



THE LAKE AND PENINSULA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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To: Board of Education
Lake and Peninsula School District

March 9, 2021

From: Marjorie Waggoner
Special Education Director

Re: Special Education Report

Special Education Professional Development

Several special education teachers attended the Alaska State Special Education Conference which was held virtually on February 6 and 7. The theme this year was "A Journey to Inclusion". The keynote speakers included Julie J. Weatherly, Esq., who presented updates on significant "legal happenings" during the past year including an overview of relevant court decisions and US agency interpretations that were both COVID-related and not. Also, Amanda Wilson presented a keynote on inclusion and gave insights about the history of past challenges and barriers, as well as future solutions and recommendations. The conference overall was well organized and included well done sessions on important topics in special education. Thanks to the District for supporting this wonderful opportunity for our special education teachers.

Indicators 8 and 14

LPSD registrar and I completed compiling the data for Indicators 8 and 14. The data was provided to the state to enable the department to conduct surveys to determine the post-school outcomes of special education students, and parent involvement with special education students.

Special Education Assurances

School districts are required every year to verify that certain assurances are being fulfilled in special education. There are 50 assurances that all school districts agree to complete during the grant application process. The department verifies these assurances on a rotational basis to reduce burden on the school district.

This year the following assurances are requested for verification:

Written Notice in Languages & Accessible Instructional Materials

- 26) The district will maintain documentation that written notice is made available in all languages for which the district has a bilingual program, when applicable. 34 CFR 300.503
- 27) The district will maintain documentation that if native language is not a written language, a taped version of written notice is available as are other alternative methods of communication (eg. Braille, interpreter), when applicable. 34 CFR 300.503
- 48) The district will maintain documentation that it takes all reasonable steps to provide print instructional materials in accessible formats to students with disabilities (who need those materials) at the same time as other students receive print instructional materials. 4 AAC 52.148, 34 CFR 300.172
- 49) When purchasing core instructional print materials the district will make every attempt to ensure that the publisher send (at no additional cost) electronic files containing the contents of the print instructional materials using the NIMAS standard to the National Instructional Materials Center (NIMAC). 34 CFR 300.210(a)

Other

- 50) The district has submitted documentation that substantiates compliance with the excess cost requirements under 34 CFR 300.202. 34 CFR 300.202, 34 CFR 300.16, 34 CFR 300 (required annually)

The explanation of how our district competes assurances each year along with at least one example document that shows compliance is due to the state on May 1st. I am working with the special education teachers and the Director of Finance to report to the state LPSD's documentation of compliance with these assurances.

Special Education Directors' Training

I will be attending the Special Education Directors' training virtually March. 20 and 21. These two days are spent honing skills and keeping abreast of current trends, challenges, and legislation in the special education world.