

## Individualized Programs

Planning for students with special education needs will take place in PPT meetings; the Individualized Education Program (IEP) will continue to serve as the student's individualized program. Students enrolled in the program and mandated for special education services have an active IEP upon enrollment. The IEP is accepted and followed in the program unless changes are recommended through the IEP process.

## Curriculum and Coursework

The ALPSS Collaborative Learning Program follows the district's high school curriculum. With input from the student, their family and their prior educators, our multi-disciplinary staff establishes the optimum combination of differentiated instructional strategies and specialized interventions tailored to each student's unique learning style and counseling needs in order to optimize academic success and promote social-emotional stability.

## Admissions Process

With written permission from the parent or legal guardian, a comprehensive review of records is completed by the teacher, clinician and program consultant. In general, the following process is followed:

- The program administrator schedules an initial intake appointment with the family and the student.
- The program teacher and clinician meet with the student and family for the intake.
- The student stays at the program for the day.
- The program team meets at the end of the day to discuss their observations and make recommendations regarding programming.

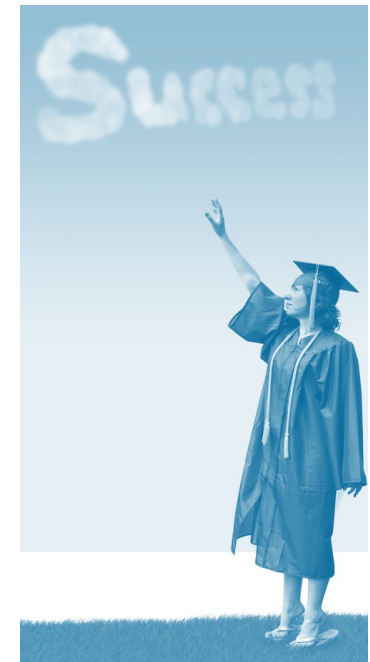
## Additional Information

If you have questions about the program or would like additional information, please contact Carl Gross, Director of Pupil Services at (860)824-5639.



## *Alternative Learning Program for School Success*

A Collaborative Learning Program between Wheeler Clinic and Region One School District at Housatonic Valley Regional High School



# ALPSS Collaborative Learning Program

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The ALPSS Collaborative Learning Program provides a supportive learning environment for high school students who experience social, emotional and/or behavioral difficulties in school. This innovative public-private partnership between the Region One School District and Wheeler Clinic offers an integrated educational and clinical program in a small classroom setting. The program is located at Housatonic Valley Regional High School.

The program is designed to effectively work with students with behavioral and emotional issues that negatively impact their learning. The primary goals of the Collaborative Learning Program are to:

- Improve academic performance.
- Develop skills for managing the academic and social demands of school.
- Keep students connected to their high school program.
- Transition students back to the mainstream high school when ready.

The ALPSS Collaborative Learning Program meets the unique needs of each student by engaging the student, family/caregiver and school district in the development of an individualized program to clearly define academic and behavioral goals across multiple domains.

## **Multi-Disciplinary Team**

Our multi-disciplinary team-based model helps students make academic progress by looking at the whole child. This approach assesses the child's educational, social, emotional, cognitive, environmental, familial, and behavioral needs to develop a plan and determine the best strategy to address issues that impact learning. We work closely with families to include them as an integral and vital component of this process.

## **Comprehensive Clinical, Therapeutic and Behavioral Support**

The ALPSS Collaborative Learning Program offers a combination of individual, group, and family counseling in addition to a supportive classroom-based therapeutic component. All counseling services are provided by an experienced clinician who is familiar with providing clinical services in

school settings. Clinical services are viewed as an integrated and supportive adjunct to the students' education; as such, in addition to "pull-out" clinical sessions, the clinician is present in the classroom to support the program's milieu-based therapeutic approach. The clinician also collaborates with existing community providers who are involved with the students in the program.

## **Family Engagement**

Families are integral to ensure their child's success in school. Families are encouraged and supported to be involved with the admissions process and initial plan development, as well as monitoring goal progress, identifying needs and solutions as the student faces challenges, participating in school-based meetings, developing a re-entry plan into the mainstream and advocating for their child.

## **Motivating Students**

Student success depends not only on external opportunities and structure, but on the student's investment in their own success. In addition to active involvement in the development of his or her plan, the student is encouraged to set personal goals and to monitor his or her progress toward meeting those goals.