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Dear Special Education Director:

The South Dakota Office of Special Education Programs (SEP) is required by the U.S. Office of Special Education Programs to gather parent feedback on district facilitation of parent involvement in special education. SEP must report the collected survey data in Indicator 8: Parent Involvement on the annual State Performance Plan (SPP).

**Please throw away all unused paper versions of the 2024-2025 Parent Involvement Surveys.** The survey color and the Race/Ethnicity section have changed for 2025-2026.

Paper versions of the 2025-2026 SD Parent Involvement Survey and prepaid mailing envelopes addressed to TAESE were sent to districts that opted for paper versions. The district code is printed on the bottom right-hand corner of paper surveys; **please verify that your district code is correct.** Districts can also request paper surveys in Spanish and Karen. If you need more paper surveys or have any questions, please contact Stacy Holzbauer, Program Specialist, at [stacy.holzbauer@state.sd.us](mailto:stacy.holzbauer@state.sd.us) or 605-295-3441.

**The ONLINE version of the survey** is available at this link and QR code:  
<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/8298164/SDI82526>

To access the Spanish version, click on the  symbol in the upper right corner. The [2025-2026 Survey Flyer](#) also provides the online link and QR code, as well as a clear script to aid district staff in explaining the survey purpose to parents.



**SEP asks that your district please provide a 2025-2026 SD Parent Involvement Survey to the parents of every student receiving special education services in your district.** If a parent has more than one child receiving services, they need to fill out a survey for each child separately. Each district is responsible for their plan of when and how their paper or online surveys are completed during the 2025-2026 school year, including out-of-district placements. The prior December Child Count is used to calculate the number of parents. SEP requires that districts have a survey response rate of at least **20.00%**. Districts should make every effort to encourage survey participation across all student demographic groups, specifically race/ethnicity and disability. Parents must complete the survey by **May 31, 2026**.

DOE will create district reports to summarize survey results. Demographics will be included for districts with at least ten parent respondents. The district results will also be publicly reported on the DOE State Performance Plan website. We hope you find your district reports helpful in making local program improvements.

Thank you for your cooperation in improving partnerships with parents of students with disabilities.

Sincerely,

Division Director of Special Education and Early Learning