

## Consultation & Support Team

Customized teams from TST BOCES' helping school districts assess, reflect and strategize, to support the successful inclusion of pupils with disabilities in their home schools.

### How are referrals made?

A request can be made by teachers, parents, therapists or other team members to their district's CSE or school principal. A written referral is then completed by the CSE Chair or school principal. The request for services can take a variety of forms from a one-time assessment and recommendation process to on-going support where CAST meets on a regular basis with educational team members.

## A Circle of Courage School

Because of our strong belief in the Circle of Courage, we do all we can to help students achieve a sense of Belonging, Mastery, Independence and Generosity toward others. We believe that these skills build on each other and are necessary for success in school and in the world. We expect students to understand these goals and contribute toward their development by participating in classroom and group activities, setting and working toward their individual goals, helping to maintain a safe school environment and contributing what they can to the school community.



For more information:  
[www.starr.org/training/youth](http://www.starr.org/training/youth)

## Contact Us

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# CAST

*Designed to support the inclusion of pupils with disabilities in their home school settings.*

*A collaborative effort between*



**RACKER CENTERS**

*Continuing the Mission of the Special Children's Center*

*and*

# TST BOCES

TOMPKINS • SENECA • TIOGA

Department of Exceptional Education  
Coser 320.00

## Who is Involved?

CAST members who participate in referrals are selected from Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES staff including special education teachers, Occupational Therapists, Speech Therapists, Vision Specialists, Psychologists, Crisis Intervention Trainers or others.

Franziska Racker Center staff are often also involved, including counselors and psychologists.

CAST generally involves a team effort with more than one CAST member providing support for a particular referral. For instance, a request for staff training to deal with a physically aggressive child would result minimally in a special education teacher and a counselor assigned. The type of referral, based on the needs of the student (or students), dictates which staff members are assigned.



## What is the Purpose?

CAST provides additional support for educational teams to help a school-aged child remain in the home school in the least restrictive environment. CAST can assist districts with the following:

1. A medically fragile child in a program in your district who requires additional expertise for adapting equipment, feeding, behavior, curriculum adaption or other needs.
2. A child with whom your educational team is having difficulty managing behavior, including withdrawal, aggression, sudden changes in behavior or extreme behaviors of any sort.
3. Teams who are disagreeing on effective methods to help a particular child.
4. Assistance with coordinating efforts to help a particular child (disabled or non-disabled).
5. Staff who require additional training to learn specific strategies to help students with disabilities remain in inclusive settings.

## What is the Cost Structure?

Each component school district determines its level of need for participation in CAST services and requests a portion of FTE (full-time equivalent) in COSER 320. The amount of FTE needed is dependent upon the nature of the teams that are requested, the number of BOCES' staff on the teams and the amount of time they spend. Additional hourly charges are billed directly to the district by Franziska Racker Centers, if their staff are also needed on the team.

