



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

JON S. CORZINE
Governor

LUCILLE E. DAVY
Commissioner

June 17, 2008

Dr. Sharon L. Maricle
State Special Education Advisory Council
P.O. Box 500
Trenton, NJ 08625-0500

Dear Dr. Maricle:

I am in receipt of the correspondence from the State Special Education Advisory Council (SSEAC) regarding the parent groups required by New Jersey Administrative Code 6A:14-1.2(h). As you know, the requirement for a parent advisory group was intended to facilitate parent involvement and proactive collaboration between parents and school district personnel.

I agree with the SSEAC's perspective "that parent groups can help parents become more effectively involved in districtwide improvement efforts." Parent groups can have many functions, serving as a resource for support, information sharing, and problem solving.

As the Office of Special Education Programs reviews the current special education requirements for areas in need of clarification, your comments and recommendations will be most helpful. The interest and time the SSEAC has taken to address this mandate is greatly appreciated.

Additionally, let me take this opportunity to thank the SSEAC members for their dedication and ongoing contributions to special education service delivery in New Jersey. Please be assured that both Barbara Gantwerk and Roberta Wohle keep me informed of your interests, concerns, and recommendations.

Please accept my apologies for not being able to meet with you this year due to scheduling conflicts. I will make every effort to schedule meeting time next year.

Again, thank you for your assistance in helping children and youth with disabilities achieve positive student outcomes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lucille E. Davy".

Lucille E. Davy
Commissioner

LED/BG/RW

c: Willa Spicer
Barbara Gantwerk
Roberta Wohle
SSEAC Members