

Speech and Language Services

What are Speech and Language Services?

The Development of age-appropriate speech and language skills is essential to the learning process and to a student's social, emotional and academic growth. Students must be able to comprehend language, express their thoughts and opinions, interact effectively and efficiently with peers and adults and produce speech which can be easy to understand.

The New Milford School District provides speech and language services to students ages 3-21 who demonstrate a need to improve their speech and language skills in articulation, language, fluency, or voice disorder in order to achieve academic success.

How are students referred for speech and language services?

Students can be referred for speech and language services by their parents or their classroom teachers if they are concerned about a student's speech and language proficiency as part of a Child Study Team Evaluation or in isolation. The goal of these services is to help students develop the speech and language skills necessary for positive interpersonal relationships and academic success.

Speech-Language Specialists (SLSs) are specially trained professionals who have earned a master's or doctoral degree and have a state license and/or Department of Education Certificate. They may also have the Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA).

SLSs work with children in a variety of ways including combining communication goals with academic and social goals. Service delivery varies depending on each student's specialized needs.

Children may be enrolled in speech sessions if their speech and/or language adversely affects their educational performance. Areas of remediation may be Articulation, Voice, Fluency, Language or Hearing Impairments. The child's speech and/or language must impact on their educational performance in order to be eligible for services. Should you have any questions about the process for referrals or wish to discuss your child's current program please feel free to contact the Speech-Language Specialist at your child's school.

Speech and language goals are most successful when there is carryover at home. The links provided contain articles and activities which target specific topics in speech and language development. These links and information sites will be useful in providing you with a better understanding of your child's program and ideas for carryover at home.

Good Communication skills lead to successful speaking, thinking, reading, writing, learning and helps students find success in all areas of life.

The Speech-Language Specialists in New Milford are:

Therapist	Home School	Phone Number
Jill Benyamine jbenyamine@nm-psd.org	David E. Owens Middle School	201-261-0939 ext. 3027
Monique Cimbolic mcimbolic@nm-psd.org	District	201-261-0640 ext. 1260
Patty Polizzi-Walker Ppolizzi-walker@nm-psd.org	Gibbs Elementary School	201-261-0939 ext. 5123
Stephanie John sjohn@nm-psd.org	Gibbs Elementary School	201-261-0939
Alisa Broizman abroizman@nm-psd.org	Berkley Elementary School	201-262-0191 ext. 4130