

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS
Marion School District
Accountability Review - Monitoring Report 2018-2019**

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Team Members: RDA Monitors: Amy Yost and Tye Johnson, Transition Liaison: Bev Peterson, Special Education Programs: Brandi Gerry

Dates of On-Site Visit: December 11, 2018

Date of Report Sent to District: January 28, 2019

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

Date Closed:

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

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

(2) Assessments and other evaluation materials include those tailored to assess specific areas of educational need and not merely those which are designed to provide a single general intelligence quotient;

(4) No single measure or assessment is used as the sole criterion for determining eligibility or an appropriate educational program for a child;

(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; or
 - (ii) For a preschool child, to participate in appropriate activities;

ARSD 24:05:25:04.02 Parent input into evaluation documented: Determination of needed evaluation data. As part of an initial evaluation, if appropriate, and as part of any reevaluation, the individual education program team required by § 24:05:27:01.01 and other qualified professionals as appropriate with knowledge and skills necessary to interpret evaluation data, shall:

- (1) Review existing evaluation data on the child, including:
 - (a) Evaluations and information provided by the parents of the child;

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); or
 - (b) For preschool student, as appropriate, how the disability affects the student's participation in appropriate activities;
- (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;
- For students with disabilities who take alternate assessments aligned to alternate achievement standards, each student's IEP shall provide a description of benchmarks or short-term objectives;
- (3) A statement of the special education and related services and supplementary aids and services, based on peer-reviewed research to the extent practicable, to be provided to the student, or on behalf of the student, and a statement of the program modifications or supports for school personnel that will be provided to enable the student:
- (a) To advance appropriately toward attaining the annual goals;
 - (b) To be involved and make progress in the general education curriculum in accordance with this section and to participate in extracurricular and other nonacademic activities; and
 - (c) To be educated and participate with other students with disabilities and nondisabled students in the activities described in this section;
- (4) An explanation of the extent, if any, to which the student will not participate with nondisabled students in the regular class and in activities described in this section;
- (5) A statement of any individual appropriate accommodations that are necessary to measure the academic achievement and functional performance of the student on state and district-wide assessments consistent with § 24:05:14:14. If the IEP team determines that the student shall take an alternate assessment instead of a particular regular state or district-wide assessment of student achievement, a statement of why:
- (a) The student cannot participate in the regular assessment; and
 - (b) The particular alternate assessment selected is appropriate for the student;
- (6) The projected date for the beginning of the services and modification described in this section and the anticipated frequency, location, and duration of those services and modifications;
- (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:
- (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; and

(9) Beginning not later than one year before a student reaches the age of majority under state law, the student's individualized education program must include a statement that the student has been informed of his or her rights under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, if any, that will transfer to the student on reaching the age of majority consistent with § 24:05:30:16.01.

ARSD 24:05:25:16.01. Participation of student in IEP team meeting. If a purpose of the IEP team meeting is the consideration of postsecondary goals and transition services for a student, and if the meeting is for a child with a disability beginning not later than the first IEP to be in effect when the child turns 16, or younger if determined appropriate by the IEP team, the notice also must:

- (1) Indicate that a purpose of the meeting is the consideration of the postsecondary goals and transition services for the student;
- (2) Indicate that the district will invite the student; and
- (3) To the extent appropriate, with the consent of the parents or a student who has reached the age of majority, identify any other agency that is likely to be responsible for providing or paying for transition services and that will be invited to send a representative.

Parental consent, or the consent of an eligible student who has reached the age of majority under state law, must be obtained before personally identifiable information is released to officials of participating agencies providing or paying for transition services.

ARSD 24:05:25:26 Extended School Year: Extended school year authorized. The district shall provide extended school year services to eligible children if the IEP team determines on an individual basis that such services are necessary for the provision of FAPE.

An IEP pursuant to chapter 24:05:27 shall be developed and implemented by the IEP team that addresses the need for extended school year services. The IEP team shall determine the length of the school day and duration of extended school year services based on the individual child's needs.

ARSD 24:05:27:08 Yearly review and revision of individual educational programs. Each school district shall initiate and conduct IEP team meetings to periodically review each child's individual educational program and, if appropriate, revise its provisions. An IEP team meeting must be held for this purpose annually. The review shall be conducted to determine whether the annual goals for the student are being achieved. The individualized education program shall be revised, as appropriate, to address: any lack of expected progress toward the annual goals and in the general curriculum, if appropriate; the results of any reevaluation conducted; information about the student provided to, or by, the parents; the student's anticipated needs; or other matters.

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

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

ARSD 24:05:17:09. Return of information. Local education agencies shall return information on counting eligible children to the Office of Data Collection. Each local school superintendent shall certify in writing that the information provided is an accurate and unduplicated count of children with disabilities receiving special education or special education and related services on December 1 of each school year. If December 1 falls on Saturday or Sunday, the count shall be taken on the first working day following the weekend.

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 describes any evaluation procedures the district proposes to conduct.

ARSD 24:05:25:04.03. Determination of eligibility. Upon completing the administration of assessments and other evaluation measures as required by this chapter, the individual education program team and other qualified individuals required by § 24:05:25:04.02 shall determine whether the student is a student with a disability, and shall determine the educational needs of the child, as defined in this article. The school district shall provide a copy of the evaluation report and the documentation of determination of eligibility at no cost to the parent. A student may not be determined to be a student with a disability if the

determinant factor for that decision is lack of appropriate instruction in reading, including the essential components of reading instruction as defined in ESEA, or lack of appropriate instruction in math or limited English proficiency and if the student does not otherwise meet the eligibility criteria under chapter § 24:05:24.01.

ARSD 24:05:25:16. Parent participation. Each district shall take steps to ensure that one or both parents of the child are present at each IEP team meeting or are afforded the opportunity to participate. The district shall notify parents of the meeting early enough to ensure that they will have an opportunity to attend, scheduling the meeting at a mutually agreed-upon time and place. The notice to the parents shall state the purpose, time, and location of the IEP team meeting and who will be in attendance and inform the parents of the provisions relating to the participation of other individuals on the IEP team who have knowledge or special expertise about the child, including information related to the participation of the Part C service coordinator or other representatives of the Part C system at the initial IEP Team meeting for a child previously served under Part C of the IDEA.

If a purpose of the IEP team meeting is the consideration of postsecondary goals and transition services for a student, the notice must also address the provisions of § 24:05:25:16.01.

If parents cannot attend, the district shall use other methods to ensure participation, including individual or conference telephone calls consistent with § 24:05:27:08.04.