

## Early Intervention & Alternative Programs

We have a variety of programs at Chenango Valley for educating children to their full potential depending on their needs.

Pre-K is available to four-year-old children. There are three morning and three afternoon Pre-K classes. Classes consist of 16 students, a teacher, an aide, and a full-time social worker to provide parent education as an adjunct to the classes. For those who need more than related or itinerant services, classes for preschool disabled students in SED approved programs are available.

In the elementary grades, cluster grouping for reading instruction accommodates a range of learning rates including extra stimulation for advanced students. We have speech therapists who provide either a push-in or pull-out program of speech and language instruction.

Title 1 Reading is available at Port Dickinson and Chenango Bridge to children in small groups through grade six. At the Senior High, teachers may schedule students for individual remediation in the last period of the day. Advanced students may attend regents and/or advanced placement classes. Students may attend BOCES for a full range of occupational programs. Regular remedial classes are offered to students who do not pass state competency tests.

Each school has an academic support room with trained special education teachers offering support instruction. The Academic Support teacher may also, as a consultant teacher, instruct students in the regular classroom setting to assure maximum exposure to the mainstream.

The resource center at the Middle-Senior High School serves classified students as mildly disabled that need intensive tutoring. The intent is to support success in the regular high school curriculum. Students can attend for a period or two of support instruction. The resource teacher can also assist in the regular classroom.

We have modified special education classes with a special education teacher and no more than fifteen students in each class. Students attend regular classes for part of the day, maintaining mainstream participation. There is one class in Port Dickinson and one class in Chenango Bridge. In the Senior High School, modified special classes in English, math, and social studies are taught. Students work toward attainment of competence with adapted academic instruction and modified evaluation. Students in this class can attend special classes 50%+ of the school day but are mainstreamed with grade and age peers at least a portion of the school day. Classes at the Middle-Senior High School are departmentalized for all students.

Students who can most benefit from a practical, functional program can attend special education classes at the BOCES Area Center, where a team of special educators focus on training independence and vocational competence.

Students with severe disabilities may attend small BOCES classes with a teacher, an aide, and no more than eight or ten students.

Intensive instructional support is provided by BOCES for multiply disabled students. These classes have twelve students with four additional aides, plus attend related services.

Residential treatment and hospital instruction can be provided as recommended by physicians to severely disturbed or physically disabled students during treatment.

We provide individual or small group counseling to students to assist them with school-related functioning. A social worker or counselor is assigned to each school to help students who may be experiencing school adjustment problems. Two psychologists also provide counseling.

Occupational and physical therapy are provided through special education as related services to students who need it to promote classroom functioning. We can provide itinerant teachers for the blind and deaf as needed. These services are contracted through BOCES.

Three alternative high school programs are available to at-risk secondary students through BOCES, while Columbus Learning Center, Johnson City, and Endicott Learning Center serve younger students. The fourth program in Vestal picks up juniors or seniors and helps them complete the full high school program. At Chenango Valley we want to nurture the full potential of all our students. We recognize individuality by providing a wide range of program choices in both regular and special education. A full slate of extracurricular offerings encourage development of the whole child and is available to all students without discrimination. Our goal is to provide an appropriate, stimulating, well-rounded education that brings out the best in each of our students. Parents, educators, and the student may choose from among the most suitable classes for each child.

**Chenango Valley Central School District  
Special Education Department  
NEEDS YOUR HELP!!**

If you have a child enrolled in Special Education in the Chenango Valley School District, you are eligible to assist the department at

- new referral meetings (for families unfamiliar with special education).
- annual meetings for all special education students/families.

If you are interested in volunteering at these highly confidential meetings during the school day (half and full), please call for more information:

**Elizabeth DiCosimo  
Director of Special Education  
779-4732**

*The Committee on Special Education is seeking parent members to participate at the CPSE/CSE meetings.*