



Pacific Beach Middle School: An International Baccalaureate World School
Special Education Policy
2010-2011

Pacific Beach Middle, an IB World School, delivers the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) to all students. The MYP philosophy is integral in all classrooms and special education students are included in classroom and school wide events. Pacific Beach Middle School is committed to providing eligible students with disabilities a free and appropriate public education consistent with federal and state laws. Our services are based on individual needs of the student. After a team, comprised of educational professional and parents, determine a students' unique needs and consider a variety of factors, an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) is created. An IEP is a legal document that describes how PBMS provides services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA 2004).

The special education program at Pacific Beach Middle School is designed to meet the academic, social, physical and emotional needs of our students. We provide a broad spectrum of resources and levels of support to all students. Students have access to small learning groups where they will have extra supports to address their instructional needs. Students are also placed in classrooms where there are two teachers, one being a specialist in the curriculum and the other being a specialist of modifying and accommodations. In classrooms where the general education and special education teacher collaborate and formulate IB units, specific lessons are modified for students with special needs.

Our students are in the inclusive setting procedures and processes are put in place to ensure optimum academic success. This involves a special educators' involvement in writing IB units with the general education teachers. Curriculum is differentiated by using strategies such as scaffolded assignments, graphic organizers, closed notes, and/or assistive technology, large print, oral tests, peer buddy, assignments notebooks, and extended time for completing tests/tasks. In order to gain access to the general education curriculum, there are students whose social/emotional needs impact their academic success. Working together, a team that includes special education teachers, general education teachers, school psychologists, counselors, administration and parents develop a plan that creates an optimum learning environment to support students' needs. Some of the strategies that are used to reinforce positive behaviors are preferential seating, physical/visual cues, individual behavior contracts, behavior support plans, point sheets, token economy, individual and group counseling, short-term goals, and parent communication.

Working together, a school wide team of educators monitor and update individualized education programs for students with special needs and ensure that the IB curriculum is delivered to all students.

For more information about special education services for San Diego Unified Schools please visit: <http://www.sandi.net/20451072011451330/site/default.asp>.