



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. William J. AuMiller
Superintendent
Allegany County Public Schools
P. O. Box 1724
Cumberland, Maryland 21502

Dear Dr. AuMiller:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §1416(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators considered in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Allegany County Public Schools has been determined to be *Needs Assistance (Year 2)*.

Dr. William J. AuMiller
July 31, 2008
Page Two

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Allegany County Public Schools ***Needs Assistance*** include not demonstrating substantial compliance with two of seven compliance indicators (11 and 13). Pursuant to these requirements, MSDE is advising Allegany County Public Schools of available sources of technical assistance related to Indicator 11 (Initial Evaluation Timeline) and Indicator 13 (Secondary Transition).

Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Allegany County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

The MSDE FFY 2005 determination for Allegany County Public Schools was also ***Needs Assistance***. In accordance with 20 U.S.C. §1416(e) and 34 C. F. R. §§300.600 and 300.604, if a local school system is determined to be in need of assistance for two consecutive years, MSDE must take one or more of the following actions: 1) Advise the local school system of available sources of technical assistance that may help the local school system address the areas in which the local school system needs assistance; 2) Direct the use of federal funds to the area or area(s) the local school system needs assistance; or 3) Identify the local school system as a high-risk grantee and impose special conditions on the local school system's IDEA Part B grant award.

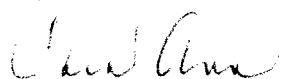
In collaboration with MSDE, Allegany County Public Schools is to identify the type, amount, and frequency of assistance needed to address the specific needs in Indicators 11 and 13. MSDE is available to consult with local school systems by telephone, fax, email, mail, or in-person. Attached is a list of Division personnel, with contact information, for each SPP indicator.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA.

Dr. William J. AuMiller
July 31, 2008
Page Three

If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities. The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Allegany County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL:gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Sheree Witt
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Allegany County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Allegany County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 66.97%. This is below the State's target of 83.24% by 16.27%.	Allegany County Public Schools' data was below the State's target. The FFY 2006 data shows a decrease from the previous year's graduation rate of 70.48% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Allegany County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Allegany County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 7.31%. This does not meet the State's target of 3.81% by 3.50%.	Allegany County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target. The FFY 2006 data shows an increase from the previous year's dropout rate of 6.10% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Allegany County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Allegany County Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is 1.37 and for extended suspensions is 0.00 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 – 1.49.	Allegany County Public Schools' data met the State's target for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and extended suspensions. MSDE looks forward to Allegany County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Allegany County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis/Next Steps
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Allegany County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 85.17%. This exceeds the State's target of 60.11% for FFY 2006 by 25.06%. B. Allegany County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 7.42%. This exceeds the State's target of 16.61% for FFY 2006 by 9.19%. C. Allegany County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 3.35%. This exceeds the State's target of 7.42% for FFY 2006 by 4.07%.	Allegany County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's targets for Indicators 5A, 5B, and 5C. MSDE looks forward to Allegany County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality		
9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Allegany County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Allegany County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Allegany County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Allegany County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Allegany County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Allegany County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Allegany County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Allegany County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 90.26%. The State's target is 100%.	Allegany County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years but did show progress over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Allegany County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Allegany County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 100%. The State's target is 100%.	Allegany County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Allegany County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data maintaining 100% compliance.

Allegany County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Allegany County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 92.8%. The State's target is 100%.	Allegany County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years but did show progress over the previous year's data. MSDE acknowledges the <i>Rating Change Form</i> submitted with the Self-Assessment and looks forward to verifying the data.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Allegany County Public Schools had no corrective actions due in FFY 2006.	Allegany County Public Schools had no findings of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006. MSDE expects all identified noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) are timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Allegany County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Allegany County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Allegany County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

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July 31, 2008

Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell
Superintendent
Anne Arundel County Public Schools
2644 Riva Road
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Dr. Maxwell:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §1416(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators considered in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Anne Arundel County Public Schools has been determined to be *Needs Assistance (Year 2)*.

Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell
July 31, 2008
Page Two

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Anne Arundel County Public Schools *Needs Assistance* include not meeting the State targets for performance Indicators 1, 2, and 5C. Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Anne Arundel County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Technical Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

The MSDE FFY 2005 determination for Anne Arundel County Public Schools was also *Needs Assistance*. In accordance with 20 U.S.C. §1416(e) and 34 C. F. R. §§300.600 and 300.604, if a local school system is determined to be in *need of assistance* for two consecutive years, MSDE must take one or more of the following actions: 1) Advise the local school system of available sources of technical assistance that may help the local school system address the areas in which the local school system needs assistance; 2) Direct the use of federal funds to the area or area(s) the local school system needs assistance; or 3) Identify the local school system as a high-risk grantee and impose special conditions on the local school system's IDEA Part B grant award.

In collaboration with MSDE, Anne Arundel County Public Schools is to identify the type, amount, and frequency of *assistance needed* to address the specific needs in indicators 1, 2 and 5C. MSDE is available to consult with local school systems by telephone, fax, email, mail, or in-person. Attached is a list of Division personnel, with contact information, for each SPP indicator.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA. If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities.

Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell
July 31, 2008
Page Three

The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Anne Arundel County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carol Ann".

Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL:gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Mary Tillar
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Anne Arundel County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the States graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Anne Arundel County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 81.66%. This is below the State's target of 83.24% by 1.58%.	Anne Arundel County Public Schools' data was below the State's target. The FFY 2006 data shows a decrease from the previous year's graduation rate of 87.10% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Anne Arundel County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Anne Arundel County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 4.84%. This did not meet the State's target of 3.81% by 1.03%	Anne Arundel County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target. The FFY 2006 data shows an increase from the previous year's dropout rate of 4.15% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Anne Arundel County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Anne Arundel County's FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is 0.66 and for extended suspensions is 1.31 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 – 1.49.	Anne Arundel County Public Schools' data met the State's targets for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and extended suspensions. MSDE looks forward to Anne Arundel County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.

Anne Arundel County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate Schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Anne Arundel County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 62.56%. This exceeds the State's target of 60.11% by 2.45%. B. Anne Arundel County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 16.02%. This exceeds the State's target of 16.61 by 0.59%. C. Anne Arundel County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 8.94%. This does not meet the State's target of 7.42% by 1.52%.	Anne Arundel County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for Indicators 5A and 5B, and was below the State's targets for Indicator 5C. MSDE looks forward to Anne Arundel County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality		
9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Anne Arundel County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Anne Arundel County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Anne Arundel County Public Schools' data demonstrating continued compliance.

Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Anne Arundel County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Anne Arundel County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this indicator. MSDE looks forward to Anne Arundel County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State's established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Anne Arundel County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 87.34%. The State's target is 100%.	Anne Arundel County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years. MSDE acknowledges Anne Arundel County Public Schools will submit a <i>Rating Change Form</i> based on the May 30, 2008 memo from Dr. Carol Ann Baglin.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Anne Arundel County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 99.39%. The State's target is 100%.	Anne Arundel County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator but was substantially compliant (95 - 95.9%). MSDE looks forward to Anne Arundel County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating 100% compliance.

Anne Arundel County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Anne Arundel County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 100%. The State's target is 100%.	Anne Arundel County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Anne Arundel County Public Schools' data maintaining 100% compliance.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Anne Arundel County Public Schools had no corrective action plans due during FFY 2006.	Anne Arundel County Public Schools had no findings of noncompliance identified by the State during FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006. MSDE expects all identification of noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State's Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) are timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Anne Arundel County Public Schools submitted required SFY 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Anne Arundel County Public Schools' data met the State's target for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Anne Arundel County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. Joe Hairston
Superintendent
Baltimore County Public Schools
6901 Charles Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21204

Dear Dr.  Hairston:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

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Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Baltimore County Public Schools ***Needs Assistance*** include: (1) Not meeting State targets for Performance Indicators 1, 5B and 5C; (2) Not demonstrating substantial compliance with two of seven compliance indicators (11 and 13); and (3) Correction of previously identified finding of noncompliance within 15 months of identification. Pursuant to these requirements, MSDE is advising Baltimore County Public Schools of available sources of technical assistance related to Indicator 11 (Initial Evaluation Timeline), Indicator 13 (Secondary Transition), and Indicator 15 (Timely Correction of Noncompliance).

Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

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In collaboration with MSDE, Baltimore County Public Schools is to identify the type, amount, and frequency of assistance needed to address the specific needs in indicators 1, 5B, 5C, 11, 13 and 15. MSDE is available to consult with local school systems by telephone, fax, email, mail, or in-person. Attached is a list of Division personnel, with contact information, for each SPP indicator.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA.

Dr. Joe Hairston
July 31, 2008
Page Three

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Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL:gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Patricia Lawton
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Baltimore County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Baltimore County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 82.85%. This is below the State's target of 83.24% by .39%.	Baltimore County Public Schools' data was below the State's target. The FFY 2006 data shows an increase from the previous year's graduation rate of 80.00% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Baltimore County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Baltimore County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 3.12%. This exceeds the State's target of 3.81% by .69%.	Baltimore County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target. MSDE looks forward to Baltimore County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Baltimore County Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is 1.46 and for extended suspensions is 1.10 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 – 1.49.	Baltimore County Public Schools' data met the State's target for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and extended suspensions. MSDE looks forward to Baltimore County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Baltimore County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Baltimore County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 62.38%. This exceeds the State's target of 60.11% by 2.27%. B. Baltimore County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 18.01%. This does not meet the State's target of 16.61% by 1.40%. C. Baltimore County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 7.88%. This is below the State's target of 7.42% by .46%.	Baltimore County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for Indicator 5A and was below the State's target for Indicator 5B and 5C. MSDE looks forward to Baltimore County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality		
9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Baltimore County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Baltimore County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Baltimore County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Baltimore County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Baltimore County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Baltimore County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Baltimore County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Baltimore County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 91.9%. The State's target is 100%.	Baltimore County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator and the data declined over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Baltimore County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Baltimore County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 100%. The State's target is 100%.	Baltimore County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Baltimore County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data maintaining 100% compliance.

Baltimore County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Baltimore County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 85.30%. The State's target is 100%.	Baltimore County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years but did show progress over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Baltimore County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Baltimore County Public Schools had four corrective actions due in FFY 2006.	Baltimore County Public Schools had three findings of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006 and were corrected within timelines. Baltimore County Public Schools had one finding of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that was due for correction in FFY 2006 that was not corrected within timelines. MSDE expects all identified noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.

**Baltimore County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007**

20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) are timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Baltimore County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Baltimore County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Baltimore County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.
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Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Mr. Jack R. Smith
Superintendent
Calvert County Public Schools
1305 Dares Beach Road
Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678

Dear Mr. *Jack* Smith:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §1416(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators considered in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Calvert County Public Schools has been determined to be ***Needs Intervention (Year 2)***.

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Calvert County Public Schools ***Needs Intervention*** include: (1) Not meeting State targets for performance indicators 2 and 5A; (2) Data demonstrating compliance below the State targets for Indicators 4, 11, and 13; and (3) Findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2005 that were not corrected within required timelines in FFY 2006. Pursuant to these requirements, MSDE is advising Calvert County Public Schools of available sources of technical assistance related to Indicator 4 (Suspension), Indicator 11 (Initial Evaluation Timeline), Indicator 13 (Secondary Transition), and Indicator 15 (Timely Correction of Noncompliance).

Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Calvert County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

In collaboration with MSDE, Calvert County Public Schools will identify the type, amount, and frequency of assistance needed to address the specific needs in Indicators 1, 5A, 4, 11, 13, and 15. MSDE is available to consult with local school systems by telephone, fax, email, mail, or in-person. Attached is a list of Division personnel, with contact information, for each SPP indicator.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA. If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities.

Mr. Jack R. Smith
July 31, 2008
Page Three

The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Calvert County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL:gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Annette Lagana
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Calvert County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Calvert County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 87.18%. This exceeds the State's target of 83.24% by 3.94%.	Calvert County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for this indicator. MSDE looks forward to Calvert County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Calvert County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 5.64%. This does not meet the State's target of 3.81% by 1.83%.	Calvert County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target for this indicator. The FFY 2006 data shows an increase from the previous year's drop-out rate of 0.0% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Calvert County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Calvert County Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is 2.25 and for extended suspensions is 0.00 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 – 1.49.	Calvert County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and met the State's target for extended suspensions. MSDE expects Calvert County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.

Calvert County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Calvert County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 46.93%. This is below the State's target of 60.11% by 13.18%. B. Calvert County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 7.94%. This exceeds the State's target of 16.61% by 8.67%. C. Calvert County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 5.17%. This exceeds the State's target of 7.42% by 2.25%.	Calvert County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's targets for Indicators 5B and 5C and was below the target for Indicator 5A. MSDE looks forward to Calvert County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality		
9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Calvert County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Calvert County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Calvert County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Calvert County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Calvert County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Calvert County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Calvert County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Calvert County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 88.99%. The State's target is 100%.	Calvert County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years but did show progress over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Calvert County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Calvert County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 97.67%. The State's target is 100%.	Calvert County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% but was substantially compliant (95 – 99.9%) for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Calvert County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating 100% compliance.

Calvert County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Calvert County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 88%. The State's target is 100%.	Calvert County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator and declined over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Calvert County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Calvert County Public Schools had two corrective actions due in FFY 2006.	Calvert County Public Schools had two findings of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006 that were not corrected within timelines. MSDE expects all identified noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) is timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Calvert County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Calvert County Public Schools' data met the State's target for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Calvert County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. Edward W. Shirley
Superintendent
Caroline County Public Schools
204 Franklin Street
Denton, Maryland 21629

Dear Dr. Shirley:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008 OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §1416(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators included in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Caroline County Public Schools has been determined to be ***Meets Requirements***.

Dr. Edward W. Shirley
July 31, 2008
Page Two

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Caroline County Public Schools met requirements include: (1) Meeting State targets for Performance Indicators 5A, 5B, and 5C; (2) Demonstrating substantial compliance for six of seven compliance indicators (4, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 20); and (3) No findings of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006. Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Caroline County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance report at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA. If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities.

The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Caroline County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL:gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Rosemary D. Thomas
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Caroline County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Caroline County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 70.83%. This is below the State's target of 83.24% by 12.41%.	Caroline County Public Schools' data was below the State's target. The FFY 2006 data shows an increase from the previous year's graduation rate of 22.22% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Caroline County Public Schools' FY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Caroline County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 8.02%. This does not meet the State's target of 3.81% by 4.21%.	Caroline County Public Schools' data was significantly below the State's target. The FFY 2006 data shows an increase from the previous year's dropout rate of 3.50% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Caroline County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Caroline County Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is 1.51 and for extended suspensions is 0.00 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 - 1.49.	Due to the small cell size in multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and extended suspensions, Caroline County Public Schools' data was not included in the analysis of this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Caroline County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating compliance.

Caroline County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Caroline County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 79.25%. This exceeds the State's target of 60.11% by 19.14%. B. Caroline County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 11.73%. This exceeds the State's target of 16.61% by 4.88%. C. Caroline County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 1.87%. This exceeds the State's target of 7.42% by 5.55%.	Caroline County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's targets for Indicators 5A, 5B, and 5C. MSDE looks forward to Caroline County Public Schools' FY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality 9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Caroline County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Caroline County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Caroline County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Caroline County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Caroline County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Caroline County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Caroline County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Caroline County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 97.03%. The State's target is 100%.	Caroline County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator but was substantially compliant (95-99.9%). MSDE acknowledges the <i>Rating Change Form</i> submitted with the Self-Assessment and looks forward to verifying the data.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Caroline County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 100%. The State's target is 100%.	Caroline County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Caroline County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data maintaining compliance.

Caroline County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Caroline County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 92.2%. The State's target is 100%.	Caroline County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years but did show progress over the previous year's data. MSDE acknowledges the Rating Change Form submitted with the Self-Assessment and looks forward to verifying the data.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Caroline County Public Schools had no corrective actions due in FFY 2006.	Caroline County Public Schools had no findings of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006. MSDE expects all identified noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) is timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Caroline County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Caroline County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Caroline County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. Charles I. Ecker
Superintendent
Carroll County Public Schools
125 North Court Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157

Dear Dr. Ecker:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §1416(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators considered in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Carroll County Public Schools has been determined to be *Needs Assistance (Year 2)*.

Dr. Charles I. Ecker
July 31, 2008
Page Two

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Carroll County Public Schools ***Needs Assistance*** include not demonstrating substantial compliance with two of seven compliance indicators (11 and 12). Pursuant to these requirements, MSDE is advising Carroll County Public Schools of available sources of technical assistance related to Indicator 11 (Initial Evaluation Timeline) and Indicator 12 (Part C to Part B Transition).

Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Carroll County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

The MSDE FFY 2005 determination for Carroll County Public Schools was also ***Needs Assistance***. In accordance with 20 U.S.C. §1416(e) and 34 C. F. R. §§300.600 and 300.604, if a local school system is determined to be in need of assistance for two consecutive years, MSDE must take one or more of the following actions: 1) Advise the local school system of available sources of technical assistance that may help the local school system address the areas in which the local school system needs assistance; 2) Direct the use of federal funds to the area or area(s) the local school system needs assistance; or 3) Identify the local school system as a high-risk grantee and impose special conditions on the local school system's IDEA Part B grant award.

In collaboration with MSDE, Carroll County Public Schools is to identify the type, amount, and frequency of assistance needed to address the specific needs in Indicators 11 and 12. MSDE is available to consult with local school systems by telephone, fax, email, mail, or in-person. Attached is a list of Division personnel, with contact information, for each SPP indicator.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA. If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities

Dr. Charles I. Ecker
July 31, 2008
Page Three

The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Carroll County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL/gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Jane Conner
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Carroll County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Carroll County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 89.27%. This exceeds the State's target of 83.24% by 6.03%.	Carroll County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for this indicator. MSDE looks forward to Carroll County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Carroll County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is .93%. This exceeds the State's target of 3.81% by 2.88%.	Carroll County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for this indicator. MSDE looks forward to Carroll County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Carroll County Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is 2.28 and for extended suspensions is 0.00 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 – 1.49.	Due to the small cell size in multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days, the Carroll County Public Schools' data was not included in the analysis of this compliance indicator. Carroll County Public Schools met the State's target for extended suspensions. MSDE looks forward to Carroll County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Carroll County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Carroll County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 70.76%. This exceeds the State's target of 60.11% by 10.65%. B. Carroll County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 8.20%. This exceeds the State's target of 16.61% by 8.41%. C. Carroll County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 4.47%. This exceeds the State's target of 7.42% by 2.95%.	Carroll County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's targets for Indicators 5A, 5B and 5C. MSDE looks forward to Carroll County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality		
9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Carroll County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Carroll County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Carroll County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Carroll County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Carroll County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Carroll County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Carroll County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Carroll County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 78.68%. The State's target is 100%.	Carroll County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years but did show progress over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Calvert County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Carroll County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 90.59%. The State's target is 100%.	Carroll County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator and declined over the previous year's data. MSDE acknowledges the <i>Rating Change Form</i> submitted with the <i>Self-Assessment</i> and looks forward to verifying the data.

Carroll County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Carroll County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 99.76%. The State's target is 100%.	Carroll County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator but was substantially compliant (95-99.9%). MSDE looks forward to Carroll County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating 100% compliance.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Carroll County Public Schools had no corrective actions due in FFY 2006.	Carroll County Public Schools had no findings of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006. MSDE expects all identified noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) is timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Carroll County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Carroll County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Carroll County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Mr. Henry Shaffer
Interim Superintendent
Cecil County Public Schools
201 Booth Street
Elkton, Maryland 21921

Dear Mr. Shaffer:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §1416(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators considered in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Cecil County Public Schools has been determined to be *Needs Assistance (Year 2)*.

Mr. Henry Shaffer
July 31, 2008
Page Two

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Cecil County Public Schools ***Needs Assistance*** include not demonstrating substantial compliance with two of seven compliance indicators (11 and 13). Pursuant to these requirements, MSDE is advising Cecil County Public Schools of available sources of technical assistance related to Indicator 11 (Initial Evaluation Timeline) and Indicator 13 (Secondary Transition).

Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Cecil County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

The MSDE FFY 2005 determination for Cecil County Public Schools was also ***Needs Assistance***. In accordance with 20 U.S.C. §1416(e) and 34 C. F. R. §§300.600 and 300.604, if a local school system is determined to be in need of assistance for two consecutive years, MSDE must take one or more of the following actions: 1) Advise the local school system of available sources of technical assistance that may help the local school system address the areas in which the local school system needs assistance; 2) Direct the use of federal funds to the area or area(s) the local school system needs assistance; or 3) Identify the local school system as a high-risk grantee and impose special conditions on the local school system's IDEA Part B grant award.

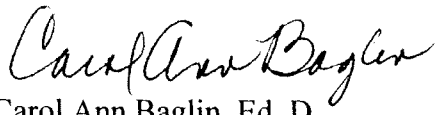
In collaboration with MSDE, Cecil County Public Schools is to identify the type, amount, and frequency of assistance needed to address the specific needs in Indicators 11 and 13. MSDE is available to consult with local school systems by telephone, fax, email, mail, or in-person. Attached is a list of Division personnel, with contact information, for each SPP indicator.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA.

Mr. Henry Shaffer
July 31, 2008
Page Three

If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities. The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Cecil County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL/gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Mark Zawislak
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Cecil County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Cecil County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 57.38%. This is below the State's target of 83.24% by 25.86%.	Cecil County Public Schools' data was below the State's target. The FFY 2006 data shows an increase from the previous year's graduation rate of 48.12% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Cecil County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Cecil County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 7.07%. This does not meet the State's target of 3.81% by 3.26%.	Cecil County Public Schools' data was below the State's target. The FFY 2006 data shows a decrease from the previous year's dropout rate of 10.66% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Cecil County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Cecil County Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is .40 and for extended suspensions is 1.15 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 – 1.49.	Cecil County Public Schools' data met the State's target for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and for extended suspensions. MSDE looks forward to Cecil County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Cecil County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Cecil County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 88.32%. This exceeds the State's target of 60.11% by 28.21%. B. Cecil County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 4.22%. This exceeds the State's target of 16.61% by 12.39%. C. Cecil County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 3.59%. This exceeds the State's target of 7.42% by 3.83%.	Cecil County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's targets for Indicators 5A, 5B and 5C. MSDE looks forward to Cecil County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality 9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Cecil County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Cecil County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Cecil County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Cecil County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Cecil County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Cecil County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Cecil County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Cecil County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 88.68%. The State's target is 100%.	Cecil County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years. MSDE acknowledges the <i>Rating Change Form</i> submitted with the <i>Self-Assessment</i> and looks forward to verifying the data.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Cecil County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 96.83%. The State's target is 100%.	Cecil County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator but was substantially compliant (95-99.9%). MSDE acknowledges the <i>Rating Change Form</i> submitted with the <i>Self-Assessment</i> and looks forward to verifying the data.

Cecil County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Cecil County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 93%. The State's target is 100%.	Cecil County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years but did show progress over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Calvert County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Cecil County Public Schools had no corrective actions due in FFY 2006.	Cecil County Public Schools had no findings of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006. MSDE expects all identified noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) is timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Cecil County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Cecil County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Cecil County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. James E. Richmond
Superintendent
Charles County Public Schools
P. O. Box 2770
LaPlata, Maryland 20646

Dear Dr. Richmond:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §1416(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators considered in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Charles County Public Schools has been determined to be *Needs Assistance*.

Dr. James E. Richmond
July 31, 2008
Page Two

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Charles County Public Schools *Needs Assistance* include not demonstrating substantial compliance in two of seven compliance indicators (11 and 13). Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Charles County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

Please be advised that in accordance with 20 U.S.C. §1416(e) and 34 C. F. R. §§300.600 and 300.604, if a local school system is determined to be in need of assistance for two consecutive years, MSDE must take one or more of the following actions: 1) Advise the local school system of available sources of technical assistance that may help the local school system address the areas in which the local school system needs assistance; 2) Direct the use of federal funds to the area or area(s) the local school system needs assistance; or 3) Identify the local school system as a high-risk grantee and impose special conditions on the local school system's IDEA Part B grant award.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA. If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities.

Dr. James E. Richmond
July 31, 2008
Page Three

The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Charles County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL:gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Arden Sotomayor
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Charles County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Charles County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 69.83%. This is below the State's target of 83.24% by 13.41%.	Charles County Public Schools' data was below the State's target for this indicator. The FFY 2006 data shows a decrease from the previous year's graduation rate of 79.84% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Charles County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Charles County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 4.71%. This does not meet the State's target of 3.81% by 0.9%.	Charles County Public Schools' data was below the State's target for this indicator. The FFY 2006 data shows a decrease from the previous year's dropout rate of 6.23% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Charles County Public Schools FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Charles County Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is 1.14 and for extended suspensions is 0.77 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 - 1.49.	Charles County Public Schools' data met the State's target for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and extended suspensions. MSDE looks forward to Charles County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Charles County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Charles County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 64.51%. This exceeds the State's target of 60.11% by 4.4%. B. Charles County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 15.35%. This exceeds the State's target of 16.61% by 1.26%. C. Charles County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 4.79%. This exceeds the State's target of 7.42% by 2.63%.	Charles County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's targets for Indicators 5A, 5B and 5C. MSDE looks forward to Charles County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality		
9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Charles County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Charles County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Charles County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Charles County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Charles County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Charles County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Charles County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Charles County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator are 73.72%. The State's target is 100%.	Charles County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years but did show progress over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Calvert County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Charles County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 97.92%. The State's target is 100%.	Charles County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% but is substantially compliant (95-99.9%) for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Charles County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating 100% compliance.

Charles County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Charles County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 60%. The State's target is 100%.	Charles County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years but did show progress over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Calvert County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Charles County Public Schools had no corrective actions due in FFY 2006.	Charles County Public Schools had no findings of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006. MSDE expects all identified noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) is timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Charles County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Charles County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Charles County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. Frederic Hildenbrand
Superintendent
Dorchester County Public Schools
P.o. Box 619
Cambridge, Maryland 21613

Dear Dr. Hildenbrand:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §1416(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators included in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Dorchester County Public Schools has been determined to be ***Meets Requirements***.

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Dorchester County Public Schools *met requirements* include: (1) Meeting State targets for Performance Indicators 5A, 5B, and 5C; (2) Demonstrating substantial compliance for seven of seven compliance indicators (4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 20); and (3) No findings of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006.

Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

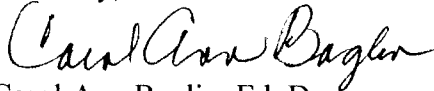
- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Dorchester County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA. If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities.

The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Dorchester County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL:gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Angela McPeake Gebert
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Dorchester County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 53.13%. This is below the State's target of 83.24% by 30.11%.	Dorchester County Public Schools' data was below the State's target. The FFY 2006 data shows an increase from the previous year's graduation rate of 16.67% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 7.14%. This does not meet the State's target of 3.81% by 3.33%.	Dorchester County Public Schools' data was below the State's target. The FFY 2006 data shows a decrease from the previous year's dropout rate of 7.52% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is 1.25 and for extended suspensions is 2.10 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 – 1.49.	Due to the small cell size in multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and extended suspensions, the Dorchester County Public Schools' data was not included in the analysis of this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Dorchester County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 75.23%. This exceeds the State's target of 60.11% by 15.12%. B. Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 8.49%. This exceeds the State's target of 16.61% by 8.12%. C. Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 2.06%. This exceeds the State's Target of 7.42% by 5.36%.	Dorchester County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's targets for Indicators 5A, 5B, and 5C. MSDE looks forward to Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality 9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Dorchester County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Dorchester County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Dorchester County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 95.56%. The State's target is 100%.	Dorchester County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator but was substantially compliant (95-99.9%). MSDE looks forward to Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating 100% compliance.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 100%. The State's target is 100%.	Dorchester County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data maintaining 100% compliance.

Dorchester County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator; New]	Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 100%. The State's target is 100%.	Dorchester County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Dorchester County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data maintaining 100% compliance.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Dorchester County Public Schools had no corrective action plans due in FFY 2006.	Dorchester County Public Schools had no findings of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006. MSDE expects all identified noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State's Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) is timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Dorchester County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Dorchester County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Dorchester County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. Linda D. Burgee
Superintendent
Frederick County Public Schools
115 East Church Street
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Dr. Burgee:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §1416(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators considered in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Frederick County Public Schools has been determined to be *Needs Assistance (Year 2)*.

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Frederick County Public Schools *Needs Assistance* include: (1) Not demonstrating substantial compliance with two of seven compliance indicators (11 and 12) and (2) Findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2005 that were not corrected within required timelines in FFY 2006. Pursuant to these requirements, MSDE is advising Frederick County Public Schools of available sources of technical assistance related to Indicator 11 (Initial Evaluation Timeline), Indicator 12 (Part C to Part B Transition) and Indicator 15 (Timely Correction of Noncompliance).

Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Frederick County Public Schools data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

The MSDE FFY 2005 determination for Frederick County Public Schools was also *Needs Assistance*. In accordance with 20 U.S.C. §1416(e) and 34 C. F. R. §§300.600 and 300.604, if a local school system is determined to be in need of assistance for two consecutive years, MSDE must take one or more of the following actions: 1) Advise the local school system of available sources of technical assistance that may help the local school system address the areas in which the local school system needs assistance; 2) Direct the use of federal funds to the area or area(s) the local school system needs assistance; or 3) Identify the local school system as a high-risk grantee and impose special conditions on the local school system's IDEA Part B grant award.

In collaboration with MSDE, Frederick County Public Schools is to identify the type, amount, and frequency of assistance needed to address the specific needs in Indicators 11, 12, and 15. MSDE is available to consult with local school systems by telephone, fax, email, mail, or in-person. Attached is a list Division personnel, with contact information, for each SPP indicator.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA.

Dr. Linda Burgee
July 31, 2008
Page Three

If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities. The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Frederick County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL/gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Pamela Pencola
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Frederick County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis/Next Steps
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Frederick County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 96.15%. This exceeds the State's target of 83.24% by 12.91%.	Frederick County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for this indicator. MSDE looks forward to Frederick County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Frederick County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is .70%. This exceeds the State's target of 3.81% by 3.11%.	Frederick County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for this indicator. MSDE looks forward to Frederick County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Frederick County's FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is .48 and for extended suspensions is .71 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 - 1.49.	Frederick County Public Schools' data met the State's target for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and extended suspensions. MSDE looks forward to Frederick County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Frederick County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis/Next Steps
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Frederick County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 79.03%. This exceeds the State's target of 60.11% by 18.92%. B. Frederick County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 5.50%. This exceeds the State's target of 16.61% by 11.11%. C. Frederick County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 4.59%. This exceeds the State's target of 7.42% by 2.83%.	Frederick County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's targets for Indicators 5A, 5B and 5C. MSDE looks forward to Frederick County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality		
9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Frederick County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Frederick County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Frederick County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Frederick County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis/Next Steps
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Frederick County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Frederick County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Frederick County Public Schools' 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Frederick County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 85.14%. The State's target is 100%.	Frederick County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years but did show progress over the previous year's data. MSDE acknowledges the <i>Rating Change Form</i> submitted with the <i>Self-Assessment</i> and looks forward to verifying the data.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Frederick County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 94.85%. The State's target is 100%.	Frederick County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years but did show progress over the previous year's data. MSDE acknowledges the <i>Rating Change Form</i> submitted with the <i>Self-Assessment</i> and looks forward to verifying the data.

Frederick County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis/Next Steps
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Frederick County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 96.82%. The State's target is 100%.	Frederick County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% but was substantially compliant (95-99.9%) for this compliance indicator. MSDE acknowledges the <i>Rating Change Form</i> submitted with the <i>Self-Assessment</i> and looks forward to verifying the data.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Frederick County Public Schools had one corrective action due in FFY 2006.	Frederick County Public Schools had one finding of noncompliance identified by the State in FY 2005 that was due for correction in FFY 2006 and was corrected within timelines. MSDE expects that all identified noncompliance be corrected as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) is timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Frederick County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Frederick County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Frederick County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. Wendell D. Teets
Superintendent
Garrett County Public Schools
40 South Second Street
Oakland, Maryland 21550

Dear Dr. ^{Wendell}Teets:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §1416(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators considered in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Garrett County Public Schools has been determined to be *Needs Assistance (Year 2)*.

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Garrett County Public Schools *Needs Assistance* include not demonstrating substantial compliance with two of seven compliance indicators (12 and 13). Pursuant to these requirements, MSDE is advising Garrett County Public Schools of available sources of technical assistance related to Indicator 12 (Part C to Part B Transition) and Indicator 13 (Secondary Transition).

Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Garrett County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

The MSDE FFY 2005 determination for Garrett County Public Schools was also *Needs Assistance*. In accordance with 20 U.S.C. §1416(e) and 34 C. F. R. §§300.600 and 300.604, if a local school system is determined to be in need of assistance for two consecutive years, MSDE must take one or more of the following actions: 1) Advise the local school system of available sources of technical assistance that may help the local school system address the areas in which the local school system needs assistance; 2) Direct the use of federal funds to the area or area(s) the local school system needs assistance; or 3) Identify the local school system as a high-risk grantee and impose special conditions on the local school system's IDEA Part B grant award.

In collaboration with MSDE, Garrett County Public Schools is to identify the type, amount, and frequency of assistance needed to address the specific needs in Indicators 12 and 13. MSDE is available to consult with local school systems by telephone, fax, email, mail, or in-person. Attached is a list of Division personnel, with contact information, for each SPP indicator.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA. If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities.

Dr. Wendell D. Teets
July 31, 2008
Page Three

The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Garrett County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL:gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Jennifer Kotulak
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. Jacqueline Haas
Superintendent
Harford County Public Schools
102 South Hickory Avenue
Bel Air, Maryland 21014

Dear Dr. Haas:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each State's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each State's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each State's performance on these indicators, and assigns each State to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each State's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), States are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §616(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, States must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators considered in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Harford County Public Schools has been determined to be ***Needs Intervention***.

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Harford County Public Schools ***Needs Intervention*** include data demonstrating compliance below the State targets for compliance Indicators 4, 11, 12, and 13. Pursuant to these requirements, MSDE is advising Harford County Public Schools of available sources of technical assistance related to Indicator 4 (Suspension), Indicator 11 (Initial Evaluation Timeline), Indicator 12 (Part C to Part B Transition), and Indicator 13 (Secondary Transition).

Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Harford County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

In collaboration with MSDE, Harford County Public Schools will identify the type, amount, and frequency of assistance needed to address the specific needs in Indicators 4, 11, 12, and 13. MSDE is available to consult with local school systems by telephone, fax, email, mail, or in-person. Attached is a list of Division personnel, with contact information, for each SPP indicator.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA. If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities.

Dr. Jacqueline Haas
July 31, 2008
Page Three

The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Harford County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL:gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Ann-Marie Spakowski
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Harford County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Harford County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 50%. This is below the State's target of 83.24% by 33.24%.	Harford County Public Schools' data was below the State's target for this indicator. The FFY 2006 data shows a decrease from the previous year's graduation rate of 75.97% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Harford County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Harford County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 7.22%. This does not meet the State's target of 3.81% by 3.41%.	Harford County Public Schools' data was below the State's target for this indicator. The FFY 2006 data shows an increase from the previous year's dropout rate of 5.99% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Harford County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Harford County Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is 2.46 and for extended suspensions is 1.73 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 - 1.49.	Harford County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and extended suspensions. MSDE looks forward to Harford County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating compliance.

Harford County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Harford County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 74.74%. This exceeds the State's target of 60.11% by 14.63%. B. Harford County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 4.02%. This exceeds the State's target of 16.61% by 12.59%. C. Harford County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 5.21%. This exceeds the State's target of 7.42% by 2.21%.	Harford County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's targets for Indicators 5A, 5B and 5C. MSDE looks forward to Harford County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality		
9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Harford County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Harford County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Harford County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Harford County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Harford County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Harford County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Harford County Public Schools' 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Harford County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 71.10%. The State's target is 100%.	Harford County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years and declined over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Calvert County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Harford County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 88.98%. The State's target is 100%.	Harford County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years and declined over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Calvert County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.

Harford County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Harford County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 92%. The State's target is 100%.	Harford County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator and declined over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Calvert County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Harford County Public Schools had no corrective actions due in FFY 2006.	Harford County Public Schools had no findings of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006. MSDE expects all identified noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) is timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Harford County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Harford County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Harford County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. Sydney L. Cousin
Superintendent
Howard County Public Schools
10910 Route 108
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

Dear Dr. Cousin:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008 OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §1416(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators considered in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Howard County Public Schools has been determined to be *Needs Assistance*.

Dr. Sydney Cousin
July 31, 2008
Page Two

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Howard County Public Schools ***Needs Assistance*** include not demonstrating substantial compliance in two of seven compliance indicators (4 and 13). Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Howard County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

Please be advised that in accordance with 20 U.S.C. §1416(e) and 34 C. F. R. §§300.600 and 300.604, if a local school system is determined to be in need of assistance for two consecutive years, MSDE must take one or more of the following actions: 1) Advise the local school system of available sources of technical assistance that may help the local school system address the areas in which the local school system needs assistance; 2) Direct the use of federal funds to the area or area(s) the local school system needs assistance; or 3) Identify the local school system as a high-risk grantee and impose special conditions on the local school system's IDEA Part B grant award.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA. If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities.

Dr. James E. Richmond
July 31, 2008
Page Three

The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Howard County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL:gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
James Walsh
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Howard County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Howard County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 94.34%. This exceeds the State's target of 83.24% by 11.1%.	Howard County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for this indicator. MSDE looks forward to Howard County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Howard County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 2.04%. This exceeds the State's target of 3.81% by 1.77%.	Howard County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for this indicator. MSDE looks forward to Howard County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Howard County Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is .50 and for extended suspensions is 3.34 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 - 1.49.	Howard County Public Schools' data met the State's target for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and did not meet the State's target for extended suspensions. MSDE expects Howard County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.

Howard County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Howard County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 77.81%. This exceeds the State's target of 60.11% by 17.7%. B. Howard County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 4.97%. This exceeds the State's target of 16.61% by 11.64%. C. Howard County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 6.94%. This exceeds the State's target of 7.42% by .48%.	Howard County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's targets for Indicator's 5A, 5B, and 5C. MSDE looks forward to Howard County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality		
9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Howard County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Howard County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Howard County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Howard County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Howard County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Howard County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Howard County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Howard County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 96.90%. The State's target is 100%.	Howard County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator but was substantially compliant (95-99.9%). MSDE looks forward to Howard County Public Schools' data demonstrating 100% compliance.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Howard County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 100%. The State's target is 100%.	Howard County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Howard County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data maintaining 100% compliance.

Howard County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Howard County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 78.61%. The State's target is 100%.	Howard County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years and declined over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Howard County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Howard County Public Schools had no corrective actions due in FFY 2006.	Howard County Public Schools had no findings of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006. MSDE expects all identified noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) is timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Howard County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Howard County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Howard County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. A. Barbara Wheeler
Interim Superintendent
Kent County Public Schools
215 Washington Avenue
Chestertown, Maryland 21620

Dear Dr. Wheeler:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each State's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each State's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each State's performance on these indicators, and assigns each State to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each State's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), States are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §616(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, States must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators considered in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Kent County Public Schools has been determined to be ***Needs Intervention***.

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Kent County Public Schools ***Needs Intervention*** include: (1) Data demonstrating compliance below the State targets for Compliance Indicators 11, and 13; and (2) Findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2005 that were not corrected within required timelines in FFY 2006. Pursuant to these requirements MSDE is advising Kent County Public Schools of available sources of technical assistance related to Indicator 11 (Initial Evaluation Timeline), Indicator 13 (Secondary Transition), and Indicator 15 (Timely Correction of Noncompliance).

Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Kent County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Technical Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

In collaboration with MSDE, Kent County Public Schools will identify the type, amount, and frequency of assistance needed to address the specific needs of Indicators 11, 13, and 15. MSDE is available to consult with local school systems by telephone, fax, email, mail, or in-person. Attached is a list of Division personnel, with contact information, for each SPP indicator.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA. If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities.

Dr. A. Barbara Wheeler
July 31, 2008
Page Three

The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Kent County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL:gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Laura Cochran
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Kent County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Kent County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 76.19%. This is below the State's target of 83.24% by 7.05%.	Kent County Public Schools' data was below the State's target. The FFY 2006 data shows an increase from the previous year's graduation rate of 66.67% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Kent County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Kent County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 3.33%. This exceeded the State's target of 3.81% by .48%.	Kent County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for this indicator. MSDE looks forward to Kent County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Kent County Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is 2.20 and for extended suspensions is 3.63 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 - 1.49.	Due to the small cell size in multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and extended suspensions, the Kent County Public Schools' data was not included in the analysis of this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Kent County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating compliance.

Kent County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Kent County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 73.54%. This exceeds the State's target of 60.11% by 13.43%. B. Kent County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 10.46%. This exceeds the State's target of 16.61% by 6.15%. C. Kent County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0.93%. This exceeds the State's target of 7.42% by 6.49%.	Kent County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's targets for Indicators 5A, 5B, and 5C. MSDE looks forward to Kent County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality 9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Kent County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Kent County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Kent County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Kent County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Kent County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Kent County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Kent County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Kent County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 64.44%. The State's target is 100%.	Kent County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years and declined over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Kent County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Kent County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 100%. The State's target is 100%.	Kent County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Kent County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data maintaining 100% compliance.

Kent County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Kent County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 79%. The State's target is 100%.	Kent County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator and declined over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Kent County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Kent County Public Schools had one corrective action due in FFY 2006.	Kent County Public Schools had one finding of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that was due for correction in FFY 2006 and was not corrected within timelines. MSDE expects all identified noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) is timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Kent County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Kent County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Kent County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. Jerry Dean Weast
Superintendent
Montgomery County Public Schools
850 Hungerford Drive
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Dr.  Weast:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §616(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators considered in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Montgomery County Public Schools has been determined to be ***Needs Intervention***.

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Montgomery County Public Schools *Needs Intervention* include: (1) Not meeting State targets for Performance Indicators 5A and 5B; (2) Data demonstrating compliance below the State targets for Compliance Indicators 4, 11, and 12; and (3) Findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2005 that were not corrected within required timelines in FFY 2006. Pursuant to these requirements MSDE is advising Montgomery County Public Schools of available sources of technical assistance related to Indicator 4 (Suspension), Indicator 11 (Initial Evaluation Timeline), Indicator 12 (Part C to Part B Transition), and Indicator 15 (Timely Correction of Noncompliance).

Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Technical Assistance and Intervention;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Rubric; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Montgomery County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

In collaboration with MSDE, Montgomery County Public Schools will identify the type, amount, and frequency of assistance needed to address the specific needs in Indicators 5A, 5B, 4, 11, 12, and 15. MSDE is available to consult with local school systems by telephone, fax, email, mail, or in-person. Attached is a list of Division personnel, with contact information, for each SPP indicator.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA. If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities.

Dr. Jerry Dean Weast
July 31, 2008
Page Three

The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Montgomery County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL/gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Gwendolyn J. Mason
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Montgomery County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Montgomery County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 88.32%. This exceeded the State's target of 83.24% by 5.08%.	Montgomery County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for this indicator. MSDE looks forward to Montgomery County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Montgomery County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 2.71%. This exceeded the State's target of 3.81% by 1.10%.	Montgomery County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for this indicator. MSDE looks forward to Montgomery County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Montgomery County Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is 3.14 and for extended suspensions is 1.57 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 - 1.49.	Montgomery County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's targets for multiple suspensions summing to greater than ten days and extended suspensions. MSDE expects Montgomery County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.

Montgomery County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Montgomery County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 59.10%. This was below the State's target of 60.11% by 1.01%. B. Montgomery County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 19.44%. This did not meet the State's target of 16.61% by 2.83%. C. Montgomery County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 6.57%. This exceeds the State's target of 7.42% by .85%.	Montgomery County Public Schools' data was below the State's targets for Indicators 5A and 5B and exceeded the State target for Indicator 5C. MSDE looks forward to Montgomery County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality		
9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Montgomery County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Montgomery County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Montgomery County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Montgomery County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Montgomery County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Montgomery County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Montgomery County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Montgomery County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 56.84%. The State's target is 100%.	Montgomery County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years and declined over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Montgomery County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Montgomery County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 82.45%. The State's target is 100%.	Montgomery County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years but did show progress over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Montgomery County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.

Montgomery County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Montgomery County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 99%. The State's target is 100%.	Montgomery County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator but was substantially compliant (95-99.9%). MSDE expects Montgomery County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Montgomery County Public Schools had 3 corrective actions due in FFY 2006.	Montgomery County Public Schools had one finding of noncompliance identified by the State in FY 2005 that was due for correction in FFY 2006 and was corrected within timelines. Montgomery County Public Schools had two findings of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006 and were not corrected within timelines. MSDE expects all identified noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) is timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Montgomery County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Montgomery County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Montgomery County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. John E. Deasy
Superintendent
Prince George's County Public Schools
14201 School Lane
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772

Dear Dr. Deasy:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008 OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §616(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators considered in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Prince George's County Public Schools has been determined to be ***Needs Intervention***.

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Prince George's County Public Schools ***Needs Intervention*** include: (1) Not meeting State targets for Indicators 5A, 5B and 5C; (2) Data demonstrating compliance below the State targets for Indicators 4, 11, and 12; and (3) Findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2005 that were not corrected within required timelines in FFY 2006. Pursuant to these requirements, MSDE is advising Prince George's County Public Schools of available sources of technical assistance related to Indicator 4 (Suspension), Indicator 11 (Initial Evaluation Timeline), Indicator 12 (Part C to Part B Transition), and Indicator 15 (Timely Correction of Noncompliance).

Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Prince George's County Public Schools data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

Pursuant to these requirements MSDE is advising Prince George's County Public Schools of available sources of technical assistance related to Indicator 11 (Initial Evaluation Timeline), Indicator 13 (Secondary Transition), and Indicator 15 (Timely Correction of Noncompliance). A list of sources of technical assistance is available by accessing <http://spp-apr-calendar.rrfcnetwork.org/>. You will be directed to a list in indicators. Select specific indicators for a list of centers, documents, web seminars, and other sources of relevant technical assistance. In collaboration with MSDE, Prince George's County Public Schools will identify the type, amount, and frequency of assistance needed to address the specific needs. MSDE is available to consult with local school systems by telephone, fax, email, mail, or in-person. Attached is a list Division personnel, with contact information, for each SPP indicator.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA. If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities.

Dr. John E. Deasy
July 31, 2008
Page Three

The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Prince George's County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Carol Ann Baglin".

Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/DRR:aw

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Pamela R. Downing-Hosten
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Prince George's County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Prince George's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 91.84%. This exceeds the State's target of 83.24% by 8.60%.	Prince George's County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for this indicator. MSDE looks forward to Prince George's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Prince George's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 1.07%. This exceeded the State's target of 3.81% by 2.74%.	Prince George's County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for this indicator. MSDE looks forward to Prince George's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Prince George's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is 1.96 and for extended suspensions is 1.93 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 - 1.49.	Prince George's County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and extended suspensions. MSDE looks forward to Prince George's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating compliance.

Prince George's County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Prince George's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 45.32%. This is below the State's target of 60.11% by 14.79%. B. Prince George's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 25.34%. This is below the State's target of 16.61% by 8.73%. C. Prince George's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 11.74%. This is below the State's target of 7.42% by 4.32%.	Prince George's County Public Schools' data is below the State's targets for Indicators 5A, 5B and 5C. MSDE looks forward to Prince George's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality		
9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Prince George's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Prince George's County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Prince George's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Prince George's County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Prince George's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Prince George's County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Prince George's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Prince George's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 69.28%. The State's target is 100%.	Prince George's County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years and declined over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Calvert County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Prince George's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 90.91%. The State's target is 100%.	Prince George's County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years but did show progress over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Calvert County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.

Prince George's County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Prince George's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 98%. The State's target is 100%.	Prince George's County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator but was substantially compliant (95-99.9%). MSDE looks forward to Prince George's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating 100% compliance.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Prince George's County Public Schools had four corrective actions due in FFY 2006.	Prince George's County Public Schools had four findings of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006 that was not corrected within timelines. MSDE expects that all identified noncompliance be corrected as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) is timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Prince George's County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Prince George's County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Prince George's County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. Carol A. Williamson
Superintendent
Queen Anne's County Public Schools
202 Chesterfield Avenue
Centreville, Maryland 21617

Dear Dr. Williamson:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §1416(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators considered in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Queen Anne's County Public Schools has been determined to be *Needs Assistance (Year 2)*.

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Queen Anne's County Public Schools ***Needs Assistance*** include not demonstrating substantial compliance with two of seven compliance indicators (11 and 13). Pursuant to these requirements, MSDE is advising Queen Anne's County Public Schools of available sources of technical assistance related to Indicator 11 (Initial Evaluation Timeline) and Indicator 13 (Secondary Transition).

Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Queen Anne's County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

The MSDE FFY 2005 determination for Queen Anne's County Public Schools was also ***Needs Assistance***. In accordance with 20 U.S.C. §1416(e) and 34 C. F. R. §§300.600 and 300.604, if a local school system is determined to be in need of assistance for two consecutive years, MSDE must take one or more of the following actions: 1) Advise the local school system of available sources of technical assistance that may help the local school system address the areas in which the local school system needs assistance; 2) Direct the use of federal funds to the area or area(s) the local school system needs assistance; or 3) Identify the local school system as a high-risk grantee and impose special conditions on the local school system's IDEA Part B grant award.

In collaboration with MSDE, Queen Anne's County Public Schools is to identify the type, amount, and frequency of assistance needed to address the specific needs in Indicators 11 and 13. MSDE is available to consult with local school systems by telephone, fax, email, mail, or in-person. Attached is a list of Division personnel, with contact information, for each SPP indicator.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA. If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities.

Dr. Carol A. Williamson
July 31, 2008
Page Three

The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Queen Anne's County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL:gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Diane McGowan
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Queen Anne's County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Queen Anne's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 63.64%. This is below the State's target of 83.24% by 19.69%.	Queen Anne's County Public Schools' data was below the State's target. The FFY 2006 data shows a decrease from the previous year's graduation rate of 73.08% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Queen Anne's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Queen Anne's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 6.32%. This does not meet the State's target of 3.81% by 2.51%.	Queen Anne's County Public Schools' data was below the State's target. The FFY 2006 data shows a decrease from the previous year's dropout rate of 7.92% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Queen Anne's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Queen Anne's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is 3.07 and for extended suspensions is 0.00 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 - 1.49.	Due to the small cell size in multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and extended suspensions, the Queen Anne's County Public Schools' data was not included in the analysis of this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Queen Anne's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 demonstrating compliance.

Queen Anne's County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Queen Anne's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 91.76%. This exceeds the State's target of 60.11% by 31.65%. B. Queen Anne's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 1.97%. This exceeds the State's target of 16.61% by 14.64%. C. Queen Anne's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 2.44%. This exceeds the State's target of 7.42% by 4.98%.	Queen Anne's County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's targets for Indicators 5A, 5B, and 5C. MSDE looks forward to Queen Anne's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality 9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Queen Anne's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Queen Anne's County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Queen Anne's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Queen Anne's County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Queen Anne's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Queen Anne's County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Queen Anne's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Queen Anne's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 84.97%. The State's target is 100%.	Queen Anne's County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years. MSDE expects Queen Anne's County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Queen Anne's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 100%. The State's target is 100%.	Queen Anne's County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator but did show some progress over the previous year's data. MSDE looks forward to Queen Anne's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data maintaining 100% compliance.

Queen Anne's County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Queen Anne's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 68.50%. The State's target is 100%.	Queen Anne's County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years. MSDE acknowledges the <i>Rating Change Form</i> submitted with the <i>Self-Assessment</i> and looks forward to verifying the data.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Queen Anne's County Public Schools had no corrective actions due during FFY 2006.	Queen Anne's County Public Schools had no findings of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006. MSDE expects all identified noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) is timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Queen Anne's County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Queen Anne's County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Queen Anne's County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. Michael J. Martirano
Superintendent
St. Mary's County Public Schools
P.O. Box 641
Leonardtown, Maryland 20650

Dear Dr. Martirano:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §1416(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators considered in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the St. Mary's County Public Schools has been determined to be *Needs Assistance*.

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that St. Mary's County Public Schools *Needs Assistance* include not demonstrating substantial compliance in two of seven compliance indicators (11 and 12). Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the St. Mary's County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

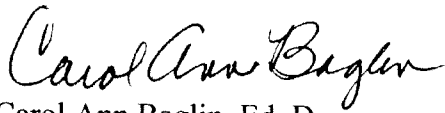
Please be advised that in accordance with 20 U.S.C. §1416(e) and 34 C. F. R. §§300.600 and 300.604, if a local school system is determined to be in need of assistance for two consecutive years, MSDE must take one or more of the following actions: 1) Advise the local school system of available sources of technical assistance that may help the local school system address the areas in which the local school system needs assistance; 2) Direct the use of federal funds to the area or area(s) the local school system needs assistance; or 3) Identify the local school system as a high-risk grantee and impose special conditions on the local school system's IDEA Part B grant award.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA. If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities.

Dr. Michael J. Martirano
July 31, 2008
Page Three

The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the St. Mary's County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol Ann Baglin".

Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL:gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Melissa Charbonnet
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

St. Mary's County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	St. Mary's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 90.91%. This exceeds the State's target of 83.24% by 7.67%.	St. Mary's County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for this indicator. MSDE looks forward to St. Mary's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	St. Mary's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 2.62%. This exceeded the State's target of 3.81% by 1.19%.	St. Mary's County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for this indicator. MSDE looks forward to St. Mary's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	St. Mary's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is .04 and for extended suspensions is 0.00 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 - 1.49.	St. Mary's County Public Schools' data met the State's target for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and extended suspensions. MSDE looks forward to St. Mary's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

St. Mary's County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis/
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. St. Mary's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 76.38%. This exceeds the State's target of 60.11% by 16.27%. B. St. Mary's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 6.73%. This exceeds the State's target of 16.61% by 9.88%. C. St. Mary's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 2.49%. This exceeds the State's target of 7.42% by 4.93%.	St. Mary's County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's targets for Indicators 5A, 5B and 5C. MSDE looks forward to St. Mary's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality		
9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	St. Mary's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	St. Mary's County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to St. Mary's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

St. Mary's County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	St. Mary's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	St. Mary's County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to St. Mary's County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	St. Mary's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 86.62%. The State's target is 100%.	St. Mary's County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years. MSDE acknowledges the <i>Rating Change Form</i> submitted with the <i>Self-Assessment</i> and looks forward to verifying the data.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	St. Mary's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 88.71%. The State's target is 100%.	St. Mary's County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator and declined over the previous year's data. MSDE acknowledges the <i>Rating Change Form</i> submitted with the <i>Self-Assessment</i> and looks forward to verifying the data.

St. Mary's County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	St. Mary's County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 95.10%. The State's target is 100%.	St. Mary's County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator but is substantially compliant (95-99.9%). MSDE acknowledges the <i>Rating Change Form</i> submitted with the <i>Self-Assessment</i> and looks forward to verifying the data.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	St. Mary's County Public Schools had one corrective action due in FFY 2006.	St. Mary's County Public Schools had one finding of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that was due for correction in FFY 2006 and was corrected within timelines. MSDE expects that all identified noncompliance be corrected as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) is timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	St. Mary's County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	St. Mary's County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects St. Mary's County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. Karen-Lee N. Brofee
Superintendent
Somerset County Public Schools
7982-A Crisfield Highway
Westover, Maryland 21871

Dear Dr. Brofee:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §1416(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators included in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Somerset County Public Schools has been determined to be ***Meets Requirements***.

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Somerset County Public Schools *met requirements* include: (1) Meeting State targets for performance Indicators 5A, 5B, and 5C; (2) Demonstrating substantial compliance for six of seven compliance indicators (4, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 20); and (3) One finding of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that was corrected in FFY 2006. Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

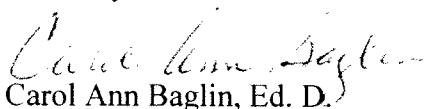
- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Somerset County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA. If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities.

The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Somerset County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL:gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Betsy Reich
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Somerset County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Somerset County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 54.84%. This is below the State's target of 83.24% by 28.4%.	Somerset County Public Schools' data was below the State's target. The FFY 2006 data shows an increase from the previous year's graduation rate of 47.06% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Somerset County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Somerset County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 9.48%. This did not meet the State's target of 3.81% by 5.67%.	Somerset County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target. The FFY 2006 data shows a decrease from the previous year's dropout rate of 15.22% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Somerset County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Somerset County Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is 2.08 and for extended suspensions is 0.00 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 - 1.49.	Due to the small cell size in multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and extended suspensions the Somerset County Public Schools' data was not included in the analysis of this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Somerset County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating compliance.

Somerset County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Somerset County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 84.87%. This exceeds the State's target of 60.11% by 24.76%. B. Somerset County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 7.72%. This exceeds the State's target of 16.61% by 8.89%. C. Somerset County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0.30%. This exceeds the State's target of 7.42% for by 7.12%.	Somerset County Public Schools' data exceeded the State targets for Indicators 5A, 5B, and 5C. MSDE looks forward to Somerset County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality		
9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Somerset County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Somerset County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Somerset County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Somerset County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Somerset County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Somerset County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Somerset County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Somerset County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 84.93%. The State's target is 100%.	Somerset County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years. MSDE expects Somerset County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Somerset County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 100%. The State's target is 100%.	Somerset County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Somerset County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data maintaining 100% compliance.

Somerset County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Somerset County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 100%. The State's target is 100%.	Somerset County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Somerset County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data maintaining 100% compliance.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Somerset County Public Schools had one corrective action due in FFY 2006.	Somerset County Public Schools' had one finding of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that was due for correction in FFY 2006 and was corrected within timelines. MSDE expects all identified noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) is timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Somerset County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Somerset County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Somerset County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. Karen Salmon
Superintendent
Talbot County Public Schools
P.O. Box 1029
Easton, Maryland 21601

Dear Dr. Salmon:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §1416(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators considered in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Talbot County Public Schools has been determined to be ***Needs Assistance (Year 2)***.

Dr. Karen Salmon
July 31, 2008
Page Two

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Talbot County Public Schools ***Needs Assistance*** include not demonstrating substantial compliance with two of seven compliance indicators (12 and 13). Pursuant to these requirements, MSDE is advising Talbot County Public Schools of available sources of technical assistance related to Indicator 12 (Part C to Part B Transition), and Indicator 13 (Secondary Transition).

Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention;
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Talbot County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

The MSDE FFY 2005 determination for Talbot County Public Schools was also ***Needs Assistance***. In accordance with 20 U.S.C. §1416(e) and 34 C. F. R. §§300.600 and 300.604, if a local school system is determined to be in need of assistance for two consecutive years, MSDE must take one or more of the following actions: 1) Advise the local school system of available sources of technical assistance that may help the local school system address the areas in which the local school system needs assistance; 2) Direct the use of federal funds to the area or area(s) the local school system needs assistance; or 3) Identify the local school system as a high-risk grantee and impose special conditions on the local school system's IDEA Part B grant award.

In collaboration with MSDE, Talbot County Public Schools is to identify the type, amount, and frequency of assistance needed to address the specific needs in Indicators 12 and 13. MSDE is available to consult with local school systems by telephone, fax, email, mail, or in-person. Attached is a list of Division personnel, with contact information, for each SPP indicator.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA.

Dr. Karen Salmon
July 31, 2008
Page Three

If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities. The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Talbot County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL:gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Jean Carrion
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Talbot County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Talbot County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 72.22%. This is below the State's target of 83.24% by 11.02%.	Talbot County Public Schools' data was below the State's target. The FFY 2006 data shows a decrease from the previous year's graduation rate of 76.47% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Talbot County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Talbot County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 8.40%. This did not meet the State's target of 3.81% by 4.59%.	Talbot County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target for this indicator. MSDE looks forward to Talbot County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Talbot County Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is 1.68 and for extended suspensions is 1.41 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 – 1.49.	Due to the small cell size in multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and extended suspensions the Talbot County Public Schools' data is not included in the analysis of this indicator. MSDE looks forward to Talbot County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating compliance.

Talbot County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Talbot County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 77.97%. This exceeds the State's target of 60.11% by 17.86%. B. Talbot County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 4.64%. This exceeds the State's target of 16.61% by 11.47%. C. Talbot County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0.29%. This exceeds the State's target of 7.42% by 7.13%.	Talbot County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's targets for Indicators 5A, 5B, and 5C. MSDE looks forward to Talbot County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality		
9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Talbot County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Talbot County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Talbot County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Talbot County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Talbot County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Talbot County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Talbot County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Talbot County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 95.56%. The State's target is 100%.	Talbot County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% but was substantially compliant. MSDE looks forward to Talbot County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating 100% compliance.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Talbot County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 93.33%. The State's target is 100%.	Talbot County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator. MSDE acknowledges the <i>Rating Change Form</i> submitted with the <i>Self-Assessment</i> and looks forward to verifying the data.

Talbot County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Talbot County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 83.0%. The State's target is 100%.	Talbot County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator but did show progress over the previous year's data. MSDE acknowledges the <i>Rating Change Form</i> submitted with the <i>Self-Assessment</i> and looks forward to verifying the data.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Talbot County Public Schools had no corrective actions due during FFY 2006.	Talbot County Public Schools had no findings of noncompliance identified by the State during FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006. MSDE expects all identified noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) is timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Talbot County Public Schools submitted required SFY 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Talbot County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Talbot County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. Elizabeth M. Morgan
Superintendent
Washington County Public Schools
P.O. Box 730
Hagerstown, Maryland 21741

Dear Dr. Morgan:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §1416(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators considered in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Washington County Public Schools has been determined to be *Needs Assistance (Year 2)*.

Dr. Elizabeth M. Morgan
July 31, 2008
Page Two

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Washington County Public Schools *Needs Assistance* include: (1) Not meeting State targets for performance indicators 1 and 5C; and (2) Not demonstrating substantial compliance with two of seven compliance indicators (11 and 12). Pursuant to these requirements, MSDE is advising Washington County Public Schools of available sources of technical assistance related to Indicator 11 (Initial Evaluation Timeline) and Indicator 12 (Part C to Part B Transition).

Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Washington County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

The MSDE FFY 2005 determination for Washington County Public Schools was also *Needs Assistance*. In accordance with 20 U.S.C. §1416(e) and 34 C. F. R. §§300.600 and 300.604, if a local school system is determined to be in need of assistance for two consecutive years, MSDE must take one or more of the following actions: 1) Advise the local school system of available sources of technical assistance that may help the local school system address the areas in which the local school system needs assistance; 2) Direct the use of federal funds to the area or area(s) the local school system needs assistance; or 3) Identify the local school system as a high-risk grantee and impose special conditions on the local school system's IDEA Part B grant award.

In collaboration with MSDE, Washington County Public Schools is to identify the type, amount, and frequency of assistance needed to address the specific needs in Indicators 1, 5C, 11 and 12. MSDE is available to consult with local school systems by telephone, fax, email, mail, or in person. Attached is a list of Division personnel, with contact information, for each SPP indicator.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA.

Dr. Elizabeth M. Morgan
July 31, 2008
Page Three

If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities. The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Washington County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL:gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Jeff Gladhill
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Washington County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Washington County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 82.64%. This is below the State's target of 83.24% by 0.6%.	Washington County Public Schools' data is below the State's target for this indicator. The FFY 2006 data shows an increase from the previous year's graduation rate of 76.54% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Washington County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Washington County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 2.91%. This exceeds the State's target of 3.81% by 0.9%.	Washington County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for this indicator. MSDE looks forward to Washington County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Washington County Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is 0.91 and for extended suspensions is 0.38 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 - 1.49.	Washington County Public Schools' data met the State's target for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and extended suspensions. MSDE looks forward to Washington County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Washington County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Washington County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 80.11%. This exceeds the State's target of 60.11% by 20.0%. B. Washington County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 6.16%. This exceeds the State's target of 16.61% by 10.45%. C. Washington County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 7.95%. This was below the State's target of 7.42% by .53%.	Washington County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's targets for Indicators 5A and 5B but did not meet the State's target for Indicator 5C. MSDE looks forward to Washington County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality 9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Washington County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Washington County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Washington County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Washington County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Washington County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Washington County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Washington County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Washington County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 91.34%. The State's target is 100%.	Washington County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years. MSDE acknowledges the <i>Rating Change Form</i> submitted with the <i>Self-Assessment</i> and looks forward to verifying the data.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Washington County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 91.8%. The State's target is 100%.	Washington County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator and declined over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Calvert County Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.

Washington County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Washington County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 100%. The State's target is 100%.	Washington County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Washington County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data maintaining 100% compliance.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Washington County Public Schools had one corrective action due in FFY 2006.	Washington County Public Schools had one finding of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that was due for correction in FFY 2006 and was corrected within timelines. MSDE expects all identified noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) is timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Washington County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Washington County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Washington County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. John Frederickson
Superintendent
Wicomico County Public Schools
P.O. Box 1538
Salisbury, Maryland 21802-1538

Dear Dr. Frederickson:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §1416(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators considered in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Wicomico County Public Schools has been determined to be *Needs Assistance*.

Dr. John Fredericksen
July 31, 2008
Page Two

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Wicomico County Public Schools *Needs Assistance* include: (1) Meeting State targets for Indicators 5a, 5b, and 5c; (2) Not demonstrating substantial compliance in two of seven Indicators (11, and 13); and (3) No findings for noncompliance identified in FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006. Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Wicomico County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

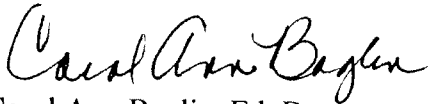
Please be advised that in accordance with 20 U.S.C. §1416(e) and 34 C. F. R. §§300.600 and 300.604, if a local school system is determined to be in need of assistance for two consecutive years, MSDE must take one or more of the following actions: 1) Advise the local school system of available sources of technical assistance that may help the local school system address the areas in which the local school system needs assistance; 2) Direct the use of federal funds to the area or area(s) the local school system needs assistance; or 3) Identify the local school system as a high-risk grantee and impose special conditions on the local school system's IDEA Part B grant award.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA. If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities.

Dr. John Fredericksen
July 31, 2008
Page Three

The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Wicomico County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL:gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Bonnie L. Walston
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Wicomico County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Wicomico County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 85.25%. This exceeds the State's target of 83.24% by 2.01%.	Wicomico County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target. MSDE looks forward to Wicomico County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Wicomico County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 4.76%. This did not meet the State's target of 3.81% by 0.95%.	Wicomico County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target. The FFY 2006 data shows an increase from the previous year's dropout rate of 2.7% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Wicomico County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Wicomico County's Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is 1.37 and for extended suspensions is 3.66 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 - 1.49.	Wicomico County Public Schools' data met the State's target for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days. Due to the small cell size in extended suspensions, the Wicomico County Public Schools' data was not included in the analysis of this compliance indicator. MSDE acknowledges the <i>Rating Change Form</i> submitted with the <i>Self-Assessment</i> and looks forward to verifying the data.

Wicomico County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Wicomico County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 80.0%. This exceeds the State's target of 60.11% by 19.89%. B. Wicomico County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 9.59%. This exceeds the State's target of 16.61% by 7.02%. C. Wicomico County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0.57%. This exceeds the State's target of 7.42% by 6.85%.	Wicomico County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's targets for Indicator 5A, 5B, and 5C. MSDE looks forward to Wicomico County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality 9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Wicomico County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Wicomico County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Wicomico County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Wicomico County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Wicomico County Public School's FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Wicomico County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Wicomico County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Wicomico County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 84.64%. The State's target is 100%.	County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years but did show progress over the previous year's data. MSDE acknowledges the <i>Rating Change Form</i> submitted with the <i>Self-Assessment</i> and looks forward to verifying the data.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Wicomico County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 100%. The State's target is 100%.	Wicomico County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Wicomico County Public Schools' data maintaining 100% compliance.

Wicomico County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Wicomico County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 84%. The State's target is 100%.	Wicomico County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years. MSDE acknowledges the <i>Rating Change Form</i> submitted with the <i>Self-Assessment</i> and looks forward to verifying the data.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Wicomico County Public Schools had one corrective action due in FFY 2006.	Wicomico County Public Schools' had one finding of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that was due for correction in FFY 2006 and was corrected within timelines. MSDE expects all identified noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) is timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Wicomico County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Wicomico County Public Schools' data met the State's target for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Wicomico County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. Jon Andes
Superintendent
Worcester County Public Schools
6270 Worcester Highway
Newark, Maryland 21841

Dear Dr. Andes:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §1416(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators included in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Worcester County Public Schools has been determined to be ***Meets Requirements***.

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that Worcester County Public Schools *met requirements* include: (1) Meeting State targets for performance Indicators 1, 2, 5a, 5b, and 5c; (2) Demonstrating substantial compliance for seven of seven compliance indicators (4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 20); and, (3) No findings of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006. Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the Worcester County Public Schools' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access the information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA. If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities.

The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Worcester County Public Schools to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL:gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Betsy Reich
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

Worcester County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Worcester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 100%. This exceeds the State's target of 83.24% by 16.76%.	Worcester County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for this indicator. MSDE looks forward to Worcester County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data maintaining 100% for this performance indicator.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Worcester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0.41%. This exceeds the State's target of 3.81% by 3.40%.	Worcester County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for this indicator. MSDE looks forward to Worcester County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Worcester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is 1.93 and for extended suspensions is 0.00 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 - 1.49.	Due to the small cell size in multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and extended suspensions the Worcester County Public Schools' data was not included in the analysis of this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Worcester County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data maintaining compliance.

Worcester County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Worcester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 85.69%. This exceeds the State's target of 60.11% by 25.58%. B. Worcester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 6.67%. This exceeds the State's target of 16.61% by 9.94%. C. Worcester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 1.95%. This exceeds the State's target of 7.42% by 5.47%.	Worcester County Public Schools' data exceeded the State's target for Indicators 5A, 5B, and 5C. MSDE looks forward to Worcester County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality		
9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Worcester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Worcester County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Worcester County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Worcester County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Worcester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Worcester County Public Schools' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Worcester County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator; New]	Worcester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 96.58%. The State's target is 100%.	Worcester County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator but was substantially compliant (95 - 99.9%). MSDE looks forward to Worcester County Public Schools' data demonstrating 100% compliance.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Worcester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 100%. The State's target is 100%.	Worcester County Public Schools' data met the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Worcester County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data continuing to demonstrate 100% compliance.

Worcester County Public Schools
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Worcester County Public Schools' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 99%. The State's target is 100%.	Worcester County Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator but was substantially compliant (95-99.9%). MSDE looks forward to Worcester County Public Schools' FFY 2007 data demonstrating 100% compliance.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Worcester County Public Schools had no corrective action due in FFY 2006.	Worcester County Public Schools had no findings of noncompliance identified by the State in FFY 2005 that were due for correction in FFY 2006. MSDE expects all identified noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) is timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Worcester County Public Schools submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Worcester County Public Schools' data met the State's target for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Worcester County Public Schools' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

July 31, 2008

Dr. Andrés Alonso
Chief Executive Officer
Baltimore City Public School System
200 East North Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Dr. *Andrés* Alonso:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) focuses on each state's accountability on the State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators defined by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). OSEP reviews each state's SPP and Annual Performance Report (APR) annually. Using the information obtained through review of the APR and other data sources, OSEP evaluates each state's performance on these indicators, and assigns each state to one of four levels of determination: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. The determinations required under the federal statute are part of the ongoing efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities. On June 6, 2008, OSEP issued its determination letters to each state's lead agency for Part B on the implementation of IDEA for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006, the 2006-2007 academic year. OSEP notified the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) that Maryland's Part B was at the level of Needs Assistance.

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1416(a)(1)(C)(i), states are required to assign these same levels of determination annually under §1416(d) to each local school system based on performance. In accordance with §1416(e) of IDEA 2004, states must use one of the following four categories to assign a determination to each local school system: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, and Needs Substantial Intervention.

The MSDE, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, uses a results-based rubric on specific indicators to rate each public agency's performance in meeting the State's targets as defined by the SPP for Part B. Attached is a document entitled "Part B Indicators Considered in Making Determinations" that lists the Part B indicators considered in making determinations. MSDE carefully considered all aspects of this process. Based on available data, as well as information obtained through monitoring and complaint investigations, the Baltimore City Public School System (BCPSS) has been determined to be ***Needs Substantial Intervention (Year 2)***.

The determination of ***Needs Substantial Intervention*** subjects BCPSS local application for federal funds to the following special conditions:

- MSDE staff will increase off-site and on-site monitoring activities to ensure that the grant is appropriately implemented;
- In addition to the mid-year and final grant progress reports, progress reports are required according to the schedule set forth in each corrective action plan (CAP);
- BCPSS must continue to work cooperatively with MSDE and the Intensive Management Capacity Improvement Team (IMCIT) and actively seek available sources of technical and management assistance for improvement and the correction of noncompliance identified through monitoring, Letters of Findings, and other applicable requirements; and
- As a high-risk grantee, BCPSS must continue to develop, implement, review, and revise any MSDE directed CAPs to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible and in no case later than one year.

Specific factors affecting MSDE's determination that BCPSS ***Needs Substantial Intervention*** include: (1) Not meeting State targets for performance Indicators 1, 2, 5A, 5B, and 5C; (2) Data demonstrating less than substantial compliance for Indicators 4 and 11; (3) Continued failure to correct all previously identified noncompliance within timelines; and (4) Failure to substantially comply affects core requirements, such as delivery of services and the provision of effective general supervision and oversight. Pursuant to these requirements, MSDE is advising BCPSS of available sources of technical assistance related to Indicator 4 (Suspension), Indicator 11 (Initial Evaluation Timeline), Indicator 13 (Transition), and Indicator 15 (General Supervision).

Attached to this letter are copies of the following documents:

- Part B Local Determination Overview;
- Part B Local Determination Scoring Criteria;
- Part B Local Determination Table;
- Part B Local Determination Framework for Assistance and Intervention; and
- Division Technical Assistance Providers for Each Indicator.

The "Part B Local Determination Table" provides an analysis of the BCPSS' data. The "Part B Local Determination Framework for Technical Assistance and Intervention" provides additional information relative to technical assistance and support available to your local school system.

In collaboration with MSDE, BCPSS will identify the type, amount, and frequency of assistance needed to address the specific needs in Indicators 1, 2, 5A, 5B, 5C, 4, 11, 13, and 15. MSDE is available to consult with local school systems by telephone, fax, email, mail, or in-person. Attached is a list Division personnel, with contact information, for each SPP indicator.

Dr. Andrés Alonso
July 31, 2008
Page Three

As you know, the State must report annually to the public on the performance of each local school system on the targets in the SPP under IDEA. The public may access information about Maryland's performance at <http://mdideareport.org>. The requirement for public reporting on local school system performance is a critical provision in ensuring accountability focusing on improved results for students with disabilities. MSDE will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities as you work to improve performance under Part B of the IDEA. If you have any feedback on our past technical assistance efforts or the need for guidance, we would be happy to hear from you as we work to develop further mechanisms to support local improvement activities.

The MSDE is committed to supporting the efforts of the Baltimore City Public School System to improve results for students with disabilities. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-767-0238.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D.
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Special Education/
Early Intervention Services

CAB/KAL:gh

Attachments

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Idalyn Hauss
Branch/Section Chiefs
Donna Riley

**Baltimore City Public School System
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007**

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis/
Monitoring Priority: FAPE in the LRE		
1. Percent of youth with IEPs graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the State graduating with a regular diploma. [Performance Indicator]	Baltimore City Public School Systems' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 35.79%. This is below the State's target of 83.24% by 47.45%.	Baltimore City Public School Systems' data was significantly below the State's target. The FFY 2006 data is an increase from the previous year's graduation rate of 35.20% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Baltimore City Public School Systems' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
2. Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the State dropping out of high school. [Performance Indicator]	Baltimore City Public School Systems' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 13.96%. This did not meet the State's target of 3.81% by 10.15%.	Baltimore City Public School Systems' data was significantly below the State's target. The FFY 2006 data is a decrease from the previous year's graduation rate of 16.41% for students with disabilities. MSDE looks forward to Baltimore City Public School Systems' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
4. Percent of districts identified as having significant discrepancy in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with disabilities for greater than ten days in a school year. [Compliance Indicator]	Baltimore City Public School Systems' FFY 2006 ratio for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days is 1.33 and for extended suspensions is 2.14 when compared to nondisabled peers. The State's target for both summing to and extended suspensions is 0.00 – 1.49.	Baltimore City Public School Systems' data met the State's target for multiple suspensions summing to greater than 10 days and did not meet the State's target for extended suspensions. MSDE expects Baltimore City Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.

Baltimore City Public School System
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
5. Percent of children with IEPs aged 6 through 21: A. Removed from regular class less than 21% of the day; B. Removed from regular class greater than 60% of the day; or C. Served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements. [Performance Indicator]	A. Baltimore City Public School Systems' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 41.64%. This is below the State's target of 60.11% by 18.47%. B. Baltimore City Public School Systems' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 28.21%. This did not meet the State's target of 16.61% by 11.6%. C. Baltimore City Public School Systems' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 10.37%. This did not meet the State's target of 7.42% for FFY 2006 by 2.95%.	Baltimore City Public School Systems' data was significantly below the State's targets for Indicators 5A, 5B and 5C. MSDE looks forward to Baltimore City Public School Systems' FFY 2007 data demonstrating improvement.
Monitoring Priority: Disproportionality		
9. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Baltimore City Public School Systems' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Baltimore City Public School Systems' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Baltimore City Public School Systems' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.

Baltimore City Public School System
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
10. Percent of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories that is the result of inappropriate identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Baltimore City Public School Systems' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 0%.	Baltimore City Public School Systems' data met the State's target for this compliance indicator. MSDE looks forward to Baltimore City Public School Systems' FFY 2007 data demonstrating continued compliance.
Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision		
11. Percent of children with parental consent to evaluate, who were evaluated within 60 days (or State established timeline). [Compliance Indicator]	Baltimore City Public School Systems' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 85.33%. The State's target is 100%.	Baltimore City Public School Systems' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator for two consecutive years but did show progress over the previous year's data. MSDE expects Baltimore City Public Schools to fully implement the Corrective Action Plan to ensure correction of noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year.
12. Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays. [Compliance Indicator]	Baltimore City Public School Systems' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 98.45%. The State's target is 100%.	Baltimore City Public Schools' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator but was substantially compliant (95 - 99.9%). MSDE looks forward to Baltimore City Public School Systems' FFY 2007 data demonstrating 100% compliance.

Baltimore City Public School System
Part B Local Determination Table
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY 2006)
July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007

Monitoring Priorities and Indicators	Status	MSDE Analysis
13. Percent of youth aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. [Compliance Indicator]	Baltimore City Public School Systems' FFY 2006 data for this indicator is 97.45%. The State's target is 100%.	Baltimore City Public School Systems' data did not meet the State's target of 100% for this compliance indicator but was substantially compliant (95-99.9%). MSDE looks forward to Baltimore City Public School Systems' FFY 2007 data demonstrating 100% compliance.
15. General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification. [Compliance Indicator]	Baltimore City Public School System had eight corrective actions due in FFY 2006.	Baltimore City Public School System had eight findings of identified noncompliance by the State in FFY 2005 that was due for correction in FFY 2006. None were corrected within timelines. MSDE expects all identified noncompliance to be corrected as soon as possible but in no case later than one year.
20. State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) are timely and accurate. [Compliance Indicator]	Baltimore City Public School System submitted required 618 data in a timely and accurate manner.	Baltimore City Public School Systems' data met the State's target of 100% for the timely and accurate submission of required 618 data and other data requirements for FFY 2006. MSDE expects Baltimore City Public School Systems' submission of required data to be timely and accurate.