

Getting Your Child Extra Help

Burning Tree's quality instructional program begins by focusing on the individual needs of the learners. If you believe that your child needs additional support to facilitate his/her academic achievement or social adjustment, you should first raise your concerns with the classroom teacher directly. Burning Tree provides support services to ensure the success of every child. The classroom teacher can refer you to the appropriate service or to the Educational Management Team.

Educational Management Team (EMT)

The EMT is a team of professionals who come together to focus on problem solving, brainstorming, and intervening in such a way that a student's chances for success are increased.

Convening an EMT for your child is a gateway to additional strategies, modifications and services to support your child. The EMT consists of the principal, the resource teacher, the classroom teacher and those other appropriate specialists such as reading specialist, the counselor, a speech/language pathologist and the parents. A psychologist and pupil personnel worker are also available to assist the EMT twice a month.

An EMT meeting may be initiated by a concern from a teacher or parent about a child's rate of progress, school adjustment or health of a student.

If an educational disability is suspected, referral is made to the Individualized Education Program (IEP) team to determine if special education supports are needed and plan accordingly. The members of the IEP team are the same as the EMT. Procedures for identification, intervention, and record-keeping are prescribed by state and federal law governing students' special educational needs.

MCPS has an extensive array of resources and services beyond what is available at an individual school. The members of the EMT can access these resources as necessary and appropriate for each child.

Below is a list of staff members who can assist you with specific concerns. All of these individuals may be reached at (301) 320-6510. Also, you may leave a note in the Main Office for any of these individuals.

Gifted and Talented Identification

Ms. Marion Richter and Ms. Donna Dieckman
Gifted/Talented Liaisons

Support Services and Scheduling an EMT Meeting

Ms. Jennifer Finberg
Resource Teacher

Reading Support

Ms. Marion Richter
Reading Specialist

Speech and Language Concerns

Ms. Felice Grossman

Speech Pathologist

Medication and Health Related Issues

Ms. Ann Mulla

School Health Nurse

Ms. Salima Bouhafa

Health Technician

Learning Center Program

Ms. Dana Cook

Learning Center Coordinator

Student Conflicts, Parenting Issues

Ms. Mary Whalen

Guidance Counselor