## **Autistic Support**

Autistic Support programs are for students who have a developmental disability that significantly affects verbal and nonverbal communication, social interaction, and educational performance. Students with autism spectrum disorders vary in their need for school support. Individualized Education Plans determine the level of need for students with autism. Inclusion in regular education is always the starting point for the consideration of a school-based program. Specialized programming is then determined to meet individual student needs. Students with more significant needs due to autism may participate in an autistic support classroom with varying degrees of inclusion in the regular education classroom, depending on their individual needs and strengths. Itinerant, supplemental, and full-time autistic support is available to students from K-12. These services are provided at Tracy Elementary, Belle Valley Elementary, Westlake Middle School, JS Wilson Middle School, McDowell Intermediate High School, and McDowell High School.