

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS
Todd County School District
Accountability Review - Monitoring Report 2017-2018**

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Dates of On Site Visit: October 18 & 19, 2017

Date of Report Sent to District: October 31, 2017

All non-compliance must be corrected within 1 year of this report date.

Date Closed: April 20, 2018

Program monitoring and evaluation.

In conjunction with its general supervisory responsibility under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part B, Special Education Programs (SEP) of the Division of Educational Services and Support shall monitor agencies, institutions, and organizations responsible for carrying out special education programs in the state, including any obligations imposed on those agencies, institutions, and organizations. The department shall ensure:

- (1) That the requirements of this article are carried out;
- (2) That each educational program for children with disabilities administered within the state, including each program administered by any other state or local agency, but not including elementary schools and secondary schools for Native American children operated or funded by the Secretary of the Interior:
 - (a) Is under the general supervision of the persons responsible for educational programs for children with disabilities in the department; and
 - (b) Meets the educational standards of the state education agency, including the requirements of this article; and
- (3) In carrying out this article with respect to homeless children, the requirements of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended to January 1, 2007, are met. (Reference- ARSD 24:05:20:18.)

State monitoring--Quantifiable indicators and priority areas.

The department shall monitor school districts using quantifiable indicators in each of the following priority areas, and using such qualitative indicators as are needed to adequately measure performance in those areas:

- (1) Provision of Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment;
 - (2) Department exercise of general supervision, including child find, effective monitoring, the use of resolution meetings, mediation, and a system of transition services as defined in this article and article 24:14; and
 - (3) Disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services, to the extent the representation is the result of inappropriate identification. (Reference-ARSD 24:05:20:18:02.)
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State enforcement -- Determinations.

On an annual basis, based on local district performance data, information obtained through monitoring visits, and other information available, the department shall determine whether each school district meets the requirements and purposes of Part B of the IDEA...

Based upon the information obtained through monitoring visits, and any other public information made available, Special Education Programs of the Division of Educational Services and Support determines if the agency, institution, or organization responsible for carrying out special education programs in the state:

- Meets the requirements and purposes of Part B of the Act;
- Needs assistance in implementing the requirements of Part B of the Act'
- Needs intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B of the Act; or
- Needs substantial intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B of the Act. (Reference-ARSD 24:05:20:23.04.)

Deficiency correction procedures.

The department shall require local education agencies to correct deficiencies in program operations that are identified through monitoring as soon as possible, but not later than one year from written identification of the deficiency. The department shall order agencies to take corrective actions and to submit a plan for achieving and documenting full compliance. (Reference-ARSD 24:05:20:20.)

GENERAL SUPERVISION / STATE PERFORMANCE PLAN COMPLIANCE INDICATOR

24:05:27:01.03. Content of individualized education program. Each student's individualized education program shall include:

- (8) Beginning not later than the first IEP to be in effect when the student turns 16, or younger if determined appropriate by the IEP team, and updated annually thereafter, the IEP shall include:
- (a) Appropriate measurable postsecondary goals based upon age-appropriate transition assessments related to training, education, employment, and, if appropriate, independent living skills; and
 - (b) The transition services (including courses of study) needed to assist the student in reaching those goals;

24:05:24.01:13. Orthopedic impairment defined. Orthopedic impairment means a severe orthopedic impairment that adversely affects a child's educational performance. The term includes impairments caused by a congenital anomaly, impairments caused by disease (e.g., poliomyelitis, bone tuberculosis), and impairments from other causes (e.g., cerebral palsy, amputations, and fractures or burns that cause contractures).

There must be evidence of the following:

- (1) That the student's impaired motor functioning significantly interferes with educational performance;
- (2) That the student exhibits deficits in muscular or neuromuscular functioning that significantly limit the student's ability to move about, sit, or manipulate materials required for learning;
- (3) That the student's bone, joint, or muscle problems affect ambulation, posture, or gross and fine motor skills; and
- (4) That current medical data by a qualified medical evaluator describes and confirms an orthopedic impairment.

24:05:27:01.01. IEP team. Each school district shall ensure that the IEP team for each student with disabilities include the following members:

- (4) A representative of the school district who:
- (a) Is qualified to provide, or supervise the provision of, specially designed instruction to meet the unique needs of students with disabilities;
 - (b) Is knowledgeable about the general education curriculum; and
 - (c) Is knowledgeable about the availability of resources of the school district;

24:05:27:01.03. Content of individualized education program. Each student's individualized education program shall include:

(1) A statement of the student's present levels of academic achievement and functional performance, including:

(a) How the student's disability affects the student's involvement and progress in the general education curriculum (i.e., the same curriculum as for nondisabled students);

24:05:24.01:19. Criteria for specific learning disability. A group of qualified professionals and the parent of the child may determine that a child has a specific learning disability if:

To ensure that underachievement in a child suspected of having a specific learning disability is not due to lack of appropriate instruction in reading or math, the group must consider, as part of the evaluation described in this article, data that demonstrate that prior to, or as a part of, the referral process, the child was provided appropriate instruction in regular education settings, delivered by qualified personnel, and data-based documentation of repeated assessments of achievement at reasonable intervals, reflecting formal assessment of student progress during instruction, which was provided to the child's parents.

24:05:25:03.04. Evaluation procedures -- Notice. The school district shall provide notice to the parents of a child with a disability, in accordance with this article, that describes any evaluation procedures the district proposes to conduct.

24:05:24.01:03. Autism spectrum disorder defined. Autism spectrum disorder is a developmental disability that significantly affects verbal and nonverbal communication and social interaction and results in adverse effects, generally evident before age three, on the child's educational performance.

Other characteristics often associated with autism spectrum disorder are engagement in repetitive activities and stereotyped movements, resistance to environmental change or change in daily routines, and unusual responses to sensory experiences.

24:05:25:02.01. Parental consent for initial evaluation. Any school district proposing to conduct an initial evaluation to determine whether a child qualifies as a child with a disability shall, after providing notice consistent with chapter 24:05:30, obtain informed consent from the parent of the child before conducting the evaluation.

Parental consent for initial evaluation may not be construed as consent for initial provision of special education and related services.

The school district shall make reasonable efforts to obtain the informed consent from the parent for an initial evaluation to determine whether the child is a child with a disability.

To meet the reasonable efforts requirement in this section, the district shall document its attempts to obtain parental consent using the procedures in § 24:05:25:17.

24:05:27:23. Criteria for occupational therapy. A student may be identified as in need of occupational therapy as a related service if:

(2) The student needs occupational therapy to benefit from special education

24:05:30:05. Content of notice. The notice must include the following:

(1) A description of the action proposed or refused by the district, an explanation of why the district proposes or refuses to take the action, and a description of any other options the IEP team considered and the reasons why those options were rejected;

(2) A description of each evaluation procedure, assessment, record, or report that the district uses as a basis for the proposal or refusal;

(3) A description of any other factors which are relevant to the district's proposal or refusal;