

PLANNING & DEVELOPING A SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAM

This is an example of a classical school planning for the establishment of a special needs program.

Convictions

- We must sustain, refine, and build on our classical model.
- We must consider how we can best assist students with learning differences or special challenges.
- Strong, ongoing professional development is a high priority.

The Committee's Work

1. Define "special learning needs" or any other terms deemed necessary.
2. Articulate how we are currently addressing these needs, grades Pre-K to 12th.
3. Articulate what we as a school could do to better serve the students we have with learning differences.
4. Use resources from the CLSA, ACSI, ACCS, or other organizations that equip schools such as ours.
5. Collect information from at least 10 other Christian schools as to what they offer and how - in the classroom, pull-out services, testing, parent education, teacher training, etc. *(Half of these should be classical schools. Receive any written documents they may have that address this topic. No need to reinvent the wheel. Let's discover excellent work that is already being accomplished.)*
6. Deeply consider our classical program and what we could do to meet special needs while using our rich curriculum. Simply Classical is one excellent resource to help with this. Are there others?
7. Answer the questions of "why" and generally "what", without getting too detailed about the "how". Think *vision*. If money were not a concern in this, where would we like to be five years from now?
8. Identify any steps that need to be taken over the next two years.
9. Identify any other questions to be answered.
10. Contact Memoria Press' special services advisor, Cheryl Swope (cherylswope@memoriapress.com), for guidance and support.

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