Berlin Township

Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

John F. Kennedy Elementary

Director of Special Services Kristin Braidwood Principal
Michael Murphy

Overview of our Program

John F. Kennedy Elementary School in West Berlin, Camden County is home to self-contained preK-5 Total Communication Classrooms. The Teacher of the Deaf instructs daily lessons using a combination of sign language, voice, fingerspelling, lipreading, amplification, writing, gestures and pictures.

The classrooms are equipped with a Frontrow Pro Digital System for additional access to spoken language. The students also use personal FM systems. The classrooms are wall-to-wall carpeted to reduce additional acoustic disturbances.

The daily routine of each classroom is infused with language promoting activities and interactions. Instruction is devoted to developing listening, speech, language, literacy and communication skills. Literacy, mathematics and content lessons come to life with hands-on manipulatives and use of the Smart Board and Pad for instruction.

The staff and students warmly welcome our Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, making American Sign Language and awareness of the Deaf Community a part of the school culture!

For More Information

<u>Contact</u> Kristin Braidwood; <u>Kbraidwood@btwpschools.org</u> 856-767-9480 x1117

Inclusion is Important!

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It is critical for our students to spend time with peer models for social and linguistic exposure.

Students spend time with hearing peers during:

- Specials
- ✓ Lunch/Recess
- ✓ Class Parties
- ✓ Content

When it is appropriate, there is also the opportunity for mainstreaming services for the students. This allows for instructional opportunities with age/academically appropriate neers.

- ✓ Resource Room
- ✓ Regular Education Class

Support of a Certified Educational Interpreter

In-class Support and Related Services

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- ✓ TODs/ Paraprofessionals Fluent in ASL and Signed English
- ✓ Educational Interpreters
- ✓ Speech, Occupational and Physical Therapy
- ✓ Consultation with Audiologists