



August 2020

Options and Requirements for Providing Assistance to Students Who Have Learning Difficulties or Who Need or May Need Special Education Services

If a child is experiencing difficulties in the regular classroom, the parent may contact the person listed below to learn about the district's overall general education referral or screening system for support services. This system links students to a variety of support options, including referral for a special education evaluation. Students having difficulty in the regular classroom should be considered for tutorial, compensatory, and other academic or behavior support services that are available to all students including a process based on Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS). The implementation of MTSS has the potential to have a positive impact on the ability of local education agencies to meet the needs of all struggling students.

At any time, a parent is entitled to request an evaluation for special education services written or verbally. Within 15 school days, the district must respond and give the parent a Prior Written Notice of whether it agrees to or refuses to evaluate the student along with a copy of the *Notice of Procedural Safeguards*. If the district agrees to the evaluation, the parent will be asked to provide informed written consent for the evaluation.

The district must complete the evaluation and the report within 45 school days of the date the district receives the written consent. However, if the student is absent from school during the evaluation period for 3 or more school days, the evaluations period will be extended by the number of school days equal to the number of schools days the student is absent. If the consent is received at least 35 but less than 45 days before the last instructional day of the school year, it must complete the written report and by June 30 of that year unless the student has been absent from school 3 or more days during the evaluation period. The district must give a copy of the report to the parent at no cost.

The designated person to contact regarding options for a child experiencing learning difficulties or a referral for evaluation for special education services is:

Contact Person: Nancy Riley, Director

Bell County Special Education

Phone Number: (254) 657-8155

A special education Shared Service Arrangement between Academy ISD, Bartlett ISD, Holland ISD, Rogers ISD, and Troy ISD

Academy Independent School District
Billy Harlan, Superintendent
254.982.4304

Holland Independent School District
Shane Downing, Superintendent
254.657.0715

Bartlett Independent School District
Teddy Clevenger, Superintendent
254.527.3351

Rogers Independent School District
Joe Craig, Superintendent
254.642.3802

Troy Independent School District
Neil Jeter, Superintendent
254.938.2595