



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

MAY - 6 2019

Honorable Lamont Repollet
Commissioner of Education
New Jersey Department of Education
100 Riverview Plaza
P.O. Box 500, Route 29
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0500

Dear Commissioner Repollet:

This letter is to inform you of the results of the Office of Special Education Programs' (OSEP's) on-site visit to the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) on September 20-21, 2018. OSEP appreciates the cooperation and assistance provided by the NJDOE staff. As indicated in our letter to you dated August 27, 2018, the visit focused on a review of the State's dispute resolution system.

Specifically, during the on-site visit, OSEP conducted interviews with the NJDOE staff and reviewed documentation related to NJDOE's Due Process complaint and Hearing Procedures. This report does not address NJDOE's mediation or Part B State complaint procedures or the State's implementation of those procedures, and OSEP expresses no view as to whether the State's procedures for those dispute resolution mechanisms comply with applicable Part B requirements. OSEP found noncompliance specifically related to the State's policies and procedures pertaining to: 1) due process hearings; 2) resolution meetings; 3) expedited due process hearings; and 4) a child's status during proceedings therefore requiring corrective action. See Enclosure.

The Enclosure to this letter does not include a description of the State's dispute resolution system because this information is available on the State's Web site and public documents. The Enclosure does contain OSEP's analysis of the documents and information provided by the State, findings of noncompliance identified during the visit, and required actions.

We look forward to collaborating with the NJDOE to improve results and compliance for children and youth with disabilities and their families. If you have any questions or wish to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call your OSEP State Lead, Dwight Thomas, at 202-245-6238 or by email Dwight.Thomas@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

Laurie Vanderploeg
Director
Office of Special Education Programs

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