained in a variety of techniques to help students generalize academic concepts into a variety of activities throughout the school day.

Functional Academics

Edmark Reading-sight word approach

Reading Milestones-developed for deaf and learning disabled focusing on centralized syntax and vocabulary approach

PCI Reading Program-developed for nonreaders using high frequency words and real-world

words News-2-You - online newspaper

Touch Math - multi-sensory approach

Adaptive Physical Education-individualized program created for students involving physical fitness, motor fitness, fundamental motor skills and patterns, dance skills, individual and group games, and sports including lifetime sports.

Creative Art-develops visual sensitivity enhances fine-motor skills and hand-eye coordination, increases awareness and tolerance for a variety of art forms, and develops one's creative imagination.

Interactive Music Class

Family Life Curriculum

Community Based Field Trips

SPECIALIZED CLASSES:

Activities of Daily Living

Pre-vocational and vocational skills-introduction to careers provides a valuable hands-on experience which encourages application of their academic training to real life situations.

Structured Learning Experience-work experience in the community

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY/AUGMENTATIVE DEVICES:

A total communication system is used at Park Lake:

Talk and Tell Program-provides students with an opportunity to share their newly acquired verbal skills, with an emphasis on pragmatic principals of language, which incorporates visual, proprioceptive and auditory systems. Students are encouraged to use language to describe, to inform, to call, to label, to request and to respond to questions

Picture Communication

Conversational Sign Language

Augmentative Communication Devices-Proloquo2go

Computer Lab

Smart Boards

ENHANCEMENT ST O T HE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM:

Our Instructional Program is enhanced by exposing our students to many typical situations through:

Extended School Year

Field Trips

Traditional Graduation

Grandparents Day

Karate

Drumming

Master Gardeners-horticultural projects

Spring Dance-upper school

Weekly Community Trips-upper school

Lusardi's Gym-upper school

Therapy Dog

Special Olympics

Singers & Signers

Edible Garden

Courageous Pacers Fitness Program-a motivating and fun opportunity to teach life skills related to fitness

THERAPEUTIC PROGRAM:

Therapies are integrated into the entire school curriculum. Therapists work collaboratively cross-discipline and with teaching staff.

*Speech and Language Therapy

*Fully equipped therapy room

*Occupational Therapy

*Sensory Integration

*Sensory Diets

*Physical Therapy

MEDICALLY-BASED SERVICES:

*Full-time registered nurse

*Hearing, Vision, and Scoliosis Screening

*Medication administration