



Learning Support Services

The Learning Specialists provide a variety of guidance, services and support for students, faculty, and parents of Mount Tamalpais School. They adhere to strict, professional association guidelines and participate in extended hours of coursework and conferences.

LEARNING SUPPORT

- *The learning specialists provide in-service training for faculty and parents.
- *The learning specialists make referrals for comprehensive testing, enrichment, and educational therapy services for students.
- *The Learning Specialists disseminate information regarding specific educational Internet sites, community support networks, related workshops and conferences and share materials, books and videos of current research-based information with faculty and parents.

TESTING

- *Students may be screened using several standardized batteries of testing instruments in which the learning specialists are trained. Testing results are discussed with parents and administrators and with selected faculty as appropriate.
- *After students are observed in various school settings, referrals for more comprehensive educational evaluations may be made in conjunction with the administration and faculty.
- *Once a specific educational or behavioral plan is decided upon, the learning specialist advocate on behalf of the student and serves as liaisons with outside providers, tutors and therapists.

SMALL GROUP INSTRUCTION

- *Students are selected to attend small group, remedial or enrichment sessions based on observation, faculty or parent concerns, testing information and/or identification of a specific learning difference or need.
- *Students generally attend two small group, forty-five minute sessions each week.
- *The learning specialists are trained in using specific research-based remedial and enrichment programs and in the instructional approaches that teach to the intellect, provide direct, sequential and multi-sensory learning experiences for each child according to his or her individual needs.
- *Students who participate in the program discuss learning styles and multiple intelligences and develop awareness, appropriate techniques, learning strategies and organizational skills.
- *Sessions specifically target phonological awareness skills, decoding, spelling, reading comprehension, handwriting, written expression skills including, grammar, sentence structure, paragraph formation, and editing. *Enrichment sessions help to extend higher order thinking processes and foster creativity.

Students often use assistive technology such as computers and specialized educational software programs.

The learning specialists are available throughout the school year to answer any questions or concerns and are accessible through the school office at extension 160.

*For further information please visit the student services section of the Mount Tamalpais School website www.mttam.org