

Wildwood School Related and Support Services

Adaptive Physical Education - The goal of Wildwood School's adapted physical education program is to aid students in achieving their fullest potential through the acquisition of knowledge and skills necessary to attain healthy levels of well-being and to maintain active lifestyles throughout their lifespan. The program at Wildwood School will help prepare students to participate at an adult recreational level of physical activity suitable for maintaining a health-enhancing level of fitness upon graduation. Effective human productivity depends upon optimum physical well-being and healthy living. Education for physical development and health provides our students with the knowledge and attitudes to achieve healthful living throughout their lives and to acquire physical fitness and the development of a healthy lifestyle. Physical education is part of the total educational system that will provide experiences for our students through physical activity. This will prepare our students to meet the challenges of daily living and enjoy life to its fullest!

Art - The art program encourages each student to explore a wide variety of media with both individual and group projects. We do a lot of painting and use an assortment of building materials (especially magnetics). Problem solving, step by step sequencing and processes that promote social interaction are all utilized. Improving fine motor skills is a goal we emphasize but most important is foster in creativity, self esteem and allowing for individual differences.

Behavior Support - The Behavior Support Team provides comprehensive behavioral consultation to classroom teams and families. The team uses strategies rooted in Applied Behavior Analysis to meet educational needs and address challenging behavior. The Behavior Support Team also serves as the primary trainer of behavior analytic principles at Wildwood School.

Music Therapy - Music Therapy at Wildwood School is a discipling that provides music interventions that support student growth in the areas of social, cognitive, language and motor skill development. As a department, we integrate our planning with the entire educational team in order to assure that skills are being reinforced across all environments. We participate fully in the Professional Learning Communities and share responsibility for student growth and achievement.

Nursing - The Nursing Department at Wildwood School strives to provide support to our students, their families as well as our staff. We have a holistic approach to wellness, taking the time to understand the whole student when providing care and guidance. The nurses at Wildwood School ask for, and encourage, family involvement with our department as we provide quality care to our students.

Occupational Therapy - The main focus of occupational therapy services at Wildwood School is to further a child's success and independence in school and at home. We seek to do this by providing a variety of occupational therapy services such as individual and group sessions during which we address fine motor, daily living, sensory processing and sensory motor skills. These services are provided in a variety of settings including classroom, therapy room, vocational instruction and community. We also provide classroom consultation services for children. This service is a opportunity to blend OT goals and the classroom goals to provide an integrated program. This means that a child gets OT input all day long, during lunch, work sample time, food preparation or through assistance to staff to better achieve goals. The occupational therapy staff works with teachers, other therapists and families in order to achieve goals.

Physical Therapy - School based physical therapy is a “related service” offered to students who have delayed or abnormal gross motor development. Physical therapy assists students to use their bodies as efficiently as possible to better access the school environment and perform school tasks (such as sitting in a chair with proper postural alignment, walking and transitioning around school as independently as possible and developing a skill set to participate in gross motor games, recreational and fitness activities). Physical therapy is part of a student’s team of teachers and service providers when a physical impairment is impacting their independence in the school environment.

Social Work - The social work department works in collaboration with teachers, language therapists, occupational therapists, nursing and outside providers as needed. Social workers provide counseling for students in individual and group sessions and provide counseling advocacy, education and referral for families. Parent support groups are available for families and consultation and education with team members is provided to promote understanding of the family’s perspective and social/emotional development of their student.

Speech and Language Therapy - Communication skills are targeted through the speech therapy services at the school. Speech therapists address a variety of disorders related to speech and language, including articulation, expressive, receptive and pragmatic language skills, voice, fluency and hearing impairment. Our goal is to approach therapy holistically by collaboration with the classroom team, other related service providers and caregivers. Therapy may be delivered in either a push-in and/or pull-out therapy model.

Technology - Wildwood School’s Instructional Technology program focuses on creating and developing 21st century teaching and learning opportunities for all students by integrating various technologies such as computers, iPads, interactive Whiteboards and web-based programs. A strong emphasis is placed on making learning meaningful, engaging and personalized across all ages and educational domains (academic, social, communication, physical, etc.). Technology, as an accessibility tool, is also emphasized in order to provide opportunities for our individuals to live independent productive and fulfilling lives.

Transition Readiness - Starting when students turns 12, the Transition Readiness Department provides information and support to students, families and staff to assist in preparation for post-graduation. Staff work with transition-aged students to progress in the New York State Career Development and Occupational Studies learning standards. This is individualized for each student and includes work experiences in school and in the community. We also provide assessments to identify abilities and interest both for educational planning and for placement in adult supports and programs upon graduation. As the students progress through their time at Wildwood School, the Transition Readiness Department will also be available to assist with OPWDD eligibility, Medicaid, SSI, guardianship and many other supports students may need to be successful in their transition into adulthood.