



## NOPS Special Education Program Description

**A. Description of overall philosophy (200 word limit):** The Choice Foundation Special Education Department provides vision, leadership, and expertise to schools regarding the implementation of curricular, instructional, social, and behavioral initiatives that support the achievement of students with disabilities in compliance with state and federal mandates. We work closely with students and families to meet every child's individual needs by providing academic, behavioral, and/or social emotional supports for each individual student. We also provide on-going professional development for our Special Education staff.

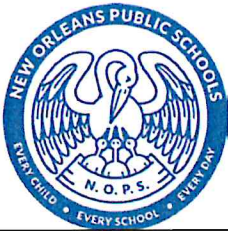
<b>B. Name and contact information for special education coordinator (school and, if applicable, network)</b>	
School Leader of Special Education Programming; Contact Information	Lafayette Academy Charter School Special Education & Student Support Coordinator Michelle Linares (504-613-5651) Phone
CMO Leader of Special Education Programming; Contact Information (if different)	Choice Foundation Director of Special Education & Student Support Dr. Kandace Madise (504-421-2867) Phone

<b>C. Data Snapshots</b>	
2017-18 enrollment rate of students with disabilities served by the school	14.7%
2016-17 in school and out of school suspension rate of students with disabilities served by the school	12%
2016-17 number of students with disabilities who are removed for disciplinary reasons for more than 10 school days in one academic year	<10



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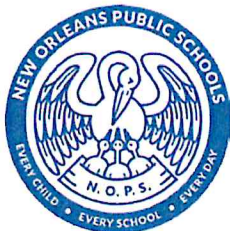
D. Description of how pupil appraisal, special education, and related services are provided by the school	
<i>Appraisal/Evaluation</i>	
Main point of contact if a parent would like to request an evaluation	Campus Special Education Coordinator, RTI Coordinator, or any School Administrator
Response to Intervention: Overview	<p>Examples of universal screeners: MAP, i-Ready diagnostic, LEAP 360 diagnostic assessment, Dibels, and Systematic Screener for Behavior Disorders (SSBD)</p> <p>Examples of reading interventions: i-Ready, American Reading Company, Achieve 3000</p> <p>Examples of math interventions: i-Ready, EnVision Intervention System</p> <p>Examples of behavior interventions: Check in/Check out, Functional behavior assessment, Behavior Intervention Plan, Mentor Program, Social Skills Training, and/or Daily behavior Tracker</p>
School Building Level Committee (SBLC)	<p>Members of the SBLC team: RTI Coordinator, Division Heads, Nurse, Social Worker, Teachers, etc.</p> <p>Example engagements with parents: Phone calls, Parent Conferences, Letters, etc.</p> <p>Parental permission is obtained for any screenings and/or evaluations.</p> <p>Example decisions SBLC team can make per Bulletin 1508:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conduct no further action at this time.</li> <li>2. Continue current intervention and progress monitoring through the RTI process.</li> <li>3. Conduct additional interventions through the RTI process.</li> <li>4. Refer the student to the appropriate committee to conduct a Section 504 evaluation.</li> <li>5. Refer the student to pupil appraisal personnel for support services.</li> <li>6. Refer the student to pupil appraisal personnel for an individual evaluation if an exceptionality is suspected.</li> </ol>
Appraisal Team	<p>Members of appraisal team is based on potential eligibilities and needs of the student: School Psychologist, Educational Diagnostician, Educational Consultant, Speech Language Pathologist, General Education Teachers, Audiologist, OT, PT, APE teacher, School Social Worker, etc.</p> <p>Example engagements with parents: Phone calls, letters, parent conferences, etc.</p> <p>Example decisions appraisal team can make: Continue Interventions,</p> <p>Modify Interventions, Multi-Disciplinary Evaluation, Special education classification (Based on Bulletin 1508 criteria)</p>



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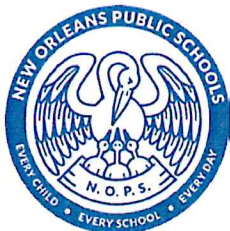
<i>Instructional and Related Services Provision and Staffing</i>	
Specialized Instruction	# Special Education Teachers: 8-12 # Paraprofessionals: 6-12 # Academic Interventionists: 4-6 Examples of curricula: i-Ready, Failure Free Reading, Unique Learning System, and Achieve 3000
Speech/Language	# On staff or contracted from external provider: 4 If not currently providing service, plan to deliver service in the future:
Audiology	# On staff or contracted from external provider: 0 If not currently providing service, plan to deliver service in the future: New Orleans Speech and Hearing Center
Counseling (mental health and other therapies)	# On staff contracted from external provider:3 If not currently providing service, plan to deliver service in the future:
Occupation therapy	# On staff or contracted from external provider:2 If not currently providing service, plan to deliver service in the future:
Physical therapy	# On staff or contracted from external provider:1 If not currently providing service, plan to deliver service in the future:
Health/Nursing services	# On staff or contracted from external provider:2 If not currently providing service, plan to deliver service in the future:
Orientation and mobility services and accessibility including interpreting services)	<p>Various accessibility accommodations are available to students including but not limited to: braille test, paper-based testing, word processors, etc.</p> <p>Visually Impaired Teacher, Sign Language Interpreter, &amp; Sign Language Teacher available.</p> <p>When students with OM impairments are identified the team provides for an assessment of student needs and/or related services and includes such in IEP.</p> # On staff or contracted from external provider: 2 If not currently providing service, plan to deliver service in future:
Adaptive physical education	# On staff or contracted from external provider:1 If not currently providing service, plan to deliver service in the future:
Specialized Transportation	# On staff or contracted from external provider: Contracted carrier Van or School Bus If not currently providing service, plan to deliver service in the future:
Assistive Technology	# On staff or contracted from external provider: 0 If not currently providing service, plan to deliver service in the future: Louisiana Assistive Technology Institute





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E. Description of how the school plans to provide the continuum of special education placements for students whose IEP placement is outside of the regular education setting			
<i>School-based Supports (in-school)</i>			
	Description of Supports within Inclusion	Description of Supports within Resource	Description of Supports within Self-Contained
PK-5	Inclusion Teachers plan with general education teachers and push into the general education classroom to serve special education students.	Resource Teachers provide specialized support services to special education students in small groups or individually by pulling students out of the general education classroom.	Self-Contained Teachers and paraprofessionals provide specialized support to students in a structured environment with a lower student to teacher ratio.
6-8	Inclusion Teachers plan with general education teachers and push into the general education classroom to serve special education students.	Resource Teachers provide specialized support services to special education students in small groups or individually by pulling students out of the general education classroom.	Self-Contained Teachers and paraprofessionals provide specialized support to students in a structured environment with a lower student to teacher ratio.
9/T9-12	n/a	n/a	n/a
Description of extended school year services:		<p>Identification: Every special education student is considered based on the requirements specified in Bulletin 1530 Section 705 (e.g., Regression-Recoupment, Critical Point of Instruction, and Special Circumstances) for ESY services. . Parents receive an Eligible or Ineligible letter.</p> <p>Delivery: ESY services are offered during the summer at one centralized location by Special Education Teachers, Paraprofessionals, and Related services providers based on student needs.</p>	



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Description of specialized program(s)	<p>Severe/Profound special needs classroom at Lafayette Academy.</p> <p>Bi-lingual Special Education staff members at Lafayette Academy and Esperanza Charter School.</p> <p>Hearing Impaired Teacher / Sign Language Interpreter available at all Choice Foundation schools.</p> <p>Visually Impaired/Braille Teachers available at all Choice Foundation schools.</p>
<i>Community-based Supports (out-of-school)</i>	
Key Partnerships	<p>Partner and services provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Each One Save One (Mentoring)</li> <li>-Loyola University - Reading Buddies, lower grades</li> <li>-Tulane University - Reading and Work study hours</li> <li>-Xavier University - Tutoring</li> <li>-Catholic Charities (Second Harvest) - Provide nutritional snacks for students</li> <li>-Silverback Society - Building Character, Making Wise Decisions, Community Outreach 8th Grade Males</li> <li>-Volunteers of America - Afterschool Program, Tutorials, Homework Assistance, Enrichment</li> <li>-Children's Bureau - Social Services/Family Resource</li> <li>-Xavier University - Girls and Boys Mentoring Programs</li> </ul>
Other out-of-school instruction and supports (e.g., special school, therapeutic placement, hospital or homebound setting, juvenile detention facility, etc.)	<p>Individualized placement decisions are considered for all students and each completed IEP shall document the placement requirements described in Bulletin 1530—Louisiana's IEP Handbook. Choice Foundation follows guidelines specified in Louisiana Bulletin 1706 Subchapter C. Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) which states that placement decisions will be made by a group of persons including the parents and other persons knowledgeable about the student, the meaning of the evaluation data, and the placement data. Individual referrals can be made to other out-of-school instruction and supports (e.g. special school, therapeutic placement, hospital or homebound setting, etc.) include but are not limited to: Louisiana School for the Deaf, Louisiana School for the Blind, New Orleans Therapeutic Day Program(NOTDP), St. Michael's Special School, Chartwell Center, hospital or homebound setting, juvenile detention facility, etc. based on student needs.</p>