

TRINITY BASIN PREPARATORY

SECTION 504 POLICY

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 requires school districts to provide the full range of special accommodations and services necessary for students with special needs to participate in and benefit from public education programs and activities. Section 504 prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities by school districts receiving federal financial assistance. Students with disabilities must be provided with a free, appropriate, public education (FAPE).

Section 504 protects all students with disabilities, defined as those having any physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. Major life activities include, but are not limited to, caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning and working. The Americans with Disabilities Act of 2008 (Amendments Act) also includes "the operation of a major bodily function, including but not limited to, the function of the immune system, normal cell growth, digestive, bowel, bladder, neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, endocrine and reproductive functions." Section 504 also applies to students who have a record of having a substantially limiting impairment, or who are regarded as being disabled even if they are truly not disabled. Students can be considered disabled and can receive services under Section 504 even if they do not qualify for or receive special education services.

Section 504 regulations require that procedures for identification, evaluation, provision of appropriate services, and procedural safeguards be in place in all public schools in the United States. Trinity Basin Preparatory uses guidelines provided by the Dallas office of the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) in the U.S. Department of Education (ED) and the document entitled *Notice of Rights for Disabled Students and Their Parents Under 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973* as the guiding basis of its procedures. Each campus has a Section 504 coordinator who receives training in the procedures and requirements for identifying and providing educational and related services to those students who have disabilities, but who are not in need of special education in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Under Section 504, the parent or guardian must be provided with notice of actions affecting the identification, evaluation, or placement of the student, and is entitled to an impartial hearing if they disagree with the district decisions in these areas. Inquiries regarding services for students under Section 504 should be made to the campus Principal, Assistant Principal or the Special Programs Coordinator-504/RtI. The Special Programs Coordinator-504/RtI has been designated to serve as the District 504 Coordinator and to coordinate compliance with the non-discrimination requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, which incorporates and expands upon the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The office of the Special Programs Coordinator-504/RtI is located at 2730 North Highway 360, Grand Prairie, TX 75050, (214) 946-9100.

It is the policy of Trinity Basin Preparatory to follow all provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as set forth above.