



**State of New Jersey**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
PO Box 500  
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
*Governor*

KIM GUADAGNO  
*Lt. Governor*

CHRISTOPHER D. CERF  
*Acting Commissioner*

May 13, 2011

Mr. Scott T. Feder, Superintendent  
Rumson Borough School District  
Forrest Avenue  
Rumson, New Jersey 07760-1681

Dear Mr. Feder:

Subject: Special Education Monitoring Report – Rumson Borough School District

This correspondence has been sent to inform you of the status of the New Jersey Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs' onsite monitoring regarding the Rumson School District's implementation of federal and state special education requirements. The New Jersey Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (NJOSEP), conducted onsite monitoring visits, verification visits and desk audits in the Rumson School District to determine compliance with federal and state special education requirements. The monitoring team leader was Mrs. Deborah Masarsky.

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 NJOSEP 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 Rumson Borough School District was selected for the self-assessment/monitoring process through random selection.

### Monitoring Results

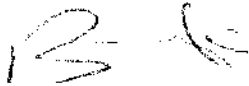
The enclosed Table of Findings details the noncompliance identified as a result of monitoring. Of the 46 requirements reviewed, noncompliance was identified in eight areas. As of the date of this report, the district demonstrated correction of five of the areas of identified noncompliance.

**The remaining 3 findings of noncompliance must be corrected within one year of the date of this report. Corrective action should include the 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, Ms. Deborah Masarsky, will discuss procedures for verification of correction of the remaining findings of noncompliance with Ms. Henrietta Graber.**

The results of the special education monitoring must be reviewed at the next meeting of the district's board of education. 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/DM

Enclosure

c: Gregg Edwards  
Andrew Smarick  
Peggy McDonald  
Deborah Masarsky  
Karen Frumen  
Henrietta Graber

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

**Noncompliance was not identified with requirements in the following sections of the self-assessment:**

**Section I: TRANSITION TO ADULT LIFE**

**Section II: STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT**

**Section V: DISPROPORTIONATE REPRESENTATION**

**Section VII: IEP**

**Section VIII: PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

**Section III: LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT**

| Federal/State Citation                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Status of Noncompliance                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2) IEPs shall include an explanation of the extent, if any, to which child will not participate with nondisabled children. [20 U.S.C. §1412(a)(5) and 1414(d)(1)(A)(i)(V); 34 CFR §300.115 and §300.320(a)(5) and N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.7(e)6] | Review of records indicated that for students in a separate setting, the district staff did not document the supplementary aids and services considered and an explanation of why they were rejected. Noncompliance was due to the lack of implementation of district procedures.                                   |
| 4) IEPs shall include 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 for students in a separate setting, the district staff did not document in IEPs the comparison of the benefits provided in the regular class and the benefits provided in the special education class. Noncompliance was due to the lack of implementation of district procedures. |
| 6) For students in a separate setting, IEPs shall include activities to transition students to a less restrictive environment, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.2(a)4.                                                                 | Review of records indicated that for students in a separate setting, the district staff did not document activities to transition students to a less restrictive environment. Noncompliance was due to the lack of implementation of district procedures.                                                           |

**Corrective Action for Area 2, 4 and 6 above:** The district is required to conduct a meeting of the IEP team for each student whose IEP was identified as noncompliant by the NJOSEP monitor 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 who are educated in separate public or private special education settings. For any IEP that does not include the required components, a meeting of the IEP team must be convened to review and revise the IEP.

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**Section IV: PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

| Federal/State Citation                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Finding of Noncompliance                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Date of Correction |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 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 the district's notice of a meeting that is provided to parents did not consistently include required components. Noncompliance was due to incorrect procedures.                                                                                                                                 | April 21, 2011     |
| 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); 34 CFR §300.304(a)(4); and 34 CFR §300.305(a). | Review of records indicated that the district staff did not consistently provide parents with written notice containing all the required components following the identification meeting, nor were the parents provided with a copy of 1:6A following the identification meeting. Noncompliance was due to incorrect procedures. | April 21, 2011     |
| 3) Eligibility meetings shall include required participants in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.3(k)1(i-vii); 20 U.S.C. §1414(d)(1)(B); and 34 CFR §300.321(a).                                                                                | Review of records indicated that general education teachers did not attend eligibility meetings. Noncompliance was due to lack of implementation of district procedures.                                                                                                                                                         | April 21, 2011     |

**Section VI: EVALUATIONS AND REEVALUATION**

| Federal/State Citation                                                                                                                                                                                        | Finding of Noncompliance                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Date of Correction |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 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). | Review of records indicated that the district staff did not maintain written documentation regarding type, frequency, duration and effectiveness of each intervention and referral services committee intervention. Noncompliance was due to lack of implementation of district procedures. | March 22, 2011     |
| 7) The district shall obtain consent from the parent or adult student, at required times, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.3(a); 20 U.S.C. §1414(a)(1)(D); and 34 CFR §300.300(a).                         | Review of records indicated that the district staff did not obtain consent from the parent at required times. Noncompliance was due to lack of implementation of district procedures.                                                                                                       | March 22, 2011     |

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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). | Review of records indicated that the district staff did not conduct all required sections of the functional assessment during an initial evaluation. Noncompliance was due to lack of implementation of district procedures. | April 21, 2011 |
| 11) Reevaluation planning meetings shall include required participants, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.3(k)2(i-x); 20 U.S.C. §1414(c)(1)(A)(i); and 34 CFR §300.305(a).    | Review of records indicated that the district staff did not maintain signed attendance sheets of attendees at reevaluation meetings. Noncompliance was due to lack of implementation of district procedures.                 | April 21, 2011 |

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

Mrs. Deborah Masarsky, Monitor  
New Jersey Department of Education  
PO Box 500  
100 River View Plaza  
Trenton, NJ 08625