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June 20, 2008

Mr. Wayne Aldrich, Superintendent
Glades County School District
P.O. Box 459
Moore Haven, FL 33471-0459

Dear Mr. Aldrich:

The Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services is in receipt of your district's response to the preliminary findings of its Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Compliance Self-Assessment. This letter and the attached document(s) comprise the final report for Glades County School District's 2007-08 ESE monitoring.

The self-assessment system is designed to address the major areas of compliance related to the State Performance Plan (SPP). SPP Indicator 15, Timely Correction of Noncompliance, requires that the state identify and correct noncompliance **as soon as possible, but no later than one year from identification.**

As indicated in prior communication with district ESE staff, it was anticipated that there might be an increase in the number of findings of noncompliance over previous monitoring activities due to the design of the self-assessment protocols and sampling system. While any incident of noncompliance is of concern, it is important to note that, in accordance with the language in SPP Indicator 15, the Bureau's current monitoring system considers the timeliness of correction of noncompliance to be of greatest significance.

On February 22, 2008, the preliminary report of findings from the self-assessment process was released to the district. The preliminary report detailed student-specific incidents of noncompliance that required immediate correction, and identified any standards for which the noncompliance was considered systemic (i.e., evident in $\geq 25\%$ of the records reviewed). In the event that there were systemic findings, a corrective action plan (CAP) was required. In addition,

BAMBI J. LOCKMAN

Chief

Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services

the district participated in a validation review to ensure the accuracy of the self-assessment data. As a result of the validation review, additional incidents or findings of noncompliance requiring correction were identified.

In accordance with guidance from the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), U.S. Department of Education, a finding of noncompliance is identified by the standard (i.e., regulation or requirement) that is violated, not by the number of times the standard is violated. While each *incident* of noncompliance must be corrected for the individual student affected, multiple incidents of noncompliance regarding a given standard that occur within a school district are reported as a single *finding* of noncompliance for that district. These results are included in the Bureau's annual reporting to OSEP.

Districts were required to correct all student-specific noncompliance no later than April 25, 2008, and to provide evidence to the Bureau no later than April 30, 2008. We are pleased to report that Glades County School District completed the required corrective actions and submitted the verifying documentation and CAP within the established timeline.

Glades County was required to assess 67 standards. One or more incidents of noncompliance were identified on 21 of those standards (31%). The following is a summary of Glades County School District's correction of student-specific incidents of noncompliance:

Correction of Noncompliance by Student

	Number	Percentage
Records Reviewed/Protocols Completed	23	–
Total Items Assessed	722	–
Noncompliant	74	10%
Timely Corrected	74	100%

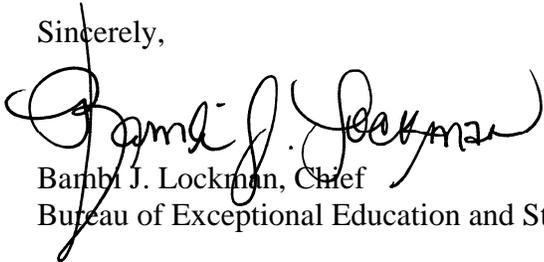
The *Glades District Summary Report: Findings of Noncompliance by Standard* (Attachment 1) contains a summary of the findings reported by the individual standard or regulation assessed. These data include revisions to the preliminary report that resulted from the validation review. Systemic findings are designated by shaded cells in the table. As noted in this attachment, one or more findings of noncompliance were determined to be systemic in nature and the district was required to develop a CAP to address the identified standards. Glades County School District's CAP was submitted to the Bureau for review and approval, and is provided in Attachment 2. Please note that a timeline for implementation, evaluation, and reporting of results on the part of the district is included in the CAP. Your district's adherence to this schedule is required in order to ensure correction of systemic noncompliance within a year as required by OSEP and Florida's SPP.

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The results of district self-assessments conducted during 2007-08 will be used to inform future monitoring activities, including the selection of districts for on-site monitoring, and in the local educational agency (LEA) determinations required under section 300.603, Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations, which result in districts being identified as “meets requirements,” “needs assistance,” “needs intervention,” or “needs substantial intervention.”

We understand that the implementation of this self-assessment required a significant commitment of resources, and appreciate the time and attention your staff has devoted to the process thus far. We look forward to receiving the district’s report on the results of its corrective action plan, due to the Bureau no later than **December 22, 2008**. If you have questions regarding this process, please contact your assigned district liaison for monitoring or Dr. Kim C. Komisar, Administrator, at kim.komisar@fldoe.org or via phone at (850) 245-0476.

Sincerely,



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

Attachments

cc: Janice Foster
Frances Haithcock
Kim C. Komisar
Jill Snelson
Martha Murray
Sheila Gritz

**Florida Department of Education
Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services**

**ESE Self-Assessment
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Glades District Summary Report: Findings of Noncompliance by Standard

This report provides a summary of the district's results and must be used when developing a corrective action plan. Results are reported by standard, with systemic noncompliance (occurrence in $\geq 25\%$ of possible incidents) indicated as appropriate. See the *Student Report: Incidents of Noncompliance* for student-specific findings. Results are based on the following:

Number of EX protocols completed: 20
 Number of standards per EX: 33
 Number of STA protocols completed: 1
 Number of standards per STA: 6
 Number of STB protocols completed: 2
 Number of standards per STB: 28

Total number of protocols: 23
 Total number of standards: 722
 Total number of incidents of noncompliance (NC): 74
 Overall % incidents of noncompliance: 10%

Percent of noncompliance is calculated as the # of incidents of noncompliance for a given standard divided by the # of protocols reviewed for that standard, multiplied by 100.

* Correctable for the student(s): A finding for which immediate action can be taken to correct the noncompliance.

** Individual CAP: For a finding which cannot be corrected for an individual student, a corrective action plan (CAP) is required to address how the district will ensure future compliance; this plan will be limited in scope, based on the nature of the finding.

*** Systemic CAP: For a finding of noncompliance on a given standard that occurs in $\geq 25\%$ of possible incidents, a corrective action plan (CAP) is required to ensure future compliance; this plan must address the systemic nature of the finding and will be broader in scope than an individual CAP.

Note: In the event that there is a systemic finding of noncompliance on a standard that requires an individual CAP, only a systemic CAP is required.

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Glades District Summary Report: Findings of Noncompliance by Standard

Noncompliance (NC)		*Correctable for the Student(s)	**Individual CAP	# NC	% NC	***Systemic CAP
EX-2	The IEP for a school-age student includes a statement of present levels of academic achievement and functional performance, including how the student's disability affects involvement and progress in the general curriculum, as well as a statement of the remediation needed to achieve a passing score on the general statewide assessment. For a prekindergarten student, the IEP contains a statement of how the disability affects the student's participation in the appropriate activities. (34 CFR 300.320(a)(1); Rule 6A-6.03028(7)(a), FAC.)	X		20	100.0%	X
EX-9	There is alignment among the present level of academic and functional performance statement, the annual goals and short term objectives/benchmarks, and the services identified on the IEP. (34 CFR 300.320(a))	X		1	5.0%	
EX-11	The parent provided consent for the student to receive instructional accommodations not permitted on statewide assessments and acknowledged the implications of such accommodations. (Section 1008.22(3)(c)6, F.S.; Rule 6A-6.03028(7)(e), FAC.)	X		1	5.0%	
EX-15	The concerns of the parents for enhancing the education of their child were considered in developing the IEP. (34 CFR 300.324(a)(1)(ii))	X		1	5.0%	
EX-16	The IEP team considered, in the case of a student whose behavior impedes his or her learning, the use of positive behavior interventions and supports, and/or other strategies to address the behavior. (34 CFR 300.324(a)(2)(i))	X		2	10.0%	
EX-25	Within 10 school days of any decision to change the placement of a student with a disability because of a violation of a code of student conduct, or prior to a long-term removal that may or may not represent a change of placement, the district conducted a manifestation determination. (34 CFR 300.530(e); Rule 6A-6.03312(3) and (4)(b), FAC.)	X		1	5.0%	

Noncompliance (NC)		*Correctable for the Student(s)	**Individual CAP	# NC	% NC	***Systemic CAP
EX-27	The IEP team considered all relevant evaluation and diagnostic information to determine whether the behavior was a manifestation of the student's disability. (34 CFR 300.530(e)(1); Rule 6A-6.03312(3)(a), FAC.)		X	1	5.0%	
EX-28	If the IEP team determined that the behavior was not a manifestation of the student's disability and the suspension/expulsion was applied, the student continued to receive services so as to enable the student to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting, and to progress toward meeting the goals set out in the student's IEP. (34 CFR 300.530(d))		X	6	30.0%	X
EX-30	If the IEP team determined that any deficiencies related to the student's IEP or its implementation identified during the review under EX-28, those deficiencies were remedied. (34 CFR 300.530(e)(3))	X		1	5.0%	
EX-31	If the student did not have a functional behavioral assessment (FBA) developed and a behavior intervention plan (BIP) implemented prior to the removal, within 10 days the IEP team developed an assessment plan and completed the FBA and developed a BIP as soon as practicable. (34 CFR 300.530(d) and (f)(1)(i); Rule 6A-6.03312(4)(d), FAC.)	X		9	45.0%	X
EX-32	If the student had a BIP, the IEP team reviewed the plan as part of the manifestation determination process and revised it as needed. (34 CFR 300.530(f)(1)(ii))		X	8	40.0%	X
EX-33	For subsequent removals that do not constitute a change in placement, the IEP team met to review the BIP and revise it as needed. (Rule 6A-6.03312(4)(e), FAC.)		X	9	45.0%	X
STA-1	The notice to the IEP team meeting included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A statement that a purpose of the meeting was the development of a statement of the student's transition services needs (beginning at age 14) or the consideration of the postsecondary goals and transition services (beginning at age 16) A statement that the student would be invited Indication that any agency likely to provide or pay for services during the 		X	1	100.0%	X

Noncompliance (NC)		*Correctable for the Student(s)	**Individual CAP	# NC	% NC	***Systemic CAP
	current year would be invited. (34 CFR 300.322(b)(2); Rule 6A-6.03028(3)(b), FAC.)					
STA-4	For students aged 14 and older: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IEP contains a statement of the student's desired post-school outcome A statement of the student's transition service needs is incorporated into applicable components of the IEP The IEP team considered the need for instruction in the area of self determination. (Rule 6A-6.03028(7)(i), FAC.)	X		1	100.0%	X
STA-5	Beginning in eighth grade, or during the school year in which the student turns 14, whichever is sooner, the IEP must include a statement of whether the student is pursuing a course of study leading to a standard diploma or a special diploma. (Rule 6A-6.03028(7)(h), FAC.)	X		1	100.0%	X
STB-1	The notice to the IEP team meeting included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A statement that a purpose of the meeting was the development of a statement of the student's transition services needs (beginning at age 14) or the consideration of the postsecondary goals and transition services (beginning at age 16) A statement that the student would be invited Indication that any agency likely to provide or pay for services during the current year would be invited. (34 CFR 300.322(b)(2); Rule 6A-6.03028(3)(b), FAC.)		X	2	100.0%	X
STB-11	There is/are annual goal(s) or short-term objectives or benchmarks that reasonably enable the student to meet the postsecondary goals. (34 CFR 300.320(a)(2))	X		2	100.0%	X

Noncompliance (NC)		*Correctable for the Student(s)	**Individual CAP	# NC	% NC	***Systemic CAP
STB-12	There are transition services on the IEP that focus on improving the academic and functional achievement of the student to facilitate the student's articulation to post-school. (34 CFR 300.320(b)(2))	X		1	50.0%	X
STB-14	If transition services are likely to be provided or paid for by another agency, a representative of the agency was invited to participate in the IEP. (34 CFR 300.321(b)(3))	X		2	100.0%	X
STB-15	The district obtained consent from the parent or from the student whose rights have transferred prior to inviting to the IEP team meeting a representative of an agency likely to provide or pay for transition services. (34 CFR 300.321(b)(3))		X	2	100.0%	X
STB-16	The IEP includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition service that will reasonably enable the student to meet the postsecondary goals. (34 CFR 300.320(b))	X		2	100.0%	X

**Florida Department of Education
Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services**

**ESE Self-Assessment
2007 – 08**

Glades County School District Corrective Action Plan

#	Findings of Noncompliance	Activities	Timelines	Resources	Results/Status
EX-2	The IEP for a school-age student includes a statement of present levels of academic achievement and functional performance, including how the student's disability affects involvement and progress in the general curriculum, as well as a statement of the remediation needed to achieve a passing score on the general statewide assessment. For a pre-kindergarten student, the IEP contains a statement of how the disability affects the student's participation in the appropriate activities. (34 CFR 300.320(a)(1); Rule 6A-6.03028(7)(a), FAC.)	The IEP will be revised in order to include this information in the present level statement. ESE director will check to make sure the new form is being used correctly. Compliance check May 2008	April 2008	Revised IEP was sent to all schools Instructions were provided by the ESE director. On-going training	
EX-28	If the IEP team determined that the behavior was not a manifestation of the student's disability and the suspension/expulsion was applied, the student continued to receive services so as to enable the student to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting, and to progress toward meeting the goals set out in the student's IEP. (34 CFR 300.530(d))	All schools in the district will provide all of the assignments for the student that will be missed while he or she is suspended. The student can call the school to speak to the teacher if he or she has a question about their assignment. Compliance check May 2008.	April 2008	Written memo was sent to the schools. On-going training	
EX-31	If the student did not have a functional behavioral assessment (FBA) developed and a behavior intervention plan (BIP) implemented prior to the removal, within 10 days the IEP team developed an assessment plan and completed the FBA and developed a BIP as soon as practicable. (34 CFR 300.530(d) and (f)(1)(i); Rule 6A-6.03312(4)(d), FAC.)	All persons involved at the school and district levels will be provided training on developing and implementing a FBA and BIP. Training will also be provided on the procedures for reviewing and revising the BIP. Truant officer will report 10 day suspensions or more to the ESE Director. ESE Director will	April 2008 September 2008	Review on filling out and implementing a FBA and BIP On-going training In-service Training FBA/BIP training through FDLRS	

#	Findings of Noncompliance	Activities	Timelines	Resources	Results/Status
STB-1	<p>The notice to the IEP team meeting included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A statement that a purpose of the meeting was the development of a statement of the student’s transition services needs (beginning at age 14) or the consideration of the postsecondary goals and transition services (beginning at age 16) • A statement that the student would be invited • Indication that any agency likely to provide or pay for services during the current year would be invited. <p>(34 CFR 300.322(b)(2); Rule 6A-6.03028(3)(b), FAC.)</p>	<p>The notice to the IEP meeting will be revised to include a statement that the purpose of the meeting was to develop a statement of the students transition services needed (age 14) and the consideration of post secondary goals and transition services (age 16).</p> <p>Revision will also include inviting the student and other agencies to the IEP meeting.</p> <p>ESE Director will check to make sure the correct form is being used by each school. Compliance check May 2008. Beginning August 2008, all notices will be sent out by the ESE Director.</p>	March 2008	<p>Revised notice was sent to all schools Instructions for using the new form was provided by the ESE Director On-going training</p>	
STB-11	<p>There is/are annual goal(s) or short-term objectives or benchmarks that reasonably enable the student to meet the postsecondary goals. (34 CFR 300.320(a)(2))</p>	<p>The IEP was revised to reflect this standard. All persons involved at the school and district level will be provided training on writing postsecondary goals and objectives. Compliance check Oct. 2008</p>	<p>April 2008</p> <p>Aug./Sept. 2008</p>	<p>Revised IEP was sent to all schools. Instructions for using the new form and a review on writing objectives was provided by the ESE Director. On-going training</p> <p>In-service Training PDAESE training through FDLRS</p>	
STB-12	<p>There are transition services on the IEP that focus on improving the academic and functional achievement of the student to facilitate the student’s articulation to post-school. (34 CFR 300.320(b)(2))</p>	<p>All persons involved at the school and district level will be provided training on transition services that focus on academic and achievement of the student to help facilitate the student’s articulation to post school. Compliance check Oct. 2008</p>	March 2008	<p>Review on transition services focusing on academic and achievement was provided by the ESE Director On-going training</p>	

#	Findings of Noncompliance	Activities	Timelines	Resources	Results/Status
			Aug./Sept. 2008	In-service Training PDAESE training through FDLRS	
STB-14	If transition services are likely to be provided or paid for by another agency, a representative of the agency was invited to participate in the IEP. (34 CFR 300.321(b)(3))	<p>The notice to the IEP meeting will be revised to include that a representative of an agency was invited to the IEP meeting and that the agency may be able to provide the student with transition services.</p> <p>ESE Director will check to make sure the correct form is being used by each school. Compliance check May 2008. Beginning August 2008, all notices will be sent out by the ESE Director.</p>	March 2008	Revised notice was sent to all schools Instructions were provided by the ESE Director On-going training	
STB-15	The district obtained consent from the parent or from the student whose rights have transferred prior to inviting to the IEP team meeting a representative of an agency likely to provide or pay for transition services. (34 CFR 300.321(b)(3))	<p>A form will be developed to obtain parent consent to invited agencies to the IEP meeting.</p> <p>ESE Director will check to make sure the correct form is being used by each school. Compliance check May and Oct. 2008</p>	April 2008	Form was developed and sent to all schools Instructions were provided by the ESE Director On going training	

#	Findings of Noncompliance	Activities	Timelines	Resources	Results/Status
STA-4	<p>For students aged 14 and older:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IEP contains a statement of the student’s desired post-school outcome • A statement of the student’s transition service needs is incorporated into applicable components of the IEP • The IEP team considered the need for instruction in the area of self determination. <p>(Rule 6A-6.03028(7)(i), FAC.)</p>	<p>The IEP was revised to reflect this standard and post-school outcome, transition services and self determination were discussed at the IEP meeting. Compliance check Oct. 2008</p>	<p>April 2008</p>	<p>Revised IEP was sent to all schools. Instruction for writing a statement of post school outcome was provided by the ESE Director On-going training</p>	
STA-5	<p>Beginning in eighth grade, or during the school year in which the student turns 14, whichever is sooner, the IEP must include a statement of whether the student is pursuing a course of study leading to a standard diploma or a special diploma. (Rule 6A-6.03028(7)(h), FAC.)</p>	<p>The IEP was revised to reflect this standard and a course of study was discussed at the IEP meeting. Compliance check Oct. 2008.</p>	<p>April 2008</p>	<p>Revised IEP sent to all schools. Instruction for writing a course of study was provided by the ESE Director On-going training</p>	