

Early Childhood Related Services

There are several people who may come in contact with your child throughout the school year. They are the related services staff. They may provide a service to your child, as a support to our Early Childhood Program, as outlined in your child's IEP.

1. *Physical Therapist*
2. *Occupational Therapist*
3. *School Nurse*
4. *School Psychologist*
5. *Guidance Counselor*

PHYSICAL THERAPIST

Our district contracts Physical Therapy services through our CESA #3. This allows our district to provide the service in a cost-effective manner. The person providing the service changes, sometimes yearly, so we are unable to provide a specific name. The following is a brief description of the role of the Physical Therapist:

Developing Prerequisites for Gross Motor Skill Development

- Automatic balance responses
- Trunk control for upright postures
- More normal movement patterns in legs and feet

Full range of motion in trunk, legs, and feet

Developing Mobility

- Development of independent walking, crawling, and creeping
- Use of wheelchairs
- Use of assistive devices, such as; crutches, canes, walkers, adaptive bikes

Use of prosthetic devices

Recommending equipment and training a student to use Adaptive Equipment / Classroom Adaptations to enhance Gross Motor Movements

- Prone standers
- Special Chairs
- Leg braces/splints

Other positioning equipment

Consultation / Training of staff in the following areas:

- Handling
 - Positioning
 - Safety / transfers
 - Developing and monitoring programs of Respiratory Functions
-

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

Our district contracts Occupational Therapy Services through our CESA #3. This allows our district to provide the service in a cost-effective manner. The person providing the service changes, sometimes yearly, so we are unable to provide a specific name. Following is a brief description of the role of the Occupational Therapist:

Developing Prerequisites for Fine Motor Coordination

- Adequate trunk / head control to sit up, attend, etc.
- More normal movement patterns in hands/arms
- Appropriate grasp patterns

Full range of motion in trunk/arms

Recommending equipment, training a student to use Equipment / Classroom Adaptations to develop self-help classroom and hand skills

- Dressing Aids
- Eating Aids
- Writing / Reading Aids
- Special Chairs
- Prosthetic Devices

Splints

Developing sensorimotor skills and sensory integration as necessary for classroom performance (moving about school, writing, reading, playing, and dressing)

- Developing motor planning (ability to perform an unfamiliar movement)
- Promoting Bilateral Integration (coordination of both sides of the body)
- Reducing Tactile Defensiveness (abnormal response to touch)
- Teaching / helping to develop work simplification and motion economy techniques within the school setting for a student with a debilitating physical condition.

SCHOOL NURSE

Our school nurse is contracted through Grant County. She is in our district one time per week. She provides services ranging from vision and hearing screenings to specific medical attention that may be needed by your child.

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

Our School Psychologist is employed by our school district. She is involved in the evaluation and IEP process. She is also available for specific guidance with individual children when deemed necessary through the IEP.

GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

Our Guidance Counselor is employed by our school district and services students PK through 12th grade. The Guidance Counselor is available for specific guidance with individual children when deemed necessary through the IEP.