

NJDOE News

Contact: Richard Vespucci For Release: April 5, 2001

<u>Advisory</u>

The New Jersey Department of Education has scheduled three regional hearings to receive public comment on the department's revised Special Education Plan. The plan describes New Jersey's policies and procedures regarding special education and is required in order for the state to receive its share of federal funds under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

The regional public hearings will be held April 17, 18 and 24, at the following locations:

April 17, at Learning Resource Center -- North, 240 South Harrison Street, East Orange.

April 18, at Learning Resource Center -- South, 606 Delsea Drive, Sewell.

April 24, at Learning Resource Center -- Central, Crest Way, Aberdeen.

The times to present testimony at all three hearings are 10 a.m. to noon,

1 p.m. to 3 p.m., and 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Individuals who wish to testify need to register no later than April 12, 2001. To register or for a copy of the plan, contact the Office of Special Education Programs, 609-292-7602 or TTY 609-984-8432. At the time of registration, prospective speakers should indicate whether they require any accommodations, such as a sign language interpreter or a translator.

The public comment period begins April 16, 2001 and extends through May 16, 2001. Written comments may be submitted to: Carol Kaufman, Manager, Office of Special Education Programs, New Jersey Department of Education, PO Box 500, Trenton, NJ 08625-0500.

Comments on the plan will be reviewed and analyzed. The plan will be revised as necessary and submitted to the U.S. Department of Education by June 1, 2001.