

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

T. WILLARD FAIR, *Chairman*

Members

PETER BOULWARE

AKSHAY DESAI

ROBERTO MARTÍNEZ

PHOEBE RAULERSON

KATHLEEN SHANAHAN

LINDA K. TAYLOR



March 16, 2009



Ms. Monica Verra, Director
Exceptional Student Education
Pasco County School District
7227 Land O' Lakes Boulevard
Land O' Lakes, Florida 34638

Re: Early Resolution Agreement: Case No. BEESS-2009-014-ER

Dear Mr. Coyner and Ms. Verra:

The Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services received a state complaint from [REDACTED] on February 27, 2009, alleging that the Pasco County School District had violated federal and state laws relating to the education of students with disabilities. Ms. Vicki Eddy, Program Specialist, was assigned to manage the case. The complainant and the district were contacted on February 26, 2009, by Bureau staff and agreed to attempt early resolution. Specifically, the complainant's allegations involved the following issues:

- ISSUE 1:** Whether the Pasco County School District implemented the student's individual educational plan (IEP) specifically regarding special education services that would enable the student to make progress on the annual goals during the 2008-09 school year
- ISSUE 2:** Whether the Pasco County School District provided accurate progress reports to the parent during the 2008-09 school year
- ISSUE 3:** Whether the student's IEP team considered the observations and the recommendations from the student's 2006 psychological report when developing the IEP for the 2008-09 school year

BAMBI J. LOCKMAN

Chief

Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services

Mr. Coyner and Ms. Verra
March 16, 2009
Page Two

ISSUE 4: Whether the Pasco County School District followed the required procedures for the complainant's December 16, 2008, request for classroom academic assessments

On March 10, 2009, the parties agreed to meet to attempt early resolution. After discussing the issues in the state complaint, the parties developed an early resolution agreement to address the issues which the complainant agreed to and signed.

The district provided the Bureau a copy of the early resolution agreement, which included:

- The student will move to a different classroom starting March 11, 2009.
- An academic assessment in reading, writing, and math will be completed to establish baseline data by March 13, 2009.
- The assessment will be re-administered in two weeks for progress monitoring.
- An informal language assessment will be conducted prior to April 3, 2009.
- Weekly updates will be provided to the parent regarding the student's learning and behavioral needs.
- A homework packet will be sent home each week for the student to practice the areas identified from the academic assessment.
- The classroom management system being used in the new classroom will be reviewed and explained to the parent on March 13, 2009.
- The student's behavior intervention plan (BIP) will be reviewed and revised to address parent's concerns by March 13, 2009.
- The parent would like the student to receive additional educational supports to help ■ make gains; staff will identify opportunities for additional academic supports to be provided for the student.
- A parent-teacher conference is scheduled for March 13, 2009.
- A follow-up resolution meeting has been scheduled for April 3, 2009.

We commend both parties for working together on the local level to resolve the issues presented in the state complaint. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this information, you may contact Ms. Eddy at (850) 245-0476, or via electronic mail at Vicki.Eddy@fldoe.org.

Sincerely,

Bambi J. Lockman, Chief
Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services

BJL/ve

Enclosure: Early Resolution Agreement dated 3/10/2009

cc: Kim C. Komisar, Florida Department of Education
Demetria Harvell, Florida Department of Education
Vicki Eddy, Florida Department of Education