

**Disabilities supported by  
Athens Area School District:**

Autism  
Deaf/Blindness  
Emotional Disturbance  
Gifted  
Hearing Impairment including Deafness  
Intellectually Disabled  
Multiple Disabilities  
Orthopedic Impairment  
Other Health Impairment  
Specific Learning disability  
Speech or Language Impairment  
Traumatic Brain Injury  
Visual Impairment including Blindness

**Services available to students of  
Athens Area School District:**

- ◇ Autistic Support
- ◇ Emotional Support
- ◇ Gifted Support
- ◇ Hearing Support
- ◇ Learning Support
- ◇ Life Skills Support
- ◇ Speech & Language Support
- ◇ Vision Support

**Related Services offered:**

Special Transportation  
Audiological Services  
Psychological Services  
Physical Therapy  
Occupational Therapy  
Counseling Services  
Parent Counseling, Training  
Speech and Language Pathology/Therapy  
Adaptive Physical Education  
Behavior Intervention Program  
Assistive Technology Devices and Services  
Rehabilitation Counseling  
Interpreter  
Orientation and Mobility  
Work Experience  
Extended School Year  
Aide Assistance

**Athens Area School District**

**Craig Stage**  
Superintendent  
570-888-7766, ext. 4247

**Jenny Shores**  
Business Manager  
570-888-7766, ext. 4249

**Special Services Department (opt 5)**

**Corey Mosher**  
Director of Special Services  
100 Canal Street Athens, PA 18810  
570-888-7766, ext. 4291

**Neil Wheaton**  
Intervention Specialist  
570-888-7766 ext. 4285

**Amy Reed**  
School Psychologist  
Lynch Bustin Elementary  
570-888-7766, ext. 4286

**Laura Donath**  
School Psychologist  
SRU Elementary/High School  
570-888-7766, ext. 4288

**Kirsten Miller**  
School Psychologist  
Harlan Rowe Middle School  
570-888-7766 ext. 4295

**Kirsten DeLosa**  
Transition Coordinator  
570-888-7766

**Katie Coe**  
Student Services Coordinator  
570-888-7766, ext. 4289

**Lisa Horton**  
Student Services Coordinator/Title 1  
570-888-7766, ext. 4351

# Athens Area School District

## Student Services Department

Mr. Corey Mosher  
Director of Student Services

## Annual Notice of Offerings For Students

2024-2025



Athens Area School District recognizes that every student has particular learning needs. These needs can be addressed through a regular education class; inclusion in a regular class with supportive services; a special education class; or a special program. To develop an effective educational program for each student, identification activities are available to discover individual strengths and weaknesses. This is done with specially trained personnel having the goal of choosing an appropriate educational setting for each child. The identification process can be initiated by the school or by parent request. Our district is committed to providing each student the opportunity to maximize their individual learning potential. Thus, we provide a continuum of educational settings to accommodate each student.

Athens Area School District routinely conducts screenings, as prescribed in section 1402 of the PA School Code, of:

**Hearing Acuity:** kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, 7<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grades, referrals from other grades as well as parent requests, for all students prior to a psychological evaluation

**Vision Acuity:** kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade as well as at all kindergarten registrations, and by parent request, for all students prior to a psychological evaluation

**Speech and Language Assessments:** through referrals, parent requests, and screenings for kindergarten and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students.

**Dental Exams** are required and offered to students in grades 1, 3, and 7.

**Physical Exams** are required and offered to students in kindergarten and grades 6 and 11.

Gross motor and fine motor skills, academic skills, social/emotional skills are assessed by classroom teachers on an on-going basis. Specified needs from all these screening sources are noted within the child's official file. *These confidential school records are always open to parents, and only available to school officials who have a legitimate need to know' information about the child.*

Information from the records is released to other persons or agencies only with appropriate authorization which involves signed permission from the parents. Parents with concerns regarding their student may contact their building principal at any time to discuss their child having a screening or possible consideration for the **Child Study Team (CST)** for their child. Communication with parents and students with disabilities will be in English or the native language of the parents.

Screening information will be used by the **CST** team within the student's school to meet his/her specific needs or to document the need for further evaluation. This intervention process is a required element prior to evaluation. If it is determined that a child needs additional services, the team will make adjustments relative to such things as the child's learning style, behavior, physical inabilities, and speech problems to be more in keeping with traditional classroom expectations. When the evaluations are completed, an **Evaluation Report (ER)** is developed and will include specific information as to whether the child has a disability. Parents participate in a meeting where the results of the evaluation will be discussed, and a placement will be decided. An **Individual Educational Program (IEP)** will be developed with specialized services for the student which will aid him/her to become academically successful. Parents are an integral part of the IEP team and need to be physically present at the IEP Team Meeting. The district will make every effort to insure parent participation. The Special Services Office will notify parents in writing, make documented phone calls, or employ other means to make parents aware of the IEP conference and the need for parental participation. Parents are given a **Notice of Recommended Educational Placement (NOREP)** with which they may agree or disagree. If at any time, the parents or the teachers don't feel the program is working to the maximum benefit of the student, they have the right to call a new IEP Team meeting to discuss how we might better meet the student's needs.

Athens Area School District provides the above-mentioned screening activities throughout the

school year. However, if, as a parent, you feel a need to have your child screened for learning problems or a possible disability, please contact the principal of your child's school. Your request will be channeled to either the CST team or the Director of Special Services, whichever is appropriate. For further information about these procedures or information about early intervention, parent's rights, mediation, due process procedures, or specific special education services please contact:

Mr. Corey Mosher, Director of Student Services  
Student Services Office  
100 Canal Street  
Athens PA 18810

You may also contact Mr. Mosher by phone, fax, and email: PH: (570) 888-7766 opt. 5, ext. 4291  
FAX: (570) 882.6288  
[cmosher@athensasd.k12.pa.us](mailto:cmosher@athensasd.k12.pa.us)

If, for some reason, you should need or require more information, you may call the Intermediate Unit's Procedural Safeguards Coordinator at:  
(570) 323-8561

As a parent, you have the right to obtain an independent evaluation for your child at public expense if you disagree with an evaluation conducted by AASD. An independent evaluation is an evaluation by a qualified professional who is not an employee of AASD. Again, contact Erick Cummings, Director of Special Services to discuss this possibility.

Each child is of prime importance to us at Athens Area School District. They come to us but once and we promise to make that experience the best possible for them. We need to build foundations for their future.

*Athens Area School District's Mission Statement:*

***'Building Foundations  
For Future Success!'***

Parents and school working together,  
collaboratively, insures success for your children  
and our students.