



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PO Box 500

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

CHRIS CHRISTIE

*Governor*

KIM GUADAGNO

*Lt. Governor*

BRET SCHUNDLER

*Commissioner*

September 3, 2010

Mr. John Scavelli, Jr., Superintendent  
Evesham Township School District  
25 S. Maple Avenue  
Marlton, NJ 08053

Dear Mr. Scavelli:

Subject: Special Education Monitoring Report – Evesham Township School District

This correspondence has been sent to inform you of the results of the onsite monitoring regarding the Evesham Township School District's implementation of federal and state special education requirements. Between July 28, 2009 and August 11, 2010, the New Jersey Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (NJOSPEP), conducted onsite monitoring visits and desk audits in the Evesham Township School District to determine compliance with federal and state special education requirements. The members of the monitoring team were Caryl Carthew, Patricia Fair, Kenneth Richards and Deborah Magee.

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*
- *Discipline Procedures*
- *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*
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The Evesham Township School District was selected for the self-assessment process for the 2007-2008 school year through random selection.

## Monitoring Results

The enclosed Table of Findings details the onsite monitoring results with regard to the following:

### **Status of improvement plan activities**

For each area in need of continuous improvement identified by the district, the status of improvement activities designed to improve student outcomes is provided. If not identified as completed, the district must demonstrate implementation of improvement plan activities in accordance with the timelines delineated in the improvement plan. The NJOSEP will continue to monitor implementation of the improvement plan activities through additional onsite visits and desk audit.

### **Noncompliance identified by the district during the self-assessment**

The Evesham Township School District submitted documentation demonstrating correction of all areas of noncompliance identified during self-assessment.

### **Noncompliance identified during onsite monitoring**

Findings resulting from the onsite monitoring must be corrected within one year of the date of this report. All documentation required to demonstrate completion of corrective action activities must be submitted to the following address in accordance with the timelines listed in the enclosed Table of Findings.

Ms. Caryl M. Carthew, Monitor  
New Jersey Department of Education  
Office of Special Education Programs  
Finlaw Building—4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
199 East Broadway  
Salem, NJ 08079

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 address above.

Questions regarding the enclosed monitoring report should be directed to Dr. Peggy McDonald, manager of the Bureau of Program Accountability, 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/cc

Enclosure

c: Andrew Smarick  
Peggy McDonald  
Caryl Carthew  
Lester W. Richens  
Deborah Magee  
Jeff Palmer

**TABLE OF FINDINGS**  
**Special Education Monitoring Results**  
**IDEA 2004 and New Jersey Administrative Code Requirements**  
**Evesham Township School District**

**Section I: TRANSITION TO ADULT LIFE - Noncompliance was not identified during self-assessment or onsite monitoring.**

**Section II: STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT - Noncompliance was not identified during self-assessment or onsite monitoring.**

**Section III: DISCIPLINE - Noncompliance was not identified during self-assessment or onsite monitoring.**

**Section IV: LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT**

**Areas of Noncompliance Identified during Self-Assessment**

Area	Status of Compliance/Corrective Action
1) All students with disabilities, including preschoolers and students in receiving schools, shall have access to the general education curriculum and supplementary aids and services, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.2; 20 U.S.C. 1414(d)(1)(A)(i)(IV); and 34 CFR §300.320(a)(4).	The district identified a need to increase access to general education programs for preschoolers. The district is expanding general education options for preschoolers by opening a general education preschool program in September 2010 in the district which will include students with disabilities. Noncompliance identified by the district in the self-assessment was verified as corrected on August 11, 2010.

**Areas of Noncompliance Identified during the Onsite Monitoring Visit**

Area	Status of Compliance/Corrective Action
2) IEPs shall include an explanation of the extent to which students are educated with nondisabled peers, including participation in nonacademic and extracurricular activities, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.7(e)6 and 34 CFR §300.107.	Review of records indicated that IEPs did not include an explanation of the extent, if any, to which child will not participate with nondisabled children, including a statement of the supplementary aids and services considered and the reasons they were rejected. Noncompliance was due to a lack of implementation of district procedures.
4) Consideration must be given to a comparison of the benefits provided in the regular class and the benefits provided in the special education class in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.2(a)8(ii).	Review of records indicated that IEPs did not include a comparison of the benefits provided in the regular class and the benefits provided in the special education class. Noncompliance was due to a lack of implementation of district procedures.

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5) Consideration must be given to the potentially beneficial or harmful effects which a placement (general education) may have on the student with disabilities or the other students in the class [20 USC 1412(a)(5); 34 CFR §300.116(d); N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.2(a)8(iii)].	Review of records indicated that IEPs did not include the potentially beneficial or harmful effects which a placement (general education) may have on the student with disabilities or other students in the class. Noncompliance was due to a lack of implementation of district procedures.
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**Corrective Action Requirements for Indicators 2, 4 and 5:** The district is required to conduct training with child study team members regarding procedures for determining educational placements for students with disabilities and documenting the explanation of the extent to which students are educated with nondisabled peers and documenting decisions in the IEP.

The district is required to conduct a meeting of the IEP team for each student whose IEP was identified as noncompliant by the NJOSEP monitors and ensure that each IEP is revised to include the required components. Names of students whose IEPs were found to be noncompliant by the monitors will be provided to the Director of Special Education by NJOSEP.

The district must review the IEPs of all students with disabilities removed from general education settings for greater than 20% of the school day. For any IEP where an explanation of the extent to which the student will be educated with nondisabled peers is not addressed, a meeting of the IEP team must be convened to review and revise the IEP.

**Section V: PARENT INVOLVEMENT - Noncompliance was not identified during self-assessment.**

**Areas of Noncompliance Identified during the Onsite Monitoring Visit**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Status of Compliance/Corrective Action</b>
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 and 5; 20 U.S.C. 1414(b)(1); and 34 CFR §300.304(a).	Noncompliance identified during the onsite visit was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on July 13, 2010.
2) Written notice, which includes required components, shall be provided to parents following meetings, in accordance with	Noncompliance identified during the onsite visit was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on July 13, 2010.

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N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.3(f) and 2.3(g)1-7; 20 U.S.C. 1414(b)(1)(c)(4)(A); and 34 CFR §300.304(a)(4) and §300.305(a).

**Section VI: DISPROPORTIONATE REPRESENTATION - Noncompliance was not identified during self-assessment or onsite monitoring.**

**Section VII: EVALUATIONS AND REEVALUATION**

**Areas of Noncompliance Identified during Self-Assessment**

Area	Status of Compliance/Corrective Action
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).	Noncompliance identified by the district in its self-assessment was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on February 4, 2010.
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).	Noncompliance identified by the district in its self-assessment was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on February 5, 2010.
15) A copy of the evaluation report(s) and documentation of eligibility shall be given to the parent or adult student not less than 10 calendar days prior to the eligibility meeting, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.5(a); 20 U.S.C. 1414(b)(4); and 34 CFR §300.306(a).	Noncompliance identified by the district in its self-assessment was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on February 4, 2010.

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**Areas of Noncompliance Identified during the Onsite Monitoring Visit**

Area	Status of Compliance/Corrective Action
5) A vision and audiometric screening shall be conducted for every student referred to the child study team for evaluation. The school nurse shall review and summarize available health and medical information and transmit the summary to the child study team, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.4(j).	Noncompliance identified during the onsite visit was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on July 13, 2010.
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).	Noncompliance identified during the onsite visit was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on July 13, 2010.
14) Each child study team member shall certify in writing whether his or her report is in accordance with the conclusion of eligibility of the student, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.4(h)5.	Noncompliance identified during the onsite visit was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on July 13, 2010.

**Section VIII: IEP - Noncompliance was not identified during self-assessment.**

**Areas of Noncompliance Identified during the Onsite Monitoring Visit**

Area	Status of Compliance/Corrective Action
1) IEP meetings shall be held with an appropriately configured IEP team, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.3(k)2(i-x)1; 20 U.S.C. 1414(d)(1)(B); and 34 CFR §300.321(a).	Noncompliance identified during the onsite visit was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on July 13, 2010.

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2) IEPs shall include required considerations and statements, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.7(c)1-11, (e) 1-17, and (f); 20 U.S.C. 1414(d)(3)(A)(B); and 34 CFR §300.324(a)(1)(2).	Noncompliance identified during the onsite visit was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on July 13, 2010.
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**Section IX: PROGRAMS AND SERVICES - Noncompliance was not identified during self-assessment or onsite monitoring.**

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