



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING



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SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

May 24, 2010

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Report on the Ottawa Area Intermediate School District 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 Ottawa Area Intermediate School District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services. Attachment A is a summary of the changes from the previously approved Ottawa Area Intermediate School District Plan.

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**OTTAWA AREA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Summary of Changes to the Ottawa Area Intermediate School District  
Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services

1. Ottawa Area Intermediate School District (OAISD) Plan Language  
(Early Childhood Home/Community, Rules 340.1755 and 340.1832)

Related service providers will work in collaboration with an approved early childhood special education teacher. The required 72 clock hours of instruction across 180 days may be spread across a calendar year. Membership will be prorated if a student's Individualized Family Support Plan/Individualized Education Program (IFSP/IEP) requires less than 72 clock hours and/or less than 2 hours per week of instruction across a calendar year. The calculation will be based on the number of IFSP/IEP program hours divided by 180.

This change is related to the provision of services to infants and toddlers (0-3 years of age). This allows for flexibility in staff time and spreads the required number of service hours over the course of a calendar year vs. a school year. Early On services are required to be provided on a year-round basis.

Helps the OAISD to come in line with year-round provision of services required for Early On eligible children. Improves/increases services to children by meeting their scheduling needs.

2. OAISD Plan Language  
(Programs for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder Rules 340.1758 and 340.1832)

Elementary – Class size may consist of seven students, one teacher, and two paraprofessionals which provide a ratio of one adult to two students. A minimum of one teacher and one paraprofessional are required when three students are present.

Middle School – Class size may consist of seven students, one teacher, and two or more paraprofessionals. A minimum of one teacher and one paraprofessional are required when three students are present. The paraprofessional allocation is to be determined by need.

High School – Class size may consist of eight students, one teacher, and two or more paraprofessionals. The paraprofessional allocation is to be determined by need.

This change allows flexibility and modifies caseload provisions under the rules. The needs vary by grade levels.

Improves services to children who are now served in more inclusive settings than in past years.

3. OAISD District Plan Language  
(Teacher Specialist Rules 340.1749 and 340.1832(e))

An individual, possessing two of the following four requirements, may be employed under the mentorship of a fully qualified teacher consultant:

- a. Certification as a teacher in the program area for which employment is sought;
- b. Master's degree;
- c. A minimum of three years teaching experience, not less than two years of which are in special education; and
- d. Michigan Department of Education teacher consultant approval.

Based on this criterion, the teacher specialist will perform the duties as identified in Rule 340.1749.

Allows the OAISD to hire trained and qualified staff in low incidence service areas, such as visual impairment, when availability of candidates is extremely low.