

GRAND RAPIDS HIGH SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE DP SPECIAL NEEDS POLICY

GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

ISD #318 and Grand Rapids High School recognize the importance of providing a free appropriate public education and delivery system for students in need of special education. This includes, but is not limited to, students involved in the International Baccalaureate program. Grand Rapids High School IB students with special needs will be provided accommodations and modifications as needed to meet the needs of the student and program. The student needs may be permanent or temporary in nature.

UNITED STATES FEDERAL SPECIAL EDUCATION LAWS

The rights of children with disabilities to receive a free and appropriate public education are addressed in Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Grand Rapids High School abides by all required laws and policies that are derived from federal and state law.

SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS FOR GRHS IB STUDENTS

The International Baccalaureate program is rigorous in nature and all students are advised of the requirements upon entry into the program. Students with special needs who wish to pursue their goals within the program are accommodated through a variety of means. In addition to using differentiated instruction for students with special needs, students are also supported through special arrangements if necessary.

The IB publications, *Special educational needs within the International Baccalaureate programmes*, as well as, *Candidates with Special Assessment Needs*, are used to guide decisions on appropriate accommodations along with federal, state, and local guidelines.

SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS RELATED TO IB ASSESSEMNTS

Grand Rapids High School will meet the needs of IB students on internal assessments, external assessments, and examinations to the best of its ability. The school will treat all information about the candidate as confidential.

As determined by the IBO, the following special arrangements may be used without authorization: taking an examination in a separate room; arrangement of appropriate seating; allowing the candidate to take medication or refreshment if medically needed; allowing a care assistant; using an aid (hearing, visual, Braille, etc...);using a communicator; and giving additional time to complete assignments.

The school will obtain prior authorization from the IBO for all other required special arrangements as listed in the IBO document, *Candidates with Special Assessment Needs*.

SCHOOL DISTRICT SPECIAL EDUCATION POLICIES

Grand Rapids High School and the International Baccalaureate program shall adhere to all school district policies concerning special education including, but not limited to, those found in sections 513,515,521, 601, 603, 605, 606, 608, 613, 614,615, 660, and 661. These policies support the goals of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program and the achievement of English Language Learners.

References: Board Policy
IBO Standards and Practices
IBO Publication: Towards a continuum of international education
IBO Publication: IB learner profile booklet
IBO Publication: IB programme standards and practices
IBO Publication: Learning in a language other than mother tongue in IB programmes
GRHS IB Assessment Policy