

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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April 1, 2011

Dr. Joseph Joyner, Superintendent
St. Johns County School District
40 Orange Street
St. Augustine, Florida 32084-3633

Dear Superintendent Joyner:

The Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services is in receipt of your district's response to the preliminary findings of its 2010-11 Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Compliance Self-Assessment. This letter and the attached document comprise the final report for St. Johns County School District's 2010-11 Level 1 and Fall Cycle Level 2 self-assessment monitoring process.

The self-assessment system is designed to address the major areas of compliance related to the State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR) required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). SPP Indicator 15, Timely Correction of Noncompliance, requires that the state identify and correct noncompliance **as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year from identification**. While any incident of noncompliance is of concern, 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.

The results of district self-assessments are included in the State's APR and are used to inform oversight activities, including the selection of districts for on-site monitoring, and 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."

On January 5, 2011, the preliminary report of findings from the 2010-11 Level 1 and Fall Cycle Level 2 self-assessment process was released to your district's ESE Director. The preliminary report detailed student-specific incidents of noncompliance that required immediate correction. Districts were required to correct all student-specific noncompliance and to provide evidence to the Bureau no later than March 7, 2011. In addition, districts are required to demonstrate that they are now correctly implementing each of the standards identified as noncompliant (i.e., 100 percent compliance).

BAMBI J. LOCKMAN
Chief

Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services

In its 2010-11 Level 1 and Fall Cycle Level 2 self-assessment, St. Johns County School District assessed 89 standards. One or more incidents of noncompliance were identified on 24 of those standards (27%). In accordance with the October 17, 2008, guidance from the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), incidents of noncompliance corrected prior to the Bureau's dissemination of the preliminary report are not reported as findings of noncompliance for the purposes of the SPP/APR. The following summary of the district's timely correction of student-specific incidents of noncompliance has been adjusted for the district's early correction:

Correction of Noncompliance by Student

	Number	Percentage
Records Reviewed/Protocols Completed	27	-
Total Items Assessed	672	-
Noncompliant	47	7.0%
Timely Corrected	47	100%

The attached *St. Johns County District Summary Report: Findings of Noncompliance by Standard* contains a summary of the findings reported by the individual standard or regulation assessed. In addition, a Matrix of Services review was required. St. Johns County School District reviewed eight matrixes for students reported at the 254 or 255 cost factors for weighted funding through the Florida Education Finance Program. No cost factor discrepancies were identified.

In addition to the individual correction(s) reported above, the district was required to demonstrate 100 percent compliance for each standard that was identified as noncompliant through review of a random sample of student records. Your district has submitted the required records to demonstrate 100 percent compliance on the following standards:

- T16-1
- T16-2
- T16-9
- T16-10
- T16-11
- T16-12
- T16-13
- T16-16
- IEP-1
- IEP-34
- IEP-35

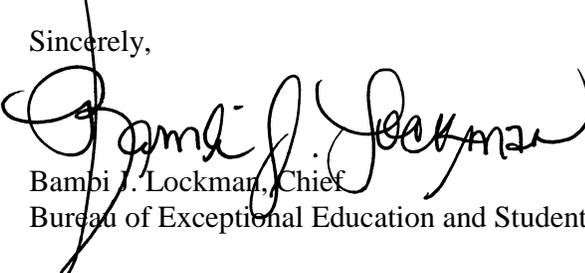
In addition, the district has developed a corrective action plan (CAP) for standards DJJ-1, DJJ-2, DJJ-3, DJJ-4, DJJ-5, DJJ-6, DJJ-8, DJJ-9, DJJ-10, DJJ-11, DJJ-17, DJJ-21 and DJJ-27, detailing the activities, resources, and timelines the district will employ to ensure the compliance target of 100 percent.

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.

Superintendent Joyner
April 1, 2011
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If you have questions regarding this process, please contact your assigned district liaison for monitoring or Patricia Howell, Program Director, at (850) 245-0476 or via electronic mail at patricia.howell@fldoe.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bambi J. Lockman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B".

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

Attachment

cc:	Lisa Bell	Patricia Howell
	Elaine Edwards	Anne Bozik
	Frances Haithcock	Sheila Gritz
	Mary Jane Tappen	Karen Denbroeder
	Kim C. Komisar	

Florida Department of Education
Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services

2010 – 2011 Self-Assessment
Level 1 and Fall Cycle Level 2
St. Johns County District Summary Report: Findings of Noncompliance by Standard

This report provides a summary of the district's results and must be used when developing corrective actions. See the *Student Report: Incidents of Noncompliance* for student-specific findings. Results are reported by standard, and are based on the following:

Number of DJJ protocols completed: 7
Number of standards per DJJ: 31
Number of IEP protocols completed: 8
Number of standards per IEP: 37
Number of T14 protocols completed: 3
Number of standards per T14: 5
Number of T16 protocols completed: 9
Number of standards per T16: 16

Total number of protocols: 27
Total number of standards: 672
Total number of incidents of noncompliance (NC): 63
Overall % incidents of noncompliance: 9.4%

Total number of different standards assessed: 89
Total number of different standards for which noncompliance was identified: 24
% of different standards for which noncompliance was identified: 27%

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 which requires immediate action(s) to correct the noncompliance

** **Ensure future compliance:** For findings which cannot be corrected for individual students, corrective actions are required to address how the district will ensure future compliance

Florida Department of Education
Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services

**2010 – 2011 Self-Assessment
Level 1 and Fall Cycle Level 2
St. Johns County District Summary Report: Findings of Noncompliance by Standard**

Noncompliance (NC)		*Correctable for the Student(s)	**Ensure Future Compliance	# NC	% NC
T16-1	The notice of the IEP team meeting included a statement that a purpose of the meeting was the consideration of postsecondary goals and transition services, that the student would be invited, and identified any agency that would be invited to send a representative. (34 CFR §300.322(b)(2))		X	1	11.1%
T16-2	The student was invited to the IEP team meeting. (34 CFR §300.321(b)(1))	X		1	11.1%
T16-9	There is a measurable postsecondary goal or goals in the designated areas (i.e., education/training, employment, and, where appropriate, independent living skills). (34 CFR §300.320(b)(1); Rule 6A-6.03028(3)(h)10a, F.A.C.)	X		6	66.7%
T16-10	The measurable postsecondary goal was based on age-appropriate transition assessment. (34 CFR §300.320(b)(1); Rule 6A-6.03028(3)(h)10a, F.A.C.)	X		4	44.4%
T16-11	The IEP includes measurable annual goals (and short-term objectives/benchmarks, if applicable) that focus on improving the academic and functional achievement of the student related to the student's transition services needs. (34 CFR §300.320(a)(2); Rule 6A-6.03028(3)(h)2-3, F.A.C.)	X		1	11.1%
T16-12	There are transition services on the IEP to assist the student in reaching the measurable postsecondary goals. (34 CFR §300.320(b)(2); Rule 6A-6.03411(1)(nn), F.A.C.)	X		1	11.1%
T16-13	The transition services include course(s) of study needed to assist the student to reach the postsecondary goals(s). (34 CFR §300.320(b)(2))	X		1	11.1%
T16-16	The IEP includes appropriate measurable postsecondary goals that are annually updated and based upon: an age-appropriate transition assessment; transition services, including courses of study, that will reasonably enable the student to meet those postsecondary	X		6	66.7%

Noncompliance (NC)		*Correctable for the Student(s)	**Ensure Future Compliance	# NC	% NC
	goals; and annual IEP goals related to the student's transition services needs. There also must be evidence that the student was invited to the IEP team meeting where transition services are to be discussed and evidence that, if appropriate, a representative of any participating agency was invited to the IEP team meeting with the prior consent of the parent or student who has reached the age of majority. (34 CFR §§300.320(b)-(c) and 300.321(b); Rule 6A-6.03028(3)(b)-(c) and (h), F.A.C.)				
DJJ-1	The parents were invited to the IEP team meeting. (34 CFR §§ 300.501(b) and 300.322(a))	X		1	14.3%
DJJ-2	The parents were provided notice of the IEP team meeting a reasonable amount of time prior to the meeting, at least one attempt to invite the parent was through a written notice, and a second attempt was made if no response was received from the first notice. (34 CFR §300.322(a)(1))		X	1	14.3%
DJJ-3	The notice of the IEP team meeting contained the time, location, and purpose of the meeting. (34 CFR §300.322(b))		X	1	14.3%
DJJ-4	The notice contained a listing of persons invited to the meeting, by name or position. (34 CFR §§300.321(a)-(b) and 300.322(b))		X	1	14.3%
DJJ-5	The parents were members of any group making decisions about the educational placement of the student. If neither parent was able to attend the IEP team meeting, there is documentation of attempts to ensure parent participation. (34 CFR §§300.322(c)-(d), 300.328, and 300.501(c))		X	1	14.3%
DJJ-6	The appropriate team members were present at the IEP team meeting. (34 CFR §300.321(a)-(b))	X		1	14.3%
DJJ-8	The IEP includes measurable annual goals, including academic and functional goals, designed to meet the student's needs that result from the disability to enable the child to be involved in and make progress in the general education curriculum and meet the student's other needs that result from the disability. Benchmarks or short-term objectives should be included for students with disabilities who take alternate assessments aligned to alternate achievement standards or any other student with a disability as determined by the IEP team. (34 CFR §300.320(a)(2))	X		1	14.3%

Noncompliance (NC)		*Correctable for the Student(s)	**Ensure Future Compliance	# NC	% NC
DJJ-9	There is evidence of the implementation of the annual goals as specified on the IEP: lesson plans, log(s), interview(s), other. (Rule 6A-6.05281(1)(c), F.A.C.)	X		5	71.4%
DJJ-10	The IEP contains a statement of special education services/specially designed instruction, including location as well as initiation, duration, and frequency. (34 CFR §300.320(a)(4) and (7))	X		7	100.0%
DJJ-11	There is evidence of the provision of special education services/specially designed instruction as specified on the IEP. (Rule 6A-6.05281(1)(c), F.A.C.)	X		5	71.4%
DJJ-17	There is evidence of the provision of program modifications or classroom accommodations as specified on the IEP: lesson plans, log(s), interview(s), other. (Rule 6A-6.05281(1)(c), F.A.C.)	X		5	71.4%
DJJ-21	The IEP contains an explanation of the extent, if any, to which the student will not participate with nondisabled students in the general education class. (34 CFR §300.320(a)(5))	X		2	28.6%
DJJ-27	The IEP team considered the communication needs of the child, including, for a student who is deaf or hard-of-hearing, consideration of the student's opportunities for direct communication with peers and professional personnel in the student's mode of communication, academic level, and full range of needs, including opportunities for direct instruction in the student's language and communication mode. (34 CFR §300.324(a)(2)(iv))	X		3	42.9%
IEP-1	The IEP was current on the day of this review.	X		1	12.5%
IEP-34	If the current IEP represents a change of placement/change of FAPE from the previous IEP, or the district refused to make a change that the parent requested, the parent received appropriate prior written notice. (34 CFR §300.503))		X	3	37.5%
IEP-35	The student's progress toward meeting the annual goals was measured, and the report of progress was provided as often as stated on the IEP. (34 CFR §300.320(a)(3))	X		4	50.0%