

4th - 5th Grade Special Education Transition Frequently Asked Questions

What does the special education program look like in the middle school?

-Like all aspects of special education, programming varies from student to student. Students have varying levels of support, based on their IEPs. All programming is based on the IEP.

What does a typical 5th grade schedule look like?

-Core classes (reading, math, English, social studies, science) are in the morning. Students have a snack break/recess at mid-morning. After lunch and activity, students have special area classes: health, art, physical education, music, Spanish 5, and applied technology/ technology education/family & consumer sciences. Each special area class occurs 2 days in each 6-day rotation. Applied technology, technology education, and family & consumer science are 12 weeks in duration; for example, the first 12 weeks of school, a child would have applied tech, the second 12 weeks of school they attend family & consumer science, and the last 12 weeks of school they attend technology education. Students follow a 6-day rotation of classes (Day 1, Day 2, etc.). Students catch on quickly to the 6-day schedule. See the sample schedule on page 3.

What decisions do I need to make about my child's schedule?

-It depends. If your child needs to receive services in a special education setting, they may be scheduled out of a regular education class. This is an IEP team decision, and you are an important member of the IEP team.

How will my child avoid getting lost?

-Core classes are typically clustered together. The schools are open in the summer before classes start for students to tour the building and practice opening their lockers. In the beginning of the school year teachers and other students will assist in finding rooms.

How do the students keep organized?

-All students are given an assignment book on the first day of school. The assignment book also includes the student handbook. Students are taught how to use the assignment book. The teachers typically write the

day's assignment on the board. Special education staff supports the students in this area.

What social opportunities exist for my child?

-There are numerous organized extra-curricular offerings such as after school clubs, groups run by guidance counselors, recreation nights, etc. Lunch and activity is an opportunity to eat and play with friends as well as to meet new people. Our goal is to create a supportive and inclusive environment in which all students enjoy school.

How will regular education teachers support my child?

-Special education teachers communicate on a regular basis with the core teachers. Special education teachers regularly attend core team meetings. All of your child's teachers will have copies of the IEP. The classroom teachers are supportive of our students and will frequently discuss with us how to best meet their needs.

Typical 5th grade schedule

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
	Homebase	Homebase	Homebase	Homebase	Homebase	Homebase
1	Math	Math	Math	Math	Math	Math
2	English	English	English	English	English	English
3	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading
	Recess/Snack	Recess/Snack	Recess/Snack	Recess/Snack	Recess/Snack	Recess/Snack
4	Science	Science	Science	Science	Science	Science
5	Social St.	Social St.	Social St.	Social St.	Social St.	Social St.
6	Lunch/Activity	Lunch/Activity	Lunch/Activity	Lunch/Activity	Lunch/Activity	Lunch/Activity
7	PE	Health	Art	PE	Health	Art
8	AT/TE/FCS	Spanish 5	Music	AT/TE/FCS	Spanish 5	Music

Spanish 5: also referred to as FLES

AT: Applied Technology

TE: Technology Education

FCS: Family & Consumer Sciences

Homebase begins at 7:50 AM

School Day ends at 2:33 PM