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Bureau of Special Education FY'08 Memo #21

Date January 4, 2008

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: Public Reporting of District Special Education Data (District Data Profiles)  
and District Determinations

As required by IDEA 2004, the NH Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education will report annually to the public on each NH district's performance on the targets in the State's Performance Plan or SPP. These reports are referred to as Special Education District Data Profiles and will be located on the NH Department of Education website in the special education section.

The NH Department of Education anticipates publishing the first special education district data profiles by mid-January 2008. A profile will be developed for each district. Profiles will compare district performance to the targets in the State Performance Plan for FFY 2005 (July 1, 2005-June 30, 2006). As required by the federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) the reports for this time period will include Indicators 1-6 and 12. These indicators address: graduation and drop out rates, statewide assessment, suspension/expulsion, school age and preschool placement, and early transitions. For more on these indicators, go to [www.ed.state.nh.us/education/doe/organization/instruction/SpecialEd/OSEPreports.htm](http://www.ed.state.nh.us/education/doe/organization/instruction/SpecialEd/OSEPreports.htm). For this reporting period, New Hampshire did not collect district level data for Indicators 1 (graduation), 2 (drop out), or 6 (preschool placements). Therefore no data are available to report by district for these indicators. In addition, the statewide assessment (Indicator 3) transitioned from a spring to a fall assessment during this time period so district level AYP could not be determined.

The New Hampshire Department of Education will be holding an information session on Thursday, January 10, 2008 for Superintendents, Special Education Administrators, or their designees. The purpose of this session will be to provide guidance to local districts on the district data profiles and to allow districts to preview the data prior to publication. Please see the attached agenda for details on this opportunity.

States are also required to make determinations annually on the performance of local school districts on meeting the requirements of IDEA. More information on district determinations will be shared at a later date. An overview of the determination requirements and process will be shared at the information session on January 10, 2008.

This document is available in alternative format upon request.

New Hampshire Department of Education  
Bureau of Special Education  
Information Session

Public Reporting for IDEA  
District Data Profiles

Draft Agenda

Date: January 10, 2008

Time: Join us from 9-11 or from 1-3

Place: Walker Building  
NH Department of Education  
Division of Adult Learning and Rehabilitation  
21 South Fruit St., Suite 20  
Concord, NH 03301

Directions: <http://www.ed.state.nh.us/education/contactVR.htm>

Outcomes for Meeting

District administrators attending will:

- ❖ Increase knowledge and understanding of district data profiles and determinations of performance
- ❖ Preview local district data profile prior to public release
- ❖ Be aware of state timelines for public reporting and determinations
- ❖ Share strategies for informing community members about the data

Agenda Overview

- ❖ Public reporting of district performance on state special education targets
- ❖ Annual determination of district performance in meeting IDEA requirements
- ❖ Sharing district data profiles by district
- ❖ State Timelines
- ❖ Strategies for Community Awareness
- ❖ Questions and Clarifications