



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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Governor

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Lt. Governor

CHRISTOPHER D. CERF
Acting Commissioner

March 14, 2011

Dr. Robert Krastek, Superintendent
Eastampton Township School District
1 Student Drive
Eastampton, NJ 08079

Dear Dr. Krastek:

Subject: Special Education Monitoring Report – Eastampton School District

This correspondence has been sent to inform you of the results of the New Jersey Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs' onsite monitoring regarding the Eastampton Township School District's implementation of federal and state special education requirements. Between September 2010 and the present, the New Jersey Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (NJOSPEP), conducted onsite monitoring visits, verification visits and desk audits in the Eastampton Township School District to determine compliance with federal and state special education requirements. The members of the monitoring team were Patricia Fair and Kenneth Richards.

The special education monitoring system is data driven and aligned with the federally required State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators, including the federal monitoring priorities established by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA 2004). Specifically, the NJOSPEP monitoring process is focused on improving educational results and functional outcomes for students with disabilities and ensuring compliance with those special education requirements related to positive student outcomes.

The special education self-assessment and monitoring process focused on requirements related to the following areas:

- **Transition to Adult Life**
- **State Assessment**
- **Placement in the Least Restrictive Environment**
- **Parent Involvement**
- **Disproportionate Representation of Specific Racial-Ethnic Groups in Special Education**
- **Evaluation and Reevaluation**
- **Individualized Education Program**

- **Programs and Services**

The Eastampton Township School District was selected for the self-assessment/monitoring process through random selection.

Monitoring Results

The enclosed Table of Findings details the finding of noncompliance identified as a result of onsite monitoring visits. **All must be corrected within one year of the date of this report. Corrective action should include, as necessary: development and/or revision of policies and procedures, staff training, implementation of the identified IDEA and N.J.A.C. requirements and implementation of an oversight mechanism to ensure ongoing compliance. The monitoring team leader, Patricia Fair, will contact Ms. Debra Sensbach to discuss procedures for verification of correction of the findings of noncompliance listed in the table.**

The results of the special education monitoring must be reviewed at the next meeting of the district's board of education. A copy of the minutes from the board of education meeting documenting the review by the board must be submitted to the following address:

Ms. Patricia Fair
New Jersey Department of Education
Office of Special Education
Finlaw Building 4th Floor
199 East Broadway
Salem, NJ 08079

Questions regarding the enclosed monitoring report should be directed to Dr. Peggy McDonald at 609-292-7605. The NJOSEP appreciates the cooperation of district staff members during the self-assessment/monitoring process.

Sincerely,



Barbara Gantwerk, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Student Services

BG/PM/pf
Enclosure

c: Rochelle Hendricks
Gregg Edwards
Andrew Smarick
Peggy McDonald
Patricia Fair
Peggy Nicolosi
Debbie Magee
Debra Sensbach

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Noncompliance was not identified during monitoring with federal and state requirements reviewed from the following sections of the self-assessment:

Section I: TRANSITION TO ADULT LIFE - Noncompliance was not identified during monitoring.

Section II: STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT

Section III: LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT

Section V: DISPROPORTIONATE REPRESENTATION

Section VII: IEP

Section VIII: PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Section IV: PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Area	Status of Compliance
1) Parents shall be given written notice of a meeting containing all the required components, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.3(k)3,5; 20 U.S.C. §1414(b)(1); and 34 CFR §300.304(a).	Review of records indicated that written notice for students referred for speech and language services did not consistently include the purpose of the meeting. Noncompliance was due to inconsistent implementation of district procedures.

Section VI: EVALUATIONS AND REEVALUATION

Areas of Noncompliance

Area	Status of Compliance
4) Within 20 calendar days of receipt of the written request for an evaluation, the district shall convene a meeting with required participants, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.3(e).	Review of records indicated that the district did not consistently ensure that a meeting was consistently convened within 20 calendar days of receipt of request for an initial evaluation of a student. Noncompliance was due to lack of implementation of district procedures.

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8) Evaluations shall be conducted by a multi-disciplinary team, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.5(b)6 and 3.6(b).	Review of records and interviews with staff members indicated that evaluations for students referred for speech and language services did not consistently contain multi-disciplinary evaluations. The educational impact statement from the teacher was not consistently summarized in the speech-language evaluation reports. These findings were due to inconsistent implementation of district procedures.
9) Each evaluation of a student shall include functional assessment, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.4(f)4(i-vi); 20 U.S.C. §1414(b)(4) and (5); and 34 CFR §300.306(c)(i).	Review of records indicated that all components of a functional assessment are not consistently included in evaluations of students. Observation in other than a testing setting, teacher interview and parent interview were not consistently included in evaluations of students. Noncompliance was due to inconsistent implementation of district procedures.
10) Within three years of the previous classification, a multi-disciplinary reevaluation shall be completed, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.8(a) and 20 U.S.C. §1414(a)(2)(B)(ii).	Review of records and interviews with staff indicated that reevaluations were not consistently completed within three years of previous date of eligibility. Additionally, assessments conducted as part of reevaluations were not conducted within sixty days of parental consent. Noncompliance was due to inconsistent implementation of district procedures.

All documentation required to demonstrate completion of corrective action activities must be submitted to the following address:

Patricia Fair
New Jersey Department of Education
Office of Special Education Programs
Finlaw Building 4th Floor
199 East Broadway
Salem, NJ 08079