



August 8, 2023

OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

Vision and Beliefs

"The standard is the standard." Mike Tomlin

AAPS OSE TEAM

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Assistant Directors

Mary Wiese
Audra Holdorf
Kim Cieszynski
Sarah Pope
Janine Harper

Coordinators

Cheryl Brown
Shalyn Furton
Makia Alexander
Jerron Bryant
Elena Giolamo

District Support Team

Jen Barnes
Erika Cech
Vicky James
Jessica Lucke
Angela Warr

“We must trust that all students come to us as incredible whole people who do not need to be fixed.”

~Dr. Julie Causton & Dr. Kristie Pretti-Fontczak

All students in the Ann Arbor Public Schools have the right to be educated, to the greatest extent possible in the general education classroom **alongside their peers**. All students will receive **high quality instruction** in the general education curriculum while being provided the supplemental aids and **supports** necessary to achieve the **high expectations** set forth by all educators in the AAPS

WHO WE SERVE

Shared Beliefs

- **All students are general education students** who deserve the right to be educated in the general education environment to the maximum extent possible. All students are provided appropriate individualized interventions, support, and services allowing them to access their education.
- We **prioritize meaningful inclusion** opportunities and access to the general education curriculum.
- All students are **deserving of high expectations**, social-emotional and academic, supported by effective instructional practices in a culturally affirming, responsive manner.

Shared Beliefs cont.

- Staff, students and families are united in the **common commitment of** ensuring success for all learners.
- Families and students are valued as **important partners** in the educational process.
- Staff members are valued as **knowledgeable, experienced, and competent professionals.**
- Community partners are valued as **important allies**, providing resources and support for students and families

OSE Values

- **Collaboration** with building staff for the benefit of all students
- Ensuring best practice through **coaching, guidance, and support**
- **Transformational leadership** of special education best practice and the law
- Leading by **example with integrity**
- **Dependable, predictable, consistent**
- Emphasis on **developing relationships and connections** with leaders, staff and parents
- Dedicated to **positive, responsive communication**
- **Student-centered** decision making
- A **cohesive** voice of the department