West Lake preschool provides a continuum of services for young children. Services include:

- Preschool Screenings
- Early Childhood Programs
- Itinerant Speech-Language Therapy
- Consultation to Community
- Preschool Programs

“Through active learning—having direct and immediate experiences and deriving meaning from these experiences through reflection—young children construct knowledge that helps them make sense of their world.”

Mary Hohmann and David P. Weikart in *Educating Young Children*

Updated October 2015
SERVICES

SCREENING
West Lake Special Education Cooperative provides screenings throughout the school year for children ages 2 yrs. 9 mos. to 5 yrs. old, who reside in the districts of Lake Central School Corporation or School Town of Munster.

The screening is a global assessment of a child’s developmental functioning as compared to his/her peers of similar age and gender.

To make an appointment for a screening contact Sara Pietrzak at 365-8507. Screening locations alternate between Schererville Town Hall and Munster Town Hall.

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM*
The West Lake Early Childhood Program is offered at most Lake Central Elementary Schools and Frank H. Hammond Elementary School in Munster. The early childhood classrooms provide a developmentally appropriate, structured classroom experience for children with disabilities and community preschoolers. The classrooms meet individual needs through curriculums that foster the development of the whole child: intellectually, physically, socially, and emotionally.

The Early Childhood Program offers:

- A multidisciplinary staff including a licensed teacher, para professionals, speech-language pathologist or speech-language assistant, physical and occupational therapists or assistants, psychologist, and school service provider.
- A low staff to student ratio, allowing individualized attention to each child’s needs.
- A family-focused approach including parent conferences, home visits, informational meeting for parents, and frequent communication between home and school.
- Creative curriculum is a curriculum based on the needs, abilities, and interests of children.
- A daily routine providing structure and security which includes activities to promote fine and gross motor, concepts, language and social/emotional development.
- Children attend either a morning or afternoon class.
- Children eligible for special education services have an individualized education program (IEP) based on their strengths and needs.

Community Preschoolers
Community preschoolers are invited to register by calling 365-8507 for more information. Children learn from each other as well as from adults. The early childhood program promotes a multi-ability environment. We believe it is important that the classroom reflect a wide range of skills and abilities.

Tuition for Community Preschoolers

- 2 days per week- $100 a month
- 3 days per week- $135 a month
- 4 days per week- $150 a month
- 5 days per week- $195 a month

ITINERANT SPEECH–LANGUAGE THERAPY*
This program is designed for children identified with speech and/or language impairment. The itinerant speech–language therapy is offered at one public school building in Lake Central School Corporation and one public school building in the School Town of Munster.

CONSULTATION SERVICES*
Consultation services are designed for children with an individualized education program (IEP) who attend a community preschool within the school district.

* Services for children with individualized education programs (IEP) will be recommended by the child’s case conference committee, following an assessment.

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