



Mission Viejo High School
Home of the Diablos



IB Special Education Needs Policy

The Saddleback Valley Unified School District's Special Education Policy (**AR 0430**) provides the following philosophy, goals, objectives, and comprehensive local plan for special education students.

To provide appropriate services and interventions for student success in the IB Program, Mission Viejo High School acknowledges the following legal requirements:

The Governing Board desires to provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to all individuals with disabilities, aged 3 to 21 years, who reside in the district, including children who have been suspended or expelled or placed by the district in a nonpublic, nonsectarian school.

Students shall be referred for special education instruction and services only after the resources of the regular education program have been considered, and where appropriate, utilized. (Education Code 56303) **BP 0430**

Students will be educated in the least restrictive environment meaning that, to the maximum extent appropriate, students with disabilities, including children in public or private institutions or other care facilities, be educated with children who are nondisabled, including the provision of nonacademic and extracurricular services and activities. (34 CFR 300.107, 300.114, 300.117) Special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of students with disabilities from the regular educational environment occurs only if the nature or severity of the disability is such that education in the regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily. (34 CFR 300.107, 300.114, 300.117; Education Code 56040.1)

Specially designed instruction means adapting, as appropriate to the needs of an eligible student, the content, methodology, or delivery of instruction to address the unique needs of the student that result from the student's disability and to ensure access of the student to the general curriculum, so that the student can meet the educational standards within the district that apply to all students. (34 CFR 300.39)

Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) covers qualified students with disabilities who attend schools receiving Federal financial assistance. To be protected under Section 504, a student must be determined to: (1) have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities; or (2) have a record of such an impairment; or (3) be regarded as having such an impairment. Section 504 requires that school districts provide a free and appropriate public education to qualified students in their jurisdictions who have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. Section 504 provides: "No otherwise qualified individual with a disability in the United States . . . shall, solely by reason of her or his disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance . . .

Students with Disabilities in the MVHS IB Diploma Program – Applicants to the Mission Viejo High School IB program are given information regarding rigorous program requirements to ensure appropriate placement and academic success.

In addition to employing teaching strategies that include differentiation for students with special needs, students are also supported through special arrangements if necessary. The IB publication, *Candidates with Special Assessment Needs*, will be referenced to provide support for program completion. The Diploma Program Coordinator will submit to IB the appropriate accommodations form, along with necessary documentation, requesting assessment modifications when needed.