

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS  
Tri-Valley School District  
Accountability Review - Monitoring Report 2021-2022**

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**Dates of Review:** November 17, 2021

**Date of Report Sent to District:** January 6, 2022

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

**Date Closed:** April 25, 2022

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**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.)

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

- (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;
- (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 (8) 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

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

- (3) Assessments are selected and administered so as best to ensure that if an assessment is administered to a child with impaired sensory, manual, or speaking skills, the assessment accurately reflects the child's aptitude or achievement level or whatever other factors the assessment purports to measure, rather than the child's impaired sensory, manual, or speaking skills except where those skills are the factors which the assessment purports to measure;
- (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;
- (6) Technically sound instruments, assessment tools, and strategies are used that:
  - (a) May assess the relative contribution of cognitive and behavioral factors, in addition to physical or developmental factors; and
  - (b) Provide relevant information that directly assists persons in determining the educational needs of the child;
- (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 services needs, whether or not commonly linked to the disability category in which the child has been classified.

**24:05:25:04.02. 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;
  - (b) Current classroom-based local or state assessments and observations; and
  - (c) Observations by teachers and related services providers; and
- (2) Based on the above review and input from the student's parents, identify what additional data, if any, are needed to determine:
  - (a) Whether the student has a particular category of disability as described in this article;
  - (b) The present levels of academic achievement and related developmental needs of the student; and
  - (c) Whether the student needs special education and related services.

The school district shall administer assessments and any other evaluation materials as may be needed to produce the data required to make the determinations listed in subdivision (2) of this section. If no additional data are needed to make the determinations listed in subdivision (2) of this section, the school district shall notify the student's parents of this fact and the reasons for this decision. The group described in this section may conduct its review without a meeting.

**24:05:27:12. Graduation requirements.** Completion of an approved secondary special education program with a regular high school diploma signifies that the student no longer requires special education services. A regular high school diploma does not include an alternative degree that is not fully aligned with the state's academic standards, such as a certificate or a general educational development credential (GED). Graduation from high school with a regular high school diploma constitutes a change in placement requiring written prior notice in accordance with this article.

The instructional program shall be specified on the individual educational program. The individual educational program shall state specifically how the student in need of special education or special education and related services will satisfy the district's graduation requirements. The IEP team may modify the specific units of credit described in § 24:43:11:02. Parents must be informed through the individual educational program process at least one year in advance of the intent to graduate their child upon completion of the individual educational program and to terminate services by graduation.

**24:05:30:04. Prior notice.** Written notice which meets the requirements of § 24:05:30:05 must be given to the parents five days before the district proposes or refuses to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of the child or the provision of a free appropriate public education to the child. The five-day notice requirement may be waived by the 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.

**24:05:24.01:14. Other health impaired defined.** Other health impaired means having limited strength, vitality, or alertness, including a heightened alertness to environmental stimuli that results in limited alertness with respect to the educational environment, because of a chronic or acute health problem, such as a heart condition, tuberculosis, rheumatic fever, nephritis, asthma, attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, sickle cell anemia, hemophilia, epilepsy, lead poisoning, leukemia, Tourette syndrome, or diabetes, that adversely affects a student's educational performance.

Adverse effects in educational performance must be verified through the full and individual evaluation procedures as provided in § 24:05:25:04.