

WHAT DO THESE PEOPLE DO AT PETER G?

SLPs, Psychs & OTs

SLPs

Hello! Your speech language pathologists (SLPs) this year are Mrs. Mackenzie Kuhar and Mr. James Lovell. We are so excited to work with you and your child this year to support their communication needs! Please click the link below to learn more about what speech language pathologists can do in the school setting!

[Who are SLPs?](#)

Feel free to contact us with any questions!

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Mackenzie Kuhar M.S., CCC-SLP & James Lovell M.S., CF- SLP

Psych

Hi, I'm Ms. (Sherri) Bentley, and I'm the school psychologist for PGS. I love working with students to help them succeed academically, socially, and emotionally, and I love working at PGS! I would be happy to speak with you regarding any questions or concerns you might have. Please feel free to contact me to see how school psychologists can help.

[Who are School Psychs?](#)

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360-709-7211

OT

Hello, I am Ms. Ana Wright, the Occupational Therapist (OT) at Peter G. I have the honor of supervising a skilled and creative OT assistant, Ms. Lauren Kangas. We help students build their confidence and abilities with fine and visual motor skills which impact writing, drawing, reading, coloring, cutting, and play. We often use play to practice these skills in small groups and one on one. I provide consultation to teams about sensory differences as well so that students can have the support they need to regulate themselves in all settings at school. OT's super power is in determining where performance is breaking down then finding ways to help students participate without limitation.

Who is the Occupational Therapist?

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Ana Wright, MOTR/L

School-based OTs Treat The Whole Child!

Executive Functioning

Children use their executive function skills in order to organize materials, plan, initiate and attend to tasks, control emotions, impulses, & more.

Cognition

Children use their cognitive skills for socialization, completing multi-step activities, problem solving, & more.

Ocular-motor skills

Children use their ocular-motor skills to learn to read, copy from the board, play sports & more.

Fine Motor Skills

Children use their fine motor skills to grasp and manipulate tools needed to learn how to write, color, cut, type, & more.

Strength

Children use their strength in order to use classroom tools, open doors, carry books, & more. Children will use the strength and stability in the shoulder and wrist to be able to write.

Range of Motion

Children use their range of motion to take out and put away books and classroom tools, tie shoes, play sports, games & more.



Balance & Coordination

Children use their balance and coordination to sit upright, change positions, play sports and games & more.

Mental Health

Children's emotional state, ability to cope, make decisions, stay mindful, and maintain friendships are important in school.

Oral Motor Skills

Children use their oral motor skills to suck, swallow, and chew and to prevent drooling.

Self- regulation

Self-regulation skills are needed to control their behaviors, attention, and emotions to engage with peers and classroom tasks.

Gross Motor Skills

Children use their gross motor skills to sit upright, walk, jump, kick, catch, and throw & more.

Gross motor skills are the foundation for developing new skills.

Sensory Processing

Environmental modifications and a sensory diet, incl. fidgets, movement breaks, special seating, & more may help children develop skills to decrease fidgeting and improve attention.