

News from the Commission for School Ministry

One of the new additions to the St. Jude teaching staff this year is Mrs. Rebecca Wooldridge. Mrs. Wooldridge is a Special Education teacher. She is working to establish a special education program at St. Jude School. This program is known as the St. Jude REACH (Recognizing Excellence in All Children) Program. To ensure the program is used to best suit its purpose, the following entry policy has been approved by the School Commission and the Parish Council.

PLACEMENT PROCEDURE FOR ST. JUDE REACH (Recognizing Excellence in All Children) PROGRAM

Students for the St. Jude REACH Program will be admitted on a case-by-case basis as determined by the Individual Catholic Education Plan (ICEP) Committee and the principal. All students will need to have psychometric testing by a licensed school psychologist for placement consideration. The preferred method is that all psychometric testing be completed through the local public school. If a parent chooses private testing, the private testing must be taken to a public school case conference committee.

Students may begin in the REACH program at the discretion of the ICEP committee, once testing is initiated.

The school General Education Intervention (GEI) process is a mandatory first step before referral to the REACH Program. Placement into the program will be through an evaluation of the student's special needs testing by the ICEP Committee.

The REACH program will work to assist students by providing them with a supportive framework and the least restrictive environment. REACH is an inclusionary program for learners with exceptional needs.

School Commission approved 9-12-2006
Parish Council approved 10-19-2006

Anyone with questions about the REACH program may contact Mrs. Wooldridge or Sister James Michael.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl McAllen
Chairperson
St. Jude Commission for School Ministry