



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

July 26, 2010

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Report on a Modification to the Previously Approved Marquette-Alger Regional Educational Service Agency Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services

Pursuant to Section 380.1711 of the School Code of 1976, each intermediate school district must develop, establish, continually evaluate, and modify its Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services (Plan). Approval indicates that intermediate school districts' and local constituent districts' special education programs and services described in the Plan meet standards which are consistent with federal and state requirements. Approval also allows intermediate school districts to receive reimbursement pursuant to the State School Aid Act.

Staff has reviewed, and I have granted approval of the Marquette-Alger Regional Educational Service Agency Plan modification. See Attachment A for a summary of the Marquette-Alger Regional Educational Service Agency Plan modification.

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MARQUETTE-ALGER REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY  
PLAN FOR THE DELIVERY OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

SUMMARY

Redefinition of the delivery of services for the operation of programs for severely cognitively impaired and severely multiply impaired students.

It is proposed that the six-year age span be exceeded. Due to the low incidence of eligible students, the expanded age ranges are necessary for programmatic feasibility and to meet the needs of students. This change is requested in accordance with R 340.1733(f).

Allowing the age range to exceed the six-year age span will allow for four school districts to consolidate special education service delivery and deliver the program necessary to meet the needs of these low incidence students. This will allow the program to focus on independent living skills and community experiences that will enable these students to experience a unified curriculum and continuum of services aimed at their specific needs and goals.