



ESM JR/SR HS  
PROPOSED SPECIAL  
EDUCATION PROGRAMS

2021-2022



# Rationale of Proposed Changes

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- SOCE regulations will take place beginning September 2021
  - At the Jr/Sr HS all 15:1 teachers must be content area certified in order to teach a course
- The ICT caseloads are currently too high
  - Up to 17 primary students on a caseload
  - Some teachers see 70+ special education students a week
- Current ICT model limits student contact time with special ed teacher
- Year to year teacher schedules have been inconsistent
- 8:1:1 and 12:1:1 classes are grade based
  - We currently run 8 sections
  - 12 staff members are currently involved in teaching those classes
  - Electives have been problematic
  - Identification of academic periods has not been clear with current program



# 8:1:1 and 12:1:1 Program

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- Currently 8 sections all grade based
- 12 staff members currently teach program
- 12:1:1 generally assessed option
- Electives have been problematic
- Difficulty implementing curriculum guidelines
- “Singleton Schedules” have been problematic
- Reduce the number of pull out sessions and have students practice skills in a more natural setting

- Move to 5 sections all age based
- 5 staff members will teach new sections
- All 8:1:1 and 12:1:1 sections will become NYSAA
- Offer appropriate elective options
- Clear course outlines and curriculum guidelines
- Create a cohesive robust program that meets our student needs
- Build in a programmatic social skills component



# Proposed 8:1:1 and 12:1:1 Program

Program	8:1:1	8:1:1	12:1:1	12:1:1	12:1:1
Age Range	13-16	17-21	7-8 Jr High	14-17	18-21
Projected Students	4	5	9	10	8
Sections	1	1	1	1	1
NYSAA	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
<b>PROGRAM COURSES</b>					
ELA	Math	Sci/SS	SPE/APE	Elective	WEP
PAES	Social Skills	Possible Electives: Health, Art, Music, Computers/STEM...			



## S.T.E.A.D.I. PROGRAM: Support Teach Empower And Develop Independence

Program	8:1:1	8:1:1	12:1:1	12:1:1	12:1:1
Grade/Age Range	13-16	17-21	7-8 Jr High	14-17	18-21
Projected Students	4	5	9	10	8
Sections	1	1	1	1	1
NYSAA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>#STEADI DOES IT!</b>	ELA	ELA	English	English	English
	Math	Math	Math	Math	Math
	Sci/SS	Social Skills	Science	Science	Social Skills
	SPE/APE	SPE/APE	SPE/APE	SPE/APE	SPE/APE
	ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE
	Social Skills	WEP	Social Skills	Social Skills	WEP
	PAES	WEP	PAES	PAES	WEP
	ELA	WEP	Social Studies	Social Studies	WEP
	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch



# Proposed 15:1 Program

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- All 15:1 teachers will be content area certified
  - Ensures a highly qualified instructor is assigned to each course
  - Builds stability into the year to year staff scheduling
- Run 2 sections of each 15:1 program
- Establishes our 15:1 program as the minimum rigor for a regents level course
  - Special education students will still be eligible for a local diploma, safety net, or Superintendent's designation
- Support each 15:1 class with a TA (actual ratio of 15:1:1)



# Proposed ICT Program

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- Move to a full time special education teacher ICT model at the Jr/Sr HS
  - TA would still replace the special ed teacher during the **science lab periods ONLY**
- Run 4 sections of each ICT class
  - Reducing the number of special education students per section
- Run some ICT sections concurrently with 15:1 sections
  - Allowing for a seamless switch when needed between programs
- Eliminate the support period
  - No longer needed due to increased daily special education student contact time
- Reduce ICT teacher student caseloads
  - Increasing the amount of time teachers can focus on individual student needs



# Staffing/Cost Implications

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- Hire two FTE special education teachers with content areas specialties
  - One English certified special education teacher
  - One SS certified special education teacher
- Reduce the overall number of TA's needed at the HS
  - Removal from ICT program, add to 15:1 program
  - Reduced 8:1:1 and 12:1:1 sections
  - COVID regulations





# Letter About Declining Regents Exemption

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- A letter went home from the Asst. Superintendent on Feb 5, 2021
- Very few students are impacted by this
- Prevents students who may have been expecting to stay in school until they were 21 from graduating early due to COVID Regents exemptions
- Parents must submit a request 30 days before the student would have graduated
- The decision is irrevocable
- Speak to your child's guidance counselor if you think this may impact them