ROCKLAND BOCES
ROOTED IN THE COMMUNITY

Student Services
PROGRAM GUIDE
Mission Statement

Rockland BOCES in partnership with local school districts and their communities, the Board of Regents and the Commissioner of Education, is to be a leader in providing quality, cost-effective, educationally focused programs and services that support learners in achieving high standards.

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District-Based Therapeutic Support – Elementary

Jesse J. Kaplan School

District-Based Special Education

River View High School

CBI Tech High School

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**VISION STATEMENT**

We, the Student Services Division of Rockland BOCES

- Believe in and honor the intrinsic value of each child as reflected by a strength-based educational approach.
- Provide regional leadership through collaborative partnerships and educational program excellence designed to meet the needs of each child.
- Bring together the collective energy of the child, family, school and community to realize the full potential of each child becoming a productive and integral member of society.
Overview

Rockland BOCES Student Services partners with families, school districts, community-based organizations and county agencies to produce outstanding educational outcomes for children with special needs at all levels of ability.

Our programs are open to students in Rockland and neighboring counties in New York and New Jersey.

- From center-based schools to more than 30 district-based classrooms, teams of expert staff assist students in achieving their full potential through integrated academic instruction, therapeutic supports and extensive, wraparound community services.

- Students on track to earn a Regents or Advanced Regents diploma benefit from linkages to college disabilities support services. Whether college or employment is the post-secondary goal, students and families rely on Transition Services for information, referral and more. Career exploration opportunities, vocational training and community-based internships help others prepare for the transition from school to work.

- A dynamic Family Resource Center operates in two locations and coordinates no-cost academic enrichment, wellness and social activities that support families and foster a strong home-school connection.
System of Care

Rockland BOCES involvement and linkage to various community agencies improves continuity of care for our students. Furthermore, it expands our students’ access to the full spectrum of support services available in the County. In order to respond to the needs of our students, Rockland BOCES weaves together services and provider partnerships to create a blanket of support that helps children and families achieve success.

Rockland BOCES service delivery is built on the following core principles:

- Families are viewed as partners
- Required support services for children should be found in the community
- Child serving systems/agencies must collaborate to create a seamless system
- Services must be individualized to meet the needs of each child and family
- Services focus on strengths and competencies, rather than on deficiencies
- Services and care are unconditional

Rockland BOCES embraces the wraparound process, which follows a series of steps to help children and their families plan their course and reach their goals.

Family Resource Center (FRC)
Rockland BOCES Family Resource Centers are located within two of our schools and serve as a hub for wraparound services for our families. Staff and/or families can refer to the FRC to access needed support services, which connect to a broad array of effective community services or supports. The FRC provides families a voice in the system in order to individualize and customize required care.

Network/Coordinated Children’s Services Initiative (CCSI)
Rockland BOCES FRC links families to the Coordinated Children’s Services Initiative. CCSI involves a strength-based network meeting with the family, school staff and community agencies connected to the family. Holding the meetings at the school embraces the guiding principle that school is an integral part of a child’s functioning. The Initiative is developed around individual needs, not program categories, and focuses on child and family strengths as opposed to problems or pathology.

School-Based Mental Health Clinic
In order to increase access to outpatient behavioral health services, Rockland BOCES provides space for an outpatient clinic in two school programs. This partnership provides easier access and availability of outpatient services to students.

Single Point of Access (SPOA)
Rockland BOCES sits on the SPOA Committee, which is coordinated by the County Department of Mental Health as part of the System of Care (SOC) initiative of the New York State Office of Mental Health. The goal of SPOA is to enable children with SED to remain in their communities by leveraging all available community resources to address their multi-faceted needs.

Partnership for Safe Youth
The Partnership for Safe Youth incorporates five county offices (Departments of Social Services, Probation, Mental Health, the District Attorney’s Office and Rockland BOCES) to foster the exchange of information between the parties in order to provide the most coordinated services possible to youth and families involved in the social services, juvenile and criminal justice, mental health, and education systems. BOCES membership in the collaborative ensures that schools are involved in the planning for students involved in multiple systems.
The Hilltop School
20 George Street | Haverstraw, NY 10927 | (845) 942-7550

The Hilltop School is a K-8 center-based program for students who face a variety of learning challenges. The program offers a predictable, positive learning environment in which students are able to acquire the skills necessary for academic and social success.

**Academic Program Features:**
- Intensive academic support aligned with NY State Common Core Standards
- Differentiated instruction delivered in small classes
- Tiered literacy program, including System 44, READ 180, Orton Gillingham, and Fundations, based on individual student needs
- Math program designed to meet the diverse learning styles of students in grades K-8
- Cross-curricular problem- and project-based learning incorporating computer-based and hands-on experiences, including 3D printing, robotics, computer programming, and video/audio production
**Social and Emotional Supports:**
- Strong therapeutic component incorporated daily
- Utilization of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), a multi-tiered approach for improving student behavior and academic outcomes
- Implementation of Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT), a comprehensive approach to teach mindfulness, distress tolerance, interpersonal effectiveness and emotion regulation skills
- Strengths-based counseling and support plans provided by highly qualified clinicians
- Emphasis on the development of self-regulation and collaborative problem-solving skills
- Students can participate in community service and work-based learning projects
- The Family Resource Center (FRC), located within the school building, fosters positive school-home relationships and offers programs that offer extracurricular enrichment, and family supports. The FRC also utilizes community resources and services to address family- and student-specific needs.

**Student Profile:**
Students in grades K-8 that require intensive support in a small learning environment that focuses on positive behavioral strategies.

**Collaborations:**
Mental Health Association of Westchester, Mental Health Association of Rockland; Psychiatric consultations available
District-Based Therapeutic Support – Elementary

20 George Street | Haverstraw, NY 10927 | (845) 942-7550

Rockland BOCES district-based programs deliver a wide range of services that provide social, emotional and academic supports that help students in grades K-5 develop the skills they need to succeed both in the classroom and beyond.

Programs are located in several component school districts across Rockland County. Based on their readiness and ability, district-based students have the opportunity to participate in school district classes and activities.

**Academic Program Features:**
- Individualized literacy and math programs aligned to the NY State Common Core Standards
- Intensive literacy and language support
- Specialized math
Differentiated instruction and academic intervention delivered in small class settings
Computer-based programs to support instruction
Mainstreaming opportunities

Social and Emotional Supports:
- Therapeutic component incorporated daily
- Individualized and universal behavior plans
- Emphasis on development of self-regulation and coping skills
- Strengths-based counseling and support plans provided by highly qualified clinicians

Student Profile:
Students with academic, social and/or emotional needs who benefit from integration in a mainstream environment.

Collaborations:
Mental Health Association of Westchester, Mental Health Association of Rockland
Jesse J. Kaplan School
65 Parrott Road, Building #9 | West Nyack, NY 10994 | (845) 627-4797

The Jesse J. Kaplan School offers a stimulating learning environment for students ages 5-21 with autism, cognitive disabilities, medical fragility, and/or multiple disabilities. Students reach their potential in a school that blends high educational standards, nursing services and therapies.

School-Wide Academic Program Features:
- Student goals are derived from team meetings that include parent input
- Data-driven teaching strategies are tailored to meet the individual needs of each student
- Curriculum includes sight word, phonics, and balanced literacy programs; multi-sensory and functional math programs; handwriting programs; weekly art and music instruction; and, adaptive physical education that includes swimming
- An array of assistive technologies, such as Tap-it® boards, iPads and augmentative communication devices, are integrated with instruction
- Research-based methodologies, including Applied Behavior Analysis, PROMPT, Picture Exchange Communication System, discrete trial teaching and functional behavioral analysis, are implemented by a highly trained staff
Specialized programs meet the unique needs of each student:

- **VISTA (Visual Instruction and Structured Teaching for Students with Autism and Learning Challenges)** is an individualized program that focuses on social behavior, communication and academics. Students follow daily schedules using objects, pictures or words and learn at individual workstations. Program highlights include principles of learning, structured teaching and visual instruction, Applied Behavior Analysis, augmentative and alternative communication, social scripts, activity schedules and self-regulation programming.

- The **Therapeutic Interdisciplinary Program (TIP)** provides integrated therapies and education for students with severe and multiple disabilities. The program focuses on developing communication skills and improving or maintaining physical status. Speech, occupational and physical therapies are integrated into the classroom. An eye-gaze system is offered in each classroom along with a multitude of individualized adaptive equipment. This innovative approach ensures a comprehensive treatment program for students with complex educational and medical needs.

- The **Social Communication Program** focuses on communication, social behavior, self-regulation and generalized skills. A rich, visually supported environment ensures maximum independence for each student.

- The **Kaplan Career Development Center** is a community-based vocational program designed to prepare students for the transition from school to adult life. Students work on mastering a variety of vocational, social and communication skills to allow them to function as responsible, contributing workers in the community. An academic program is balanced with activities of daily living, work and community skills. Students learn in a structured pre-vocational setting complete with an apartment setting. Assistance is provided to families for transition to adult services.

**Student Profile:**
Students ages 5-21 with autism, developmental disabilities, medical fragility, and/or multiple disabilities who require a center-based program. All Kaplan students are alternately assessed.

**Collaborations:**
Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), ACCES-VR, Mental Health Association of Rockland
District-Based Special Education

Rockland BOCES district-based programs for students with developmental disabilities offer a wide range of services in local elementary, middle and high school settings throughout most component school districts in Rockland County. Programs serve students aged 5-21 years in self-contained classrooms with a variety of opportunities for mainstreaming.

Specific Programs

CABAS®
The Comprehensive Application of Behavior Analysis to Schooling (CABAS®) program is a collaboration between Rockland BOCES and Columbia University. This intensive, data-driven program is offered in several elementary schools.

Social Communications
These classes serve students with autism and developmental disabilities in grades K-7. The curriculum is focused on communication skills, social development and academic development.
PAVE
Serving students from grades 5-12, the Practical Academics Vocational Program (PAVE) is located in the Pearl River School District. At the high school level, students can access general education elective classes as well as Rockland BOCES’ Career and Technical Education programs.

COVE
The Community Occupational Vocational Education program (COVE) is offered in collaboration with the South Orangetown Central School District and serves middle and high school students who benefit from a functional academic program with an emphasis on job skill development and life skills.

High School Vocational Programs
This program serves high school aged students and balances a functional life skills curriculum with a continuum of academic programming. Students also participate in a robust community-based vocational program.

Academic Program Features:
- Individual, data-driven goal development
- Literacy programs including Edmark, System 44, Lexia Core 5 and Read 180
- Multi-sensory and functional math programs
- Assistive technologies including iPads, whiteboards and augmentative communication devices
- Mainstreaming opportunities
- Art, music and adaptive physical education classes

Social and Emotional Supports:
- Clinical support provided in each program
- Individual behavior plans
- Parent training

Student Profile:
Students with developmental disabilities including autism, intellectual disabilities and multiple disabilities who may also benefit from access to mainstream opportunities. Students may be alternately assessed or participate in NY State examinations.

Collaborations:
Mental Health Association of Rockland, Columbia University, Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), ACCES-VR
River View is an alternative high school for students whose social, emotional and learning needs require a unique approach within a traditional school setting.

**Academic Program Features:**
- Individualized, strengths-based approach that emphasizes technology and the arts
- Vocational opportunities include job training and internships
- An on-campus, work-based learning center fosters the development of life and job-readiness skills
Students may earn industry-specific certifications along with their high school diplomas through partnerships with Rockland BOCES’ Career and Technical Education Center (CTEC) and BEST at Dominican College.

Multidisciplinary curricular pathways align with Common Core State Standards and include options leading to an Advanced Regents or Regents diploma, Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential, and Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Credential.

Students and their families receive assistance with transition planning and guidance on topics that include SAT testing, college searches, financial assistance, scholarship applications, FAFSA, post-secondary and vocational programs, community employment, ACCES-VR and community resources for adults.

Graduates continue on to pursue careers, military service or continue their education at two- and four-year colleges.

Social and Emotional Supports:
- River View provides intensive clinical supports to help students succeed both in and out of the classroom. Clinicians work closely with students and their families and connect them with community service partners that offer access to resources and quality support systems.
- The Family Resource Center (FRC), located within the school building, fosters positive school-home relationships and offers programs that foster fellowship, extracurricular enrichment, and family supports. The FRC also utilizes community resources and services to address family- and student-specific needs.
- Implementation of Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT), a comprehensive approach to teach mindfulness, distress tolerance, interpersonal effectiveness and emotion regulation skills.

Student Profile:
Students who benefit from a small, typical school setting with a curricular emphasis on technology and 21st century skills.

Collaborations:
ACCES-VR, Mental Health Association of Westchester, Mental Health Association of Rockland, The Partnership for Safe & Healthy Youth; Psychiatric consultations available.
CBI Tech is an alternative secondary program for students with emotional, behavioral and learning challenges. Students benefit from small class size, a strengths-based approach and extra supports needed for success.

Academic Program Features:
- Full-day academics with a focus on academic excellence for every student
- Creative programming through digital music, radio, and television production, leveraging technology to build 21st century skills
- On-campus, work-based learning opportunities foster the development of life and job-readiness skills
- Literacy remediation including Read 180
- Homework support using video screencasts
Opportunity to enroll in Rockland BOCES Career and Technical Education Center (CTEC) programs, where students may earn industry certifications along with their high school diplomas and/or BEST at Dominican College

Several pathways to graduation, including Advanced Regents and Regents, Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Credential, and a self-contained classroom for those obtaining a Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential (SACC)

**Social and Emotional Supports:**
- An integrated team of clinicians and teachers support the needs of all students
- Brain-based instructional approaches are implemented to decrease stress and enhance learning
- Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) provides the foundation for a successful school culture
- Through collaborative problem solving, students are given options to increase their access to instruction by utilizing separate learning spaces, “taking five” or virtual learning with iPads
- Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) skills help students improve their emotional self-regulation and increase mindfulness
- Students receive daily feedback concerning academic, social and behavioral progress and are acknowledged for their accomplishments
- Weekly “Circle Ups” celebrate student strengths and positive contributions to the school community
- Clinicians coordinate wraparound services for families, make connections with community service partners, collaborate with the Family Resource Center (FRC), Adult and Continuing Education, Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR), and local mental health associations

**Student Profile:**
Students with academic, social and/or emotional needs who are at risk for dropping out or have a history of involvement in multiple systems of care and who demonstrate the capacity to be successful.

**Collaborations:**
Mental Health Association of Westchester, Mental Health Association of Rockland, The Partnership for Safe & Healthy Youth; Psychiatric consultations available
Rockland BOCES district-based secondary programs provide students in grades 6-12 with the extra supports they need to excel. Students have the opportunity to be integrated into core and elective academics and extracurricular activities. Additional benefits include support services and enriched curricula focused on social skills, literacy and technology.

**Academic Program Features:**
- Differentiated instruction for core subjects aligned with the NY State Common Core Standards
- Use of technology to personalize learning and enhance student achievement
Small class setting
- Intensive literacy and specialized math supports, dependent upon program
- Integrated participation in the high school community via core academic and elective courses, athletics and clubs
- Opportunity to enroll in Rockland BOCES Career & Technical Education Center (CTEC) programs and BEST at Dominican College
- Guidance counselors assist students with transition to college, work-based programs, career awareness services and community resources for adults
- Recent graduates have continued their education through enrollment in a number of two- and four-year colleges and vocational programs

**Social and Emotional Supports:**
- Therapeutic component integrated within the school day
- Strengths-based individual and group counseling, with emphasis on self-regulation and collaborative problem-solving
- Related services are available in accordance with each student’s IEP and include speech, occupational therapy, physical therapy and visual and/or hearing impairment services

**Student Profile:**
Students with academic, social and/or emotional needs who benefit from integration and a less-restrictive environment.

**Collaborations:**
ACCES-VR, Mental Health Association of Westchester, Mental Health Association of Rockland
Project SEARCH
255 Lafayette Avenue | Suffern, NY 10901 | (845) 368-5534

Project SEARCH is a business-led program based at Good Samaritan Hospital for students in their last year of school whose main goal is employment. The program is offered in collaboration with Good Samaritan Hospital and the Rockland County Association for Learning Disabilities.

**Academic Program Features:**
- Interns rotate among a variety of work sites within Good Samaritan Hospital
- Job development and placement are based on each intern's experiences, strengths and skills
- Young adults graduate with job skills and experience

**Social and Emotional Supports:**
- Support is given in the form of accommodations, adaptations and on-the-job coaching

**Student Profile:**
Students in their last year of school whose main goal is employment and who can be successful in an integrated work setting.
Intensive Day Treatment (IDT)

Intensive Day Treatment has been offered at Rockland BOCES for more than 20 years. The program was designed to support students in grades K-12 during a time of crisis or re-entry into the community, easing them back into the routine and reality of everyday life. IDT is offered year-round.

The program, a collaboration between Rockland BOCES and the Rockland Children’s Psychiatric Center, is designed to stabilize the student and allow him/her to successfully return to school. More than 2,000 students have benefited from this service to date.

**Elementary IDT @ Hilltop School | (845) 942-7550**
Both school and mental health issues are focused on in this six-week program for classified and non-classified students in grades K-5. A team consisting of a teacher, teaching assistant, psychiatric social worker and psychiatrist supports students and families.

**Middle & High School IDT @ BOCES Main Campus | (845) 623-0085**
This program serves classified and non-classified students in grades 6-12 who are in need of short-term mental health and educational support. Within four weeks, students are transitioned back to school.

**Student Profile:**
Students ages 5-18 who are transitioning from a hospital environment to school or experiencing an emotional crisis.
Itinerant Services

65 Parrott Road, Building #10 | West Nyack, NY 10994 | (845) 627-4790

Services to Component Districts:
- Special Education Teachers and Teaching Assistants
- Psychologists
- Physical Therapists
- Occupational Therapists
- Speech Therapists
- Educational Interpreters
- Teachers of the Hearing Impaired
- Teachers of the Visually Impaired
- Evaluations, including bilingual
- CSE Chairperson
- Inclusion Support
- ENL
BEST

(845) 627-4790

Business Expertise for Student Training and Transition (BEST) is a half-day, 10-month workplace immersion program at Dominican College for diploma-bound high school students attending Rockland BOCES.

BEST provides intensive job, social and independent living skills training to students who are transitioning from high school, or going on to college, or competitive employment.

Student Profile:
Diploma-bound high school students enrolled in Rockland BOCES secondary programs

Special Education Extended School Year Summer Program

65 Parrott Road, Building #10 | West Nyack, NY 10994 | (845) 627-4790

Rockland BOCES offers a six-week program for students who require an extended school year (12 months). This program continues with all academic, behavioral, developmental, and social needs requirements of students IEPs. Related services are provided, as per program model.

Student Profile:
Students ages 5-21 who require an extended school year