# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS Oahe Inc. Agency Accountability Review - Monitoring Report 2014-2015

Team Leader: Rita Pettigrew, Educational Specialist;

Team Members: Sherron Grote, Education Specialist; Cindy Kirschman, Transition Liaison; Arlene Maxfield, Special Education Programs;

Dates of On Site Visit: February 3, 2015

Date of Report Sent to District: February 12. 2015

All non-compliance must be corrected within 1 year of this report date. Date Closed: June 3, 2015

#### 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.)

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**

**ARSD 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 descries any evaluation procedures the district proposes to conduct.

# ARSD 24:05:25:04. Evaluation procedures -- General. School districts shall ensure, at a minimum, that evaluation procedures include the following:

(5) A variety of assessment tools and strategies are used to gather relevant functional, developmental, and academic information about the child, including information provided by the parents, that may assist in determining: (a) Whether the child is a child with a disability; and (b) The content of the child's IEP, including information related to enabling the child: (i) To be involved in and progress in the general education curriculum;

(7) The child is assessed in all areas related to the suspected disability, including, if appropriate, health, vision, hearing, social and emotional status, general intelligence, academic performance, communicative status, and motor abilities; and

(8) The evaluation is sufficiently comprehensive to identify all of the child's special education and related service's needs, whether or not commonly linked to the disability category in which the child has been classified.

# ARSD 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);

(2) A statement of measurable annual goals, including academic and functional goals, designed to: (a) Meet the student's needs that result from the student's disability to enable the student to be involved in and progress in the general education curriculum; and (b) Meet each of the student's other educational needs that result from the student's disability;

(7) A description of how the student's progress toward the annual goals described in this section will be measured and when periodic reports on the progress the student is making toward meeting the annual goals (such as through the use of quarterly or other periodic reports, concurrent with the issuance of report cards) will be provided;

(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: (b) The transition services (including courses of study) needed to assist the student in reaching those goals; and

**ARSD 24:05:27:16. Related services provided at no cost.** Consistent with §§ 24:05:27:03 and 24:05:27:04, the district shall provide related services at no cost to the parent. Related services include transportation; speech-language pathology; audiological services; interpreting services; psychological services; physical and occupational therapy; recreation, including therapeutic recreation; early identification and assessment of disabilities in children; counseling services; including rehabilitation counseling; orientation and mobility services; medical services for diagnostic or evaluation purposes; school nurse and school health services designed to enable a student with a disability to receive a free appropriate public education as described in the IEP of the student; social work services in schools; and parental counseling and training. Related services do not include a medical device that is surgically implanted, the optimization of that device's functioning (e.g. mapping), maintenance of that device, or the replacement of the device.

**ARSD 24:05:16:16. Personnel qualifications.** To ensure that all personnel necessary to carry out the purposes of Part B and Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act are appropriately and adequately prepared and trained, including ensuring that those personnel have the content knowledge and skills to serve children with disabilities, the department shall determine that all personnel providing special education or related services, including related services, paraprofessionals and assistants, early intervention, and early childhood personnel, perform these functions under state-approved or state-recognized certification or licensure or other comparable requirements that apply to the area in which the person is providing special education or related services. The department shall ensure that related services personnel who deliver services in their discipline or profession meet the requirements of this section and have not had certification or licensure requirements waived on an emergency, temporary, or provisional basis.