

IOWA PARK CISD



Dyslexia

What is Dyslexia?

Dyslexia is a neurological condition caused by a different wiring of the brain. People with dyslexia struggle to read and spell words correctly. Dyslexia may also cause difficulties with phonological awareness, reading comprehension, and language skills.

These difficulties have no connection to their overall intelligence. While people with dyslexia are slow readers, they have strengths in other areas.

Dyslexia can't be "cured"- it is lifelong. But with the right supports, including systematic and explicit reading instruction, students can physically rewire the brain and improve reading. Individuals with dyslexia can become highly successful students and adults.



Common Characteristics of Dyslexia

Difficulty decoding words

Difficulty spelling

Difficulty with oral reading

What else might be seen?

- Tendency to avoid reading (particularly for pleasure)
- Resistance to reading aloud
- Trouble with notetaking
- Deflated self-esteem that can seem to be a lack of motivation

Dyslexia Identification

Screening

All public school students are required to be screened for dyslexia while in kindergarten and 1st grade. Additionally, students enrolling in public schools in Texas must be assessed for dyslexia and related disorders "at appropriate times" (TEC 38.003(a)).

In IPCISD, we follow the Texas Education Agency (TEA) requirement that the Student Support Team must determine if a student has characteristics of dyslexia. A single pathway is used in making this decision. A dyslexia evaluation may be requested at any time.

Considerations

- Poor academic performance in one or more areas of reading and spelling that is unexpected for the student's age/grade.
- Average or better understanding of information that is delivered orally or absent of print.

Data Gathering

Data is collected on the student regarding performance in class (grades) and on district and state tests. Additionally, vision and hearing tests are administered to rule out any complications. Adequate instruction and participation and progress with reading interventions is considered. As always, parent observations and input are critical.

The Student Support Team will review the data to determine if a Full and Individual Initial Evaluation through Special Education is needed.

Formal Assessment

Parents are notified and permission is acquired before the Full and Individual Initial Evaluation begins. An educational diagnostician and a dyslexia therapist will collaborate to complete the Full and Individual Initial Evaluation which measures academic skills and cognitive processes related to dyslexia.

Dyslexia Identification Cont.

Recommendations & Notification

The ARD committee will determine if a student:

- Has been identified as having characteristics of dyslexia.
- Needs accommodations to support learning in the classroom.
- Needs accommodations for district and state assessments.

Accommodations for the classroom and/or district and state assessments are based on individual student need and must be routinely used in the classroom. Accommodations will be documented for effectiveness and may be adjusted as needed.

Refer to the TEA (www.tea.state.tx.us) website for current state testing accommodations.

Effective Instruction

Instruction is provided by a certified teacher trained in dyslexia and related disorders. This includes class settings with intensive, systematic, sequential, and multi-sensory instruction.

Misconceptions of Dyslexia:

- Dyslexia is not a result of low intelligence. (An **unexpected** gap exists between learning aptitude and achievement.)
- The problem is not behavioral, psychological, motivational, or social.
- People with dyslexia do not “see backward.”

(Source: International Dyslexia Association)

Resources

Texas Education Agency

<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/special-student-populations/dyslexia-and-related-disorders>

The Dyslexia Handbook, 2021 Update

<https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/texas-dyslexia-handbook-2021.pdf>

<http://texastalkingbooks.org/>

Learning Ally

<https://learningally.org/>

Bookshare

www.bookshare.org

<https://childfindtx.tea.texas.gov/index.html>

International Dyslexia Association

<http://http://dyslexiaida.org/>

Texas Dyslexia Helpline 1.800.232.3030

<https://www.region10.org/programs/dyslexia-statewide/overview/>

Texas Regional Education Service Centers

Education Service Centers

[ESC Region 9 Dyslexia Department](#)

<https://www.esc18.net/apps/pages/dyslexia>

For the kids!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=65psPXWzNic>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=11r7CFIK2sc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zafiGBrFkRM&t=10s>

Iowa Park CISD

Dyslexia

IPCISD Dyslexia/Dysgraphia

<https://www.ipcisd.net/Domain/682>

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Our MISSION: Every student with dyslexia, through intervention and support, will become a life-long learner and thrive in their academic and professional life.