**Important Information for Families with Children with Special Needs**

Welcome to the **Presidio of Monterey**! If your child has special needs and requires an Individualized Education Program **(IEP)** or 504 Plan, it is essential to have these documents ready with as much detail as possible. This information will help Monterey Peninsula Unified School District **(MPUSD)** determine the best school placement for your child based on their specific needs.

Once MPUSD receives the **IEP**, their team will review the details, develop a plan of action within six days, and finalize school placement accordingly.

Please email all **IEP** documents to:

Heather Cheatham  
Director, Special Education  
831-901-7437  
[hcheatham@mpusd.k12.ca.us](http://hcheatham@mpusd.k12.ca.us/)

Katie Rivera  
Senior Director, Special Education Services  
831-645-1207  
[krivera@mpusd.k12.ca.us](http://krivera@mpusd.k12.ca.us/)

Please email all **504** documents to:

Aaron Wood

Director, Multi-Tiered Systems of Support

831-901-7413

[awood@mpusd.et](mailto:awood@mpusd.et)

**Specialized Programs**

* **The Leap Program:** Provides language enrichment, academic performance and social support for students with autism and/or communication disorders who are unable to access the general education curriculum at, near, or above grade level.
* **STEPS:** Classes strive to provide **s**pecialized **t**raining and **e**ducational **p**rograms for **s**tudents. Students who require instruction based on California Connector standards and direct instruction of self-help and daily living skills can be referred to this program beginning at age 3 and ending when the child achieves a regular high school diploma or reaches the age of 22, whichever comes first.
* **KEY Program:** KEY is a program for students who, due to social/emotional or behavioral reasons cannot succeed exclusively within the general education environment. Program purpose is to provide an educational program with therapeutic support that effectively enables students diagnosed with social/emotional difficulties to succeed academically and function appropriately in the school environment.

**MPUSD Services**

* Infant/Toddler and Pre-School Special Education Program
* Resource Specialist Teachers at each of the District Schools
* Speech/Language Therapy
* Occupational Therapy
* Adapted Physical Education
* Assistive Technology
* Deaf and Hard of Hearing
* Self-contained classes with specialized academic instruction for students who benefit most from mild to moderate adaptations to the general education curriculum.
* Self-contained classes with specialized academic instruction for students who benefit most from curriculum based on life skills curriculum standards ages 3 through 22 (STEPS)
* Self-contained classes with specialized academic instruction for students whose needs require a therapeutic setting with embedded mental health supports, kindergarten through high school (KEY)
* Self-contained classes with specialized academic instruction for students who are Autistic or who benefit most when provided extensive language scaffolds and supports, ages 3 through 22 (LEAP)

For any questions or further assistance, feel free to reach out. We’re here to support your family’s transition!

**Blanca Felix Guerrero**

Army School Liaison Officer

831-242-7197

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