
Special Act Public School Districts

Special Act Districts are public school districts established by the NYS legislature to provide education and related services to students with behavioral, cognitive, and/or physical disabilities. These schools serve some of the state's neediest students and are often the last option available when a home district is unable to provide appropriate academics and supports. While most students live on campus, many day students come from area schools.

WE ARE

There are currently 9 Special Act Districts in the state, down from the original total of 20.

Six of these districts are located in Westchester County:

Greenburgh-Graham Union Free School District, Hastings-On-Hudson

Greenburgh Eleven Union Free School District, Dobbs Ferry

Greenburgh North Castle Union Free School District, Dobbs Ferry

Hawthorne Cedar Knolls Union Free School District, Hawthorne

Mount Pleasant Blythedale Union Free School District, Valhalla

Mount Pleasant Cottage Union Free School District, Pleasantville

Special Act Districts are also located:

George Junior Republic UFSD, Freeville; Little Flower UFSD, Wading River; Randolph Academy UFSD, Randolph

WE SERVE

Students with emotional, educational and physical challenges, and often victims of abuse and neglect.

Our students are drawn mainly from New York City, Westchester, Putnam, and Rockland Counties, as well as Long Island, and remain in our districts from several months to many years.

WE LACK

Sufficient resources to support our students.

Special Act tuition rates are based on costs from 2 years prior to the current year.

Tuition rates don't account for changing student population, staffing, TRS, ERS, and healthcare.

WE NEED

A tuition rate that is set before the school year starts,

with growth rates that include funds for NYS mandates & allows for programs / staffing to meet students' needs.

Authority to establish a 4% unappropriated reserve fund,

as allowed by all other NY public schools.

Additional funding for COVID-related expenses, as well as safety and security,

in response to new Raise the Age placements.

Treatment consistent with all other NYS public school districts,

not as residential treatment centers.
