

# Kendall County Special Education Cooperative OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL

## **Purpose**

Opportunity School is a public therapeutic day school designed to provide an academic curriculum with intensive behavioral and emotional supports. The purpose of the school is to provide educational services in a highly structured small group special education setting. These services are for kindergarten through twelfth grade students who display behavioral, emotional, or other disabilities that interfere with their school achievement, classroom behavior, social skills, and/or relationships with others and who have experienced lack of success in general education and less restrictive settings.

## **Program Goals**

- To assist students in acquiring appropriate classroom and social behaviors with the goal of returning to general education or less restrictive settings.
- To provide academic instruction to maximize academic achievement at the student's appropriate level.
- To help students develop age-appropriate social and life skills to function successfully in school, at home, and in the community.
- To assist families to better understand their child.

## **Entrance Criteria**

- Determination of special education eligibility and the school-based IEP team's recommendation.
- Data that documents a history of school problems related to behavior and/or emotional issues causing lack of success in the current educational placement.
- Data that documents functional behavior assessment and behavior interventions developed and implemented over time and evidence that those interventions have not been successful in the current placement.
- A determination by the school-based IEP team that the student's needs cannot be met in a less restrictive program.

## **Exit Criteria**

- A student may exit Opportunity School when behavioral data gathered by Opportunity School staff indicates that adequate progress has been made to consider a change in placement.
- A student may exit Opportunity School based upon the recommendation IEP teams that the student enter a less restrictive program.
- Students will exit Opportunity School upon acceptance of a high school diploma or reaching the age of 22.
- A student will exit Opportunity School upon the determination that he/she is no longer eligible for special education services.
- A student may exit the Opportunity School if the parent chooses to discontinue services.

## **Available Opportunity School Programs**

- Opportunity School Classrooms. These classrooms serve kindergarten through twelfth grade students providing academic instruction and support in a separate special education setting. The students receive behavior support through functional behavior assessments and the development, implementation and monitoring of behavior intervention plans along with intensive social work services.

Related services are provided to Opportunity School program students according to their IEP.