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Bureau of Special Education FY'08 Memo # 8

DATE: August 2, 2007

TO: Superintendents of Schools
Special Education Directors

FROM: Lyonel B. Tracy
Commissioner of Education

Santina Thibedeau
State Director of Special Education
Administrator, Bureau of Special Education

RE: Formal Rule Making Process

We expect the State Board of Education will enter into formal rulemaking on August 8, 2007 on the proposed "New Hampshire Rules for the Education of Children with Disabilities."

The Department has developed the proposed Rules in collaboration with individuals representing both the school district and parent perspectives. The Department also solicited feedback by conducting six (6) early input sessions beginning in October of 2005.

There were also approximately ten (10) parent forums conducted throughout the state to provide information and receive feedback. The Department has reviewed and considered all input in the development of the Rules.

The rule-making process allows the Board to amend the proposed Rules after the close of the public comment period and prior to the submission of the final proposal to the Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules. The State Board of Education has directed the Bureau of Special Education to conduct two (2) information sessions to receive public comment on the Rules. These information sessions are scheduled as follows.

1. Tuesday, August 21, 2007 ~ 6:00pm to 8:00pm, White Mountains Regional High School Auditorium, 127 Regional Road, Whitefield, NH
2. Tuesday, September 11, 2007 ~ 6:00pm to 8:00pm, Manchester Memorial High School, 1 Crusader Way, Manchester, NH

We anticipate that the State Board of Education's formal public hearing on the rules will take place on Wednesday, October 10, 2007.

The Department of Education will take written comment on the proposed rules until 4:00 PM on Friday, October 26, 2007. All comments should be directed to Mary Mayo at mmayo@ed.state.nh.us, 101 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301.

The Department thanks you in advance for your interest in the education of children with disabilities.

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