

**Bow School District
Special Education Department
32 White Rock Hill Road
Bow, NH 03304
(603) 224-3095 Ext. 310**

**SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT REPORT
PREPARED JANUARY 24, 2011 FOR FEBRUARY 3, 2011
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**

Bow School District preschool services include both a **related service model** and a **center-based Preschool program at the Bow Elementary School**. The related service model may include Speech/Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and/or Behavioral Consultation/Intervention for preschool students who do not attend the Bow Preschool program. Students may come to the school and receive therapy services only and not participate in the Preschool Program. These students may attend private preschools, daycare centers or are home schooled.

The center-based Preschool Program provides a language-based, developmentally appropriate classroom experience for 3 and 4 year old children. Therapy, academic and behavioral support services are provided during classroom time for children who require them and have Individual Education Program (IEP) or Child Study Team (CST) plan. Children with IEP and CST plans are priority placements in the program. Children without special needs are accepted as “peer models” on a space available basis. Our goal is to provide a fully integrated program with 50% of students being peer models. However, this may vary from year to year depending on the number of students with IEP’s/CST’s placed in the program. Three-year old students attend on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Four-year olds attend on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Occasionally a student may require more time in the program and might attend 4 or 5 days per week or have an extended day. This decision is made on an individual basis.

The preschool operates for 2.5 hours per day, the same hours as the Bow Kindergarten program: 7:55 to 10:30. Currently there are 7 students in the Tues/Thurs group and 11 students in the Mon/Wed/Fri group. Currently, two students attend the program five days per week. Many of these students receive Speech/Language, Occupational or Physical Therapy services. The School Psychologist or Behavior Specialist is involved with behavior/social issues on an as needed basis.

Classroom staff includes a teacher certified in Early Childhood Education, General Special Education, and is also licensed Speech Language Pathologist. Her duties include teaching the preschool classroom five mornings per week, supervising/training the Speech Language Assistant, providing direct Speech Language Therapy services, Academic and Speech Language Evaluations, case management for Special Education, Section 504, CST, and child find students. A classroom assistant and Speech Language Assistant are also assigned to the classroom five mornings per week. As needed, individual students may require a one-to-one assistant due to significant developmental, medical or behavioral needs.

Our preschool special educator, Lee Ann Michelin will be retiring at the end of this school year and will certainly be missed.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel J. Ferreira

Director of Special Education