Welcome

In our quest to support students with disabilities, their families and their friends, the work of TrueNorth Educational Cooperative 804 is grounded in values of justice, inclusion, and equity.

TrueNorth was first established in 1960 as the Northern Suburban Special Education District (NSSED) to share resources among member school districts to meet the needs of all students requiring special education programs and services.

TrueNorth Educational Cooperative 804 provides special education services and programs, professional learning, coaching and consultation to 18 member districts. This Guidebook highlights the services and programs offered by TrueNorth. Please email info@truenorth804.org or visit truenorth804.org for more information.

Kurt A. Schneider, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Services and Programs

TrueNorth serves every learner, every day by providing a wide array of programs and services designed to give students access to the highest levels of learning. Informed by research and policy, TrueNorth supports member districts in their efforts to increase inclusive opportunities that promote high expectations, engagement, and growth for all learners.

Systemic Support for Inclusive Practices

The TrueNorth Educational Cooperative 804 Comprehensive Systems Assessment tool supports school districts with systemic implementation. This Comprehensive Systems Assessment currently includes the following components:

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TrueNorth coaching and consultation provides the connection between learning and the application and integration of new skills in schools and classrooms. Coaching Systemic Implementation of Social Emotional Learning (SEL) is designed to partner with districts in their process of implementing SEL and facilitate the thinking of team members.
Preschool through Transition

**Early Childhood Services**

TrueNorth provides early childhood services and programs in community-based preschool partnership sites and integrated public school classrooms. TrueNorth supports learners in a play-based learning environment driven by best practices in Early Childhood learning standards, social emotional learning, and pre-academic development.

For more information about Early Childhood Services, call Lynn Clarke, Director of Instruction, at (847) 831-5100 x2128.

**Supported Learning Environments (SLE)**

SLE services support students in grades K - 12 with developmental delays, cognitive disabilities, autism, and multiple disabilities. Using general education curriculum with supplemental resources, students develop academic, social-emotional, communication, vocational, and life skills using the TrueNorth Essential Skills curriculum.

For more information about SLE, call Lynn Clarke, Director of Instruction, at (847) 831-5100 x2128.

**Transition Services**

The TrueNorth Transition Services department supports students aged 18-22 with individualized services focused on all areas of the student’s transition plan. Vocational training, functional academic application, independent living, and leisure and recreational skills are all available through TrueNorth Transition Services.

For more information about Transition Services, call Lynn Clarke, Director of Instruction, at (847) 831-5100 x2128.

**Related and Itinerant Services**

TrueNorth provides related and itinerant services. Services include Adapted Physical Education, Health, Integrated Assistive Technology, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech and Language, and Vision.

For information about our Vision Program, call Lynn Clarke, Director of Instruction, at (847) 831-5100 x2128.

For information about all other Related and Itinerant Services, call Dr. Carol Michels, Director of District Services, at (847) 831-5100 x2254.
Professional Growth

Professional Learning
TrueNorth offers a variety of Professional Learning opportunities to all member staff. Access the online catalog at truenorth804.org/professionallearning.

Coaching and Consultation
Coaching and consultation can target needs at the individual student, classroom, school, or district-levels to meet the academic and behavioral needs and improve the outcomes of all students. These services are designed to support and complement the instruction and services that students are receiving in their home districts and communities.

For more information about Professional Learning, Coaching and Consultation Services, call Lindsay Kiraly, Director, at (847) 831-5100 x2415.

Therapeutic Day Schools

North Shore Academy and Elementary Schools
North Shore Academy is a K-12 therapeutic day school across two buildings that serves learners with social, emotional, and behavioral needs through:

- Supportive attendance
- Service learning classes with opportunities to volunteer in the community
- Brain science and speaking presentations

To learn more about how North Shore Academy Elementary can help your students, call Erin Claydon, Principal at (847) 291-7905 x3150.

To learn more about how North Shore Academy can help your students, call Kendra Wallace, Principal at (847) 831-0603 x1100.

Arbor Academy
Arbor Academy primarily serves students on the autism spectrum or with similar learning profiles.

Arbor Academy provides instruction in language development, communication skills, generalization skills, and behavioral intervention with a basis in principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) in classrooms supported by a Board Certified Behavior Analyst and an Instructional Coach. Plus, monthly “early release” days enable specific work with families in the home environment.

To learn more about how Arbor Academy can help your learners, call Sabrina Beaudry, Principal at (847) 831-5100 x0603.
TrueNorth Educational Cooperative 804 provides special education and related services, coaching and consultation to 18 member districts. Until July 1, 2021, the cooperative was called Northern Suburban Special Education District (NSSED).

TrueNorth has 18 member districts, 14 are elementary districts and 4 high school districts.

- Northbrook School District 27
- Northbrook School District 28
- Sunset Ridge School District 29
- Northbrook/Glenview School District 30
- West Northfield School District 31
- Lake Bluff School District 65
- Lake Forest School District 67
- Bannockburn School District 106
- Deerfield Public School District 109
- North Shore School District 112
- Township High School District 113
- Lake Forest High School District 115
- New Trier High School District 203
- Glenbrook High School District 225
- Glenview School District 34
- Glencoe School District 35
- Winnetka School District 36
- Kenilworth School District 38

There are 37,217 students in the TrueNorth member districts. Of those students, 5,076 (13.6%) have Individualized Education Plans and receive services under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Although data is not available at a regional or state level, additional students receive services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Locations

North Shore Academy and Arbor Academy
754 Red Oak Lane
Highland Park, IL 60035
(847) 831-0603

North Shore Academy Elementary
255 Revere Drive
Northbrook, IL 60062
(847) 291-7905

Rubloff Building
776 Red Oak Lane
Highland Park, IL 60035
(847) 831-5100

District Services Center
760 Red Oak Lane
Highland Park, IL 60035
(847) 831-5100

Contact Us

Coach and Professional Learning Services
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Educational and Life Skills Transition Services
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Early Childhood Programs and Services
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North Shore Academy
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North Shore Academy Elementary
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Arbor Academy
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Vision Program
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Get Social With Us!
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@TrueNorth804