

SERVICES FOR STUDENTS AND CHILDREN

Background

Increasing numbers of students and children require services, during school and Early Childhood Service (ECS) program hours, other than those traditionally provided by schools (e.g. physical health, mental health, and child welfare services). Therefore, Mother Earth's Children Charter School (MECCS) will work together with members of the community and community agencies to serve the needs of students and children who are "at risk" or who have special needs.

Definitions

1. "At risk" means children and students considered, for any reason, to be at risk for learning problems, as determined by the Principal and Coordinator of Special Education.
2. "Students with special needs" means:
 - 2.1 Students described in Section 47(1) of the *School Act* as being in need of special education programs because of their behavioural, communicational, intellectual, learning or physical characteristics;
 - 2.2 Students who may require specialized health care services; or
 - 2.3 Students who are gifted and talented.

Procedures

1. In order to minimize duplication of effort and improve access for, and responsiveness to, children and families in need, MECCS is committed to working together with other community agencies, organizations and associations; other local education authorities within and across school districts, including School Councils and operators of Early Childhood Services (ECS) programs; and regional authorities, including Regional Health Authorities and Children's Services Authorities established by the Commissioner of Services for Children. Examples of "working together" include information-sharing procedures, sharing of staff facilities, and joint service planning and delivery agreements (informal or formal).
2. To serve the needs of students and children in each school community, the Principal, counsellor and, where appropriate, other staff members, will take an active role to initiate or participate in working together with other members of the community and community agencies to improve services.
3. Procedures in working together with members of the community will be consistent with provincial policies and procedures, including the Standards for Special Education.

Administrative Procedure 340

References: Sections 24, 25, 45, 47, 60, 61, 113, *School Act*
Cross Reference: Policy 12 – Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters

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Amended:
Due for Review: