INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM AND FAMILY SERVICES PLAN

A meeting to develop an IEP for a child must be held within thirty (30) calendar days of a determination that the child needs special education and related services, and it must review the child's IEP not less than annually. After the initial IEP meeting, it must be in effect at the beginning of each school year. The school district shall encourage the consolidation of reevaluation meetings for the child and other IEP team meetings as much as possible. Alternative means of meeting participation, such as video conferences and conference calls, may be used by the district and parent by mutual agreement.

The district ensures that an Individualized Education Program (IEP), or an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) is developed, reviewed, and revised for each child with a disability in accordance with 92 NAC 51-007. Prior to considering any draft of an IEP as final it shall be reviewed and revised based on discussion and decisions of the team including the parent, guardian or surrogate. Reasonable efforts will be made to obtain informed consent from the parent, guardian, or surrogate regarding special education placement on the IEP before services are begun.

Strategies to meet transition objectives shall be in place beginning not later than the first IEP to be in effect when the child turns 14 and updated annually thereafter. This shall include appropriate measurable postsecondary goals based upon age-appropriate transition assessments related to training, education, employment, and, where appropriate, independent living skills. It will also include transition services (including courses of study) needed to assist the child in reaching those goals. If a participating agency other than the school district fails to provide the transition services described in the IEP, the school district shall reconvene the IEP team to identify alternative strategies to meet the transition objectives for the child set out in the IEP.

Every report of alleged violations of the district's special education policies that can be interpreted at the outset to fall within the protections of laws against discrimination shall be handled as a joint, concurrent investigation into all allegations and coordinated with the full participation of the Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator. If, in the course of an ongoing investigation of these policies, potential issues of sexual harassment or discrimination are identified, the Title IX Coordinator shall be promptly notified, and the investigation shall be conducted jointly and concurrently to address the issues of alleged sexual harassment or discrimination as well as the incidents of alleged violations of the special education policies.

NDE documents "Rule 51, Special Education Program" and "Policies and Procedures Guidance Documents" shall serve as administrative procedures to this policy. The entire documents can be found at https://www.education.ne.gov/sped/regulationspolicies.

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