

## Section 504 Referral Process

- ❖ Medical/Health Concerns: If the child/student requires a 504 plan for medical type purposes *only*, such as a student with a health condition requiring monitoring/health related accommodations please contact our Health Clerk. \*
- ❖ All Other Concerns: If academic, social-emotional, and or behavioral, etc. concerns are present (which may or may not co-exist with health/physical related concerns) please contact the SST Coordinator and or 504 Coordinator. Generally, initial concerns are brought before the SST team in order to help determine the appropriate level of support. If there are any questions regarding a student and the possible level of support he/she may require to be successful please do not hesitate to contact the 504 Coordinator (School Psychologist). \*

### **\*What is a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity?**

The determination of whether a student has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity must be made on the basis of an individual inquiry. The Section 504 regulatory provision at 34 C.F.R. 104.3(j)(2)(i) defines a physical or mental impairment as any physiological disorder or condition, cosmetic disfigurement, or anatomical loss affecting one or more of the following body systems: neurological; musculoskeletal; special sense organs; respiratory, including speech organs; cardiovascular; reproductive; digestive; genito-urinary; hemic and lymphatic; skin; and endocrine; or any mental or psychological disorder, such as mental retardation, organic brain syndrome, emotional or mental illness, and specific learning disabilities. The regulatory provision does not set forth an exhaustive list of specific diseases and conditions that may constitute physical or mental impairments because of the difficulty of ensuring the comprehensiveness of such a list.

Major life activities, as defined in the Section 504 regulations at 34 C.F.R. 104.3(j)(2)(ii), include functions such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking,

breathing, learning, and working. This list is not exhaustive. Other functions can be major life activities for purposes of Section 504. In the Amendments Act (see FAQ 1), Congress provided additional examples of general activities that are major life activities, including eating, sleeping, standing, lifting, bending, reading, concentrating, thinking, and communicating. Congress also provided a non-exhaustive list of examples of “major bodily functions” that are major life activities, such as the functions of the immune system, normal cell growth, digestive, bowel, bladder, neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, endocrine, and reproductive functions. The Section 504 regulatory provision, though not as comprehensive as the Amendments Act, is still valid – the Section 504 regulatory provision’s list of examples of major life activities is not exclusive, and an activity or function not specifically listed in the Section 504 regulatory provision can nonetheless be a major life activity.

Source: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/504faq.html>