



# SHARON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

75 Mountain Street, Sharon, MA 02067 Tel: 781-784-1570

---

Peter Botelho Ed.D., Superintendent

Joel Jocelyn, Ed.D. Assistant Superintendent Ellen Whittemore, M.Ed., Assistant Superintendent

## Sharon Middle School

### LEAP Program

#### Grades 6-8

### Language Based Extension for Academic Progress (LEAP)

The Language Based Extension for Academic Progress (LEAP) is a program within the Sharon Elementary, Middle, and High School levels. LEAP at Sharon Middle School is designed for students who have a Specific Learning Disability in reading, writing, and/or have been diagnosed with a Communication Disorder.

The Special Education Teachers within the LEAP program support students in their literacy needs through co-taught core content area classes and specialized academic lab class(es). Students in the LEAP program are cohorted so that there is a co-teacher present. Students in the LEAP program may require scaffolding, accommodations, and/or modifications to support their needs. During the academic lab block, students will be supported with pre-teaching, and re-teaching of material, learning executive functioning skills and targeted remediation and support of reading and writing skills. The goal of the LEAP program is to provide literacy instruction and support to students in order to ensure access to the core curriculum. Students who require it may receive instruction via small group replacement ELA and/or math. Students who require systematic, rules-based phonics instruction also will receive that as part of their programming.

#### **Staffing:**

1 Special Education Teacher at each grade level (6th,7th,8th) with additional specialists as required: Speech and Language Pathologist (as applicable), counseling support as appropriate, Occupational Therapist (as needed).

---

Sharon Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, homelessness, national origin, religion, sex or sexual orientation.



# SHARON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

75 Mountain Street, Sharon, MA 02067 Tel: 781-784-1570

Peter Botelho Ed.D., Superintendent

Joel Jocelyn, Ed.D. Assistant Superintendent Ellen Whittemore, M.Ed., Assistant Superintendent

## **Entrance Criteria**

The LEAP program may be proposed for students with:

- Identification of a Specific Learning Disability in reading, writing , Communication Disorder, or a Language Based Learning Disability.
  - Speech and language testing is necessary if a team is proposing LEAP.
- On an academic/ MCAS track to meet graduation requirements.<sup>1</sup>
- May require continued direct decoding instruction supplemental to the work done in the LEAP program specialized academic lab. (Not a necessary need to be considered for LEAP)
- With support, accommodations and modifications are able to access some or all of the general education curriculum.
- Typically students within the LEAP program at Sharon Elementary Schools will transition and continue within the program at SMS. IEP teams may propose LEAP for students who have consistently demonstrated difficulty with language based skills in reading, writing and/or oral language across curriculum areas.

## **Exit Criteria**

- Support is decreased based on data collection demonstrating the attainment of strategies and increased independence within the general education classroom settings.
- Students may transition within the LEAP program to the High School level, based on their continued educational needs.

---

<sup>1</sup> updated 11/22