



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Governor

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Lt. Governor

ROCHELLE R. HENDRICKS
Acting Commissioner

November 12, 2010

Dr. Antoinette Rath, Superintendent
Mount Laurel Township School District
330 Moorestown – Mount Laurel Road
Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

Dear Dr. Rath:

Subject: Special Education Monitoring Report – Mount Laurel Township 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 Mount Laurel School District's implementation of federal and state special education requirements. On October 1, 2009 and July 27, 2010, the New Jersey Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (NJOSPEP), conducted onsite monitoring visits, desk audits and verification visits to review the district's status of compliance with federal and state special education requirements. The members of the monitoring team were Patricia Fair, Kenneth Richards, Caryl Carthew and Debbie Magee.

The enclosed Table of Findings details the findings of noncompliance identified during onsite monitoring. **Prior to the release of this report, the Mount Laurel School District submitted documentation demonstrating correction for all areas of noncompliance identified during onsite monitoring.** The district did not identify findings of noncompliance during the self-assessment process.

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*

The Mount Laurel Township School District was selected for the self-assessment process for the 2007-2008 school year through random selection.

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 Programs
Finlaw Building 4th Floor
199 East Broadway
Salem, NJ 08079

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/PF
Enclosure

c: Andrew Smarick
Peggy McDonald
Patricia Fair
Lester W. Richens
Debbie Magee
Diane Willard

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Noncompliance was not identified during the self-assessment process. The following areas of noncompliance were identified during onsite monitoring visits.

Section V: PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Area	Status of Compliance/Corrective Action
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 on-site monitoring visit was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on July 27, 2010.
2) Written notice, which includes required components, shall be provided to parents following meetings, in accordance with 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).	Noncompliance identified during the on-site monitoring visit was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on October 12, 2009.
4) Parental consent shall be obtained whenever a member of the IEP team is excused from participating in a meeting, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.3(a)6; 20 U.S.C. 1414(d)(1)(c)(i)-(iii); and 34 CFR §300.321(e).	Noncompliance identified during the on-site monitoring visit was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on July 27, 2010

Section VII: EVALUATIONS AND REEVALUATION

Area	Status of Compliance/Corrective Action
3) The staff of the general education program shall maintain written documentation regarding type, frequency, duration and effectiveness of each intervention used, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.3(c).	Noncompliance identified during onsite monitoring was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on July 27, 2010.
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 during onsite monitoring was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on October 12, 2009.
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 onsite monitoring was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on July 27, 2010.

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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 during onsite monitoring was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on July 27, 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 monitoring visit was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on July 27, 2010.
15) A copy of the evaluation report(s) and documentation and information that will be used for a determination 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 during the onsite monitoring visit was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on July 27, 2010.
Section VIII: IEP	
Area	Status of Compliance/Corrective Action
3) IEP meetings shall be conducted annually, or more often if necessary, to review and/or revise the IEP and determine placement, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.7(i); 20 U.S.C. 1414(d); and 34 CFR §300.324(b)(1).	Noncompliance identified during the onsite monitoring visit was verified as corrected during a desk audit conducted on July 27, 2010.