



Pine View Middle School Special Needs Policy

Policy Statement: It is the philosophy of the International Baccalaureate, Pine View Middle School and Pasco County Schools that every child receives a world class education. It is our vision, in the context of the inclusive nature of the Middle Years Programme (MYP) and the learner-centered nature of IB instruction along with the district continuum of services, that all students receive the necessary resources, guidance, accommodations and differentiation needed to be college, career, and life ready.

There are many students who may have a recognized special educational need. Other students may have special needs that have not yet been diagnosed. Some examples of these include, but are not limited to:

- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Emotional and Behavioral Difficulties
- Giftedness
- Intellectual Disabilities
- Language and Communication Disorders
- Medical conditions
- Mental health conditions
- Physical difficulties affecting mobility
- Sensory Impairments
- Specific Learning Disabilities

PVMS implements the MYP through the utilization of a continuum of services for students with exceptional needs, using evidence based instructional practices and interventions, provided by highly qualified teachers, so that all students will reach their highest potential.

Local and National Requirements: Public Law 94-142, the “Education for All Handicapped Children’s Act of 1975” is the original legislation which protected the rights of a free, appropriate public education (FAPE) to students with disabilities. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, which is the reauthorization of a federal law enacted in 1990 and reauthorized in 1997 is the current legislation that all public schools follow. Pine View Middle School is no exception, and our implementation of the Middle Years Programme has no effect on the exceptional student education (ESE) services that our students receive.

We follow the continuum of services for ESE students. All students who receive ESE services have a case manager who is a specialist in accommodations to the curriculum and a contact for parents.

Pine View Middle School will continue to follow all local/district, state and national guidelines with regards to evaluation/re-evaluation for ESE services, record keeping, and all compliance matters.

Exemptions from the MYP: Students may be excused from one of the MYP requirements when the MYP is in conflict with a district/local, state or national mandate. The list below is not exhaustive and will be reviewed as needed by PVMS staff. Students may not participate in all MYP requirements if:

- Reading test scores require placement in an Accelerated Literacy class.
- A student has not earned a credit in a class and is in a course recovery class.
- The T/IEP team or similar team of professionals deems that because of a student's academic or social/behavioral needs he or she requires services or classes that better fit his or her needs.

References:

- MYP From Principles to Practice (occ.ibo.org)
- Frank C. Martin K-8 Center Special Needs Policy
<http://fcmartin.dadeschools.net/documents/MYP-policy/MYP-Spec-Ed.pdf>
- Barbara Bush Middle School/Ranchview High School MYP Partnership Special Needs Policy
http://bush.cfbisd.edu/files/FRAEO/8581b439ff9e8d823745a49013852ec4/BBMS_RHS_MYP_Partnership_Special_Needs_Policy.pdf
- MacArthur Middle School/Meade High School IB MYP Partnership Special Needs Policy
<http://www.macmiddle.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Meade-Partnership-SEN-Policy.pdf>