

LINKS Course Application

LINKS Course Description

LINKS is about creating connections within a diverse group of students and ensuring that all students are acknowledged for what makes them different and what makes them the same as their peers. The student enrolled in the LINKS course will be a mentor, role model, and friend to a student with a disability or within the NSA setting. In this role, the LINKS Program student will be with their assigned peer for a minimum of one class period per day, and they will be interacting with their peer throughout social and academic activities during the entire school day. In addition to being a mentor, role model, and friend, they will assist the peer student in such things as appropriate classroom behavior, organization of assignments and supplies, and focusing on what the teacher is presenting or the classroom activities.

The LINK student will attend a bi-weekly Case Conference during a FLEX time to discuss the progress of their peer student, and contribute ideas on how to more effectively help the peer student progress toward his/her goals. During a normal school week, the LINK student will also be required to complete disability awareness lessons using an online classroom environment as well as FLEX time every other week. The LINK will learn more about the causes and prevalence of many common disabilities, methods/techniques for working with individuals with disabilities, developing social networking supports, and developing a social climate of awareness, acceptance, and inclusion.

Know that the LINKS teacher reserves the right to place you in whatever school setting you will be most helpful.

Student's Name: _____ **Age:** _____

Grade Level in 2026-27: ☐ 10th ☐ 11th ☐ 12th **Numbers of absences from school in 2025-26:** _____

PREFERRED PLACEMENT: ___MOCI ___MICI ___RESOURCE ROOM ___NSA ___Elementary School

*** Understand that your preferred placement will be considered but will be placed where you may be most helpful.***

Placement Considerations

Please honestly mark any areas of academic strength or weakness that you have. Mark as many that apply. Academic strengths and weaknesses do not benefit or hinder students' acceptance into the LINKS course. This information is used in the scheduling process, and is used for placing students with peers in appropriate classrooms.

Student's Academic Strengths:

☐ Math ☐ Language Arts ☐ Science ☐ Social Studies ☐ Art ☐ Music ☐ P.E. ☐ Tech. Education

Student's Academic Weaknesses:

☐ Math ☐ Language Arts ☐ Science ☐ Social Studies ☐ Art ☐ Music ☐ P.E. ☐ Tech. Education

Recommendation Signatures

It is important that students who participate in the Links course are independent and reliable students. Please have two teachers, counselors, extracurricular coaches or supervisors, or school administrators sign this application - indicating that they would recommend you as a candidate for this course.

Printed Name & Staff Position

Printed Name & Staff Position

Signature

Date

Signature

Date

Student and Parent Signatures

Applying Student's Signature

Date

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date

***Please see the reverse side of the application for essay instructions.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Please include, and attach to your application, a short essay on why you would like to take this course and why you feel disability awareness is important in your school community. Please keep the essay to one page or shorter.