The School District shall provide a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive
environment and necessary related services to all children with disabilities enrolled in the District,
as required by the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and implementing provisions
of the School Code, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans With
Disabilities Act. The term “children with disabilities,” as used in this policy, means children
between ages 3 and 21 (inclusive) for whom it is determined, through definitions and procedures
described in the Illinois State Board of Education’s Special Education rules, that special education
services are needed.

It is the intent of the District to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are identified, evaluated, and provided with
appropriate educational services. Students may be disabled within the meaning of Section 504
of the Rehabilitation Act even though they do not require services pursuant to the IDEA.

For students eligible for services under IDEA, the District shall follow procedures for identification,
evaluation, placement, and delivery of services to children with disabilities provided in the Illinois
State Board of Education’s Special Education rules. For those students who are not eligible for
services under IDEA, but, because of disability as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of
1973, need or are believed to need special instruction or related services, the District shall establish
and implement a system of procedural safeguards. The safeguards shall cover students’
identification, evaluation and educational placement. This system shall include notice of an
opportunity for the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s) to examine relevant records, an impartial
hearing with opportunity for participation by the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s), representation by
counsel, and a review procedure.

The District may maintain membership in one or more cooperative associations of school districts
that shall assist the District in fulfilling its obligations to the District’s disabled students. If
necessary, students may also be placed in nonpublic special education programs or education
facilities.

LEGAL REF.:  
Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, 20 U.S.C.  
§1400 et seq.  
105 ILCS 5/14-1.01 et seq., 5/14-7.02, and 5/14-7.02b.  
34 C.F.R. §300.

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