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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

December 17, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman

SUBJECT: Report on the Oakland Schools 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 (ISD) must develop, establish, continually evaluate, and modify its Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services (Plan). Approval indicates that the ISD's 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 ISDs to receive reimbursement pursuant to the State School Aid Act.

Staff has reviewed, and I have approved, the Oakland Schools Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services. Attachment A is a summary of the changes from the previously approved Oakland Schools Plan.

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Page	Section	Changes	Rationale
2	Table of Contents	[add] under Appendix B; Appendix C *constituent districts*	Oakland County has 28 LEAs and 16 PSAs. In light of the expectations for all public school districts, use of *constituent districts* more accurately identifies both the expectation for compliance as well as recognizes the organizational responsibility of service from each of the 44 districts in the county
3	Adoption Clause	[update] *Ms. Elizabeth Kowalski*	Current PAC Chairperson
5-6	Constituent District Signatures	[update] Public School Academy *Administrators*	Previously identified as "Directors", use of "Administrator" more accurately describes the responsibility of individual providing signature
7	Preface Statement	[update] *disability*	Formerly identified as "diagnosed disability." By rule, a student with a disability must be identified as such through a comprehensive evaluation process – therefore "diagnosed" is redundant
8	Special Education Spectrum of Services	[add/update] language in the following 4 sections: Least Restrictive Environment, Transportation, Transition, and Assessment	Clarifies and more accurately reflects the opportunities for determining services within Oakland County with updated language, SPPI alignment and MEAS continuum
9	Special Education Spectrum for Programs and Services	[add/update] *General Education Classroom with Support* [delete/update] General Education Classroom	Clarifies and more accurately reflects the opportunities for determining services within Oakland County. In particular, it represents optional alternative rule use under R340.1832(e)
12	Oakland Schools Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services	[update] *Spring 2009* [update} …and provides for its Local Education Agencies and Public School Academies (henceforth to be referenced as *constituent districts* in this document)	Date update Oakland County has 28 LEAs and 16 PSAs. In light of the expectations for all public school districts, use of *constituent districts* more accurately identifies both the expectation for compliance as well as recognizes the organizational responsibility of service from each of the 44 districts in the county
12	Oakland Schools Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and	[update] language change to *constituent districts* (4 changes)	Replacing - Local Education Agency (LEAs) and Public School Academies (PSAs)

	Services		
12	A. Public Awareness	[update] language change to *constituent districts* (6 changes)	Replacing - Local Education Agency (LEAs) and Public School Academies (PSAs)
12	A. Child Find	[update] Information regarding special education programs and services will be distributed annually by the constituent districts and may include, but are not limited to:	Previous language interpreted as a requirement for districts to utilize the list comprehensively which is not a requirement and was not the intent. New language more accurately reflects opportunities for distribution without limitation.
13	B. Types of Diagnostic and Related Services	[deleted] The Special Education Directory will be updated annually and is available for review via the Oakland Schools website	The *Special Education Directory* as a publication is no longer available through the ISD. The required personnel listings are updated periodically throughout the year by Oakland Schools Communications and Marketing Department; additionally, ISD Plan Appendix A is updated annually (each November) through the Compliance Unit.
13	B. Types of Diagnostic and Related Services	[deleted/updated] reference to *Service Delivery Reference Guide*	This was not a required content element of the ISD Plan and is no longer a publication available through Oakland schools
13	B Types of Diagnostic and Related Services	[update] Oakland Schools provides Teacher Consultant Services for low-incidence populations, *and other services dictated by county need and resource efficiency.*	Same content, more broadly described (previously identified "evaluation and consultation services" by name). This update broadens the opportunity for the ISD to be responsive to district need and resource efficiency
13	B Types of Diagnostic and Related Services	[update] *constituent districts* (3 changes)	Replacing Local Education Agency (LEAs) and Public School Academies (PSAs)
13	B Types of Diagnostic and Related Services	[update] *service*	Clarified from "services" to "service"
13	C. Programs and Services	[update] *constituent districts* (1 change)	Replacing Local Education Agency (LEAs) and Public School Academies (PSAs)
13	C. Programs and Services	[update] this annual update will be disseminated	Language change from "distributed" to "disseminated"
13	C. Programs	[added]	

	and Services	...as required at R340.1738(b) for students in programs for Severe Cognitive Impairment and R340.1748 (2) for students in programs for Severe Multiple Impairments, Oakland County will operate with a minimum of 1,150 hours of instruction with no breaks greater than two weeks and with the exception of legal holidays as identified in the Michigan School Code.	Addition based on Administrative Rule requirements at R340.1738 and R340.1748. This change further recognizes the MI School Code which requires districts honor post Labor Day start up and January 1 as a holiday.
14	D. Optional Alternative Programs Under Rule 340.1832(e)	[updated] Program Rule number(s) under R340.1832 options	Feedback from constituent districts reinforced a need for identifying the program rule in concert with the 340.1832(e) optional exception. This is a clarification for ease in transferring rule language to the IEP for transparency.
14	D. Optional Alternative Programs Under Rule 340.1832(e)	[deleted/updated] R340.1738 and R340.1748 as R340.1832(e) options	Clock hours are no longer applicable with the revised rule requirements as indicated; therefore the ISD Plan must be updated
14	D. Optional Alternative Programs Under Rule 340.1832(e)	[added] R340.1755/R340.1832(e) Early Childhood Services	Related service providers will work in collaboration with an approved early childhood special education teacher. 72 required clock hours may be spread across 180 days of instruction across an entire calendar year. Membership will be prorated if a student's IFSP/IEP requires less then 72 clock hours within the instructional calendar spread across an entire calendar year. The calculation will be based on the number of IFSP/IEP service hours divided by 180.
19	D. Optional Alternative Programs Under Rule 340.1832(e)	[added] R 340.1832(e) – Level T	Based on individual student need and goals identified by the Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team, students aged 18-26 may be provided services in a collaborative instructional environment external to the traditional classroom through Level T Programming. The Level T Teacher: a. May consult with staff on behalf of the student b. May issue grades and grant credit c. May provide direct support to students across a collaborative instructional setting d. May serve as a member of the Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team (MET) and evaluate students who are suspected of having a disability

			e. May serve a caseload of not more than 25 students f. May serve not more than 12 students in a collaborative instructional setting at anytime g. Must have the ability to address the goals and objectives for all students assigned to caseload h. Must be a special education teacher with either a Master's Degree or a Bachelor's Degree A student in Level T Programming: a. May receive paraprofessional support based on individual needs b. May follow the General Education Curriculum with either accommodations or modifications as defined in the Individualized Education Program (IEP) c. Will follow IEP identified transition goals aligned to student need(s) d. May receive either a diploma or a certification of completion
20	E Local Education Agency and Public School Academy Offices Responsible for the Implementation of Special Education Programs	[Update] Public School Academies section	Updated listing from 22 previously authorized PSAs in Oakland County to current listing of 16.
21	H. Distribution of Funds	[updated] *Constituent districts*	Replacing - Local Education Agency (LEAs) and Public School Academies (PSAs)
21	H. Distribution of Funds	[change] *...This is inclusive of annually determined line items accessed through an application and approval process which may include:*	Changed from: *This is inclusive of budgeted line items accessed through an application and approval process for...* in order to more accurately reflect the current process for distribution and sustainability over time
22	I. Parent Advisory Committee	[deleted] A "qualified parent" must be...	Replacing with the Oakland Schools PAC by-laws for membership.
22	I. Parent Advisory Committee	[updated] *Intermediate School District (ISD) Plan*	Clarified the description to reflect current language previously identified as "County Plan"

24	J. Additional Plan Content	[updated] *Constituent districts* (4 changes)	As indicated – replacing Local Education Agency (LEAs) and Public School Academies (PSAs)
24	J. Additional Plan Content	[change] *... participate in annual training. Oakland Schools provides resources to its constituent districts for meeting the requirements*	Previously identified as: *...must fulfill the obligation to have a representative attend annual training. Oakland Schools will provide annual training ...* This is a change is based on district request for broader access and efficient use of resources. The ISD previously offered on-site training requiring district participation; feedback from this offering indicated a preference for Oakland Schools to provide resources for district access to training.