

# **Citywide Deaf/Hard of Hearing (D/HH) Program**

This citywide special education program serves Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) students from pre kindergarten to grade twelve with significant educational needs related to a hearing loss. Individuals appropriate for this specialized citywide program are those who require a higher level of special education services than can be provided in the student's community or home school.

## **Characteristics of Students:**

All students must have a medically/professionally diagnosed hearing loss and an educational need related to the hearing loss. The areas of need could include: regular use of amplification in the classroom as determined by the audiologist; a documented need for academic assistance due to delays resulting from hearing loss as determined by Deaf/Hard of Hearing (D/HH) staff; or the need for language-enriched communication resulting from the hearing loss, as determined by the IEP team.

## **Program Description:**

Each D/HH student receives academic instruction in the setting most appropriate for his or her specific needs. Classes for D/HH students are small to allow for specialized instruction. Students are grouped according to age, social and/or academic level. The academic curriculum closely follows the regular education curriculum used in Minneapolis which is supported by special instructional materials designed for D/HH students. Staff uses a variety of communication methods (oral and sign language) to meet student needs.