

To: School Committee
Dr. Rebecca McFall, Superintendent

From: Mary Emmons, Administrator for Student Services
Scott Dixon, Extended School Year Coordinator, Special Educator

RE: Extended School Year Program PK-8, 2019

Date: August 23, 2019

The purpose of this report is to provide a description of special education extended year programming for preschool through grade 8.

Extended School Year Programming Definition:

Extended School Year Programming and Services (ESY) are required under state and federal statutes to ensure provision of summer services for special education students who are at risk of **substantial regression** of skills. Under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) 2004, "ESY must be available if the IEP Team determines, on an individual basis, that extended year services are necessary to provide a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)."

Massachusetts state law 603 CMR 28.05 (4) states, "An extended year program may be identified if the student has demonstrated or is likely to demonstrate substantial regression in his or her learning skills and/or substantial difficulty in relearning such skills if an extended program is not provided".

Eligibility for ESY:

Students are identified individually within the Team Meeting process and extended year services are reflected within the Individualized Education Program (IEP) based upon consideration of the following:

- Regression of skills is substantial following a break in service
- Recouping of skills due to the break would take longer than what is typical (after review/reteach)
- Instruction is required in the area in which regression would occur
- Degree of disability/impairment is considered
- Rate of learning and progress is a factor impacting decision making
- Regression and difficulty recouping after short breaks throughout the school year is noted
- Regression of skills may include social skills, emotional supports, mobility, communication, academics, vocational skills, assistive technology and adaptive living skills

Lincoln Public Schools ESY Programming:

During the summer of 2019, ESY programming for special education students took place from July 8th-August 8th. The ESY Program provides a range of supports and services to meet the individual needs of students. These services are determined by the IEP Team and are individually calculated. Concentrated efforts were made to align schedules for students participating in summer programming (Recreation Camp, METCO, Achievement Camp, and Special Education ESY). The pre-planning and scheduling with all stakeholders served to enhance the experience for all students.

We are fortunate to continue a collaborative relationship with the Lincoln Recreation Camp, providing seamless services for those students participating in the Recreation Camp, receiving tutoring during the camp day, for those students in our STEP program (described below).

In the spring of 2016, Scott Dixon was initially appointed as the ESY Coordinator and was reappointed for the 2017, 2018, and 2019 ESY Programs. Scott has continued to be essential to the organization of programming and scheduling services for students. The consistency of having Scott in this role has provided leadership and clarity for all staff, parents and students. In his role, Scott ensures appropriate staffing is in place to meet the needs of the students. Scott also coordinates with principals to ensure building and custodial needs are addressed for the duration of the ESY program. In addition, to these administrative duties, Scott provides staff training and outreach and consistently communicates with parents. His partnership with the Lincoln Recreation Camp is essential to student participation, accessibility, and success. Scott continues to be actively involved with supporting the STEP program as well as collaborating and supporting all of the programs through his administrative presence and hands-on approach.

This year, we were able to provide our new radios to staff and administrators involved with Achievement Camp, METCO support for REC, Recreation Camp and special education ESY. The ability to set the radios to a common channel further supported communication and safety across the campus for our students and staff.

ESY Program Descriptions

Preschool Instruction:

The preschool ESY program provides an extension of the school year program. Each classroom works to address student goals and benchmarks as outlined in the IEP. Children ages 2.9 through 5 years of age are provided instruction with a focus on addressing individual needs in the areas of motor, social, language, emotional, pre-readiness and independence. Children are provided opportunities to build confidence and skills through creative play and hands-on exploration. The focus of the program is to prevent substantial regression of skills.

Summer Transition Extension Program (STEP)

STEP is a small group, extended school year program. Last year the age grouping was for rising K-2 students. This year the grade levels served were PK to grade 2. The focus of the STEP program is to provide a comprehensive summer experience for identified students to address social and academic needs. All related services such as Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language therapy take place within the program when possible. This program addresses regression of skills identified by the student's Special Education Team, as well as to support students with grade level transition skills. STEP is a five week, four hour per day program that took place this year at the Lincoln School. Students accessed the REC swimming program and selected REC activities with staff support. Students are identified and recommended for this program through the TEAM meeting process.

Integrated Experience/Lincoln Recreation Camp:

Through a strong partnership with the Lincoln Recreation Department, students are provided with social, emotional and behavioral skill building within in an inclusive setting. This inclusive setting provides opportunities to work in small and large groups with typically developing, same-age peers. While this integrated model is essential in addressing and preventing substantial regression of social skills, it also serves to support students with developing self-advocacy skills, coping strategies, and social language skills.

Specially Designed Academic Instruction:

Academic Instruction is provided through tutoring, focusing on preventing substantial regression in the areas of English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. Instruction is provided within a 1:1 or small group setting. The focus of the academic tutoring sessions is to address IEP goals and benchmarks identified to be at risk of regression over the summer break.

Related Services:

Related services provided during ESY may include occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech and language therapy.

Enrollment of Students in ESY

Program	Hanscom Students	Lincoln Students	Total
Preschool	20	4	24
Academic Instruction	12	6	18
Inclusion in Lincoln Recreation camp	2	3	5

STEP program	4	2	6
--------------	---	---	---

ESY Staffing:

Scott Dixson, ESY Coordinator
Audra Maria, ESY Nurse
Asya Shestopal, ESY Teacher, Lincoln Campus/Hanscom Campus
Rachel Goldner, ESY Teacher, Lincoln Campus
Terri Russell, ESY Teacher, Hanscom Campus
Sarah Lomonaco, Speech and Language Therapist
Anna Baker, Occupational Therapist Assistant (COTA)
Dorie Fishbone, Occupational Therapist
Laura Jeffries, Physical Therapist
Amy Gualtieri, Tutor, Recreation Camp
Alyssa Rosenfeld, STEP program teacher
Laura Hundley, STEP program teacher
Jack Bicknell, Tutor, Recreation Camp
Daniella Kelliher, Tutor, Recreation Camp
Danya Brown, Preschool Lead Teacher
Brianna Lawler, Preschool Teacher
Megan Grady, Preschool Teacher
Alexandra Kelly, Preschool Tutor
Michelle Gosselin, Preschool Tutor
Nicole Beek, Preschool Tutor
Amy Boudreau, Preschool Tutor
Michelle Kelly, Preschool Tutor
Ryan Flynn, Preschool Tutor
Alana McLaughlin, Substitute Nurse