

Eastern Regional High School

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is designed to prevent discrimination against individuals with disabilities. It provides that a student shall not be excluded from participation in, or be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal funds such as public schools.

An eligible individual must demonstrate that he/she has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity, has a record of such impairment or is regarded as having such an impairment. Major life activities include, but are not limited to, seeing hearing, speaking, walking, breathing, learning, thinking, working, caring for oneself, and performing manual tasks.

At Eastern Regional High School, the Section 504 Committee evaluates students through an inclusive process involving parents, teachers, and other school professionals—those who know the student know about the disability, and know about appropriate accommodations. **Please contact Dr. Susan Roth, Director of Special Services**, if you have questions.

Notice of Parent and Student Rights Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

The following is a description of rights granted by federal law to students with disabilities. The intent of the law is to keep all concerned parties fully informed of educational decisions concerning the student in question and to provide information regarding the appropriate grievance process. **[34 CFR 104]**

You have the right to:

1. Have your child take part in, and receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination because of his/her disabling conditions;
2. Have the school district advise you of your rights under federal law;
3. Receive notice with respect to identification, evaluation, or placement of your child;
4. Have your child receive a free appropriate public education. This includes the right to be educated in the least restrictive environment to the maximum extent appropriate. It also includes the right to have the school district make reasonable

accommodations to allow your child an equal opportunity to participate in school and school-related activities; your child has the right to free educational services except for those fees that imposed on nondisabled students or their parents;

5. Have your child educated in facilities and receive services comparable to those provided non-disabled students;
6. Have your child receive special education and related services if she/he is found to be eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. Chapter 33, PL 101-476) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act;
7. Have evaluations, educational and placement decisions made based upon a variety of information sources, and by persons who know the student, the evaluation data, and placement options; if eligible under Section 504, your child has a right to periodic reevaluations;
8. Have transportation provided to and from an alternative placement setting at no greater cost to you than would be incurred if the student were placed in a program operated by the district;
9. Have your child given an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular activities offered by the district;
10. Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program, and placement;
11. Obtain copies of educational records at a reasonable cost unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records;
12. Receive a response from the school district to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of your child's records;
13. Request amendment of your child's educational records if there is reasonable cause to believe that they are inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of your child. If the school district refuses this request for amendment, it shall notify you within a reasonable time, and advise you of the right to a hearing;
14. File a local grievance with **Dr. Kristin E. Borda at 856-784-4441, ext. 1119, Section 504 District Officer**;

15. Request mediation or an impartial due process hearing related to decisions or actions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program or placement. You and the student may take part in the hearing and have an attorney represent you. Requests must be made to **Dr. Kristin E. Borda at 856-784-4441, ext. 1119, Section 504 District Officer;**

16. File a formal complaint with the Office for Civil Rights (regional Enforcement Office for New Jersey):

Office for Civil Rights/New York
U.S. Department of Education
32 Old Slip
26th Floor
New York, NY 10005
Tel.: (646) 428-3900
Fax: (646) 428-3890