



IEP Process

Overview

Presented by the Special Education Ad Hoc Committee
November 15, 2022



Special Education Ad-hoc Committee IEP Process Subcommittee

Purpose

- To identify parental concerns in regard to the IEP process
- To provide suggestions to the district

Progress to date

- MTSD Special Education Parent Advisory Group (M-SEPAG), a state-mandated parent-led organization tasked with addressing systemic issues in special education, has conducted several parent surveys and community stakeholder interviews to raise awareness related to MTSD Special Services areas in need of improvement
- MTSD BOE approved a budget for a district-wide audit/program evaluation of special education services
- MTSD BOE has mobilized to address areas in need of improvement and form the MTSD BOE Special Education Ad-Hoc Committee
- MTSD Administration (i.e., Superintendent) has committed to working in collaboration with the BOE and M-SEPAG to make Special Education quality improvement a priority

Considerations moving forward

- In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.1(i) and N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-10, 11, and 14: Each district board of education, through appropriate personnel, shall establish and implement a plan to evaluate special education programs and services.
 - On an annual basis the MTSD district administrators evaluate current special education programs and services. The plan should be formally shared with all stakeholders.
- Concerns related to communication, transparency, and community stakeholder involvement as it relates to the quality, the outcomes, and the strategic planning of the district's special education program.
 - Plan in response to the concerns
 - Bi-yearly parent surveys created by the district with MSEPAG AND MSEPTA.
 - The results of these survey will be shared with all stakeholders
 - Goals will be identified and reported out
- MTSD continues to expand the resource for parents and staff.
 - The district secured additional BCBA support effective 10/17/22.
 - Coordinate the needs for staff and parent trainings: For example but not limited to: DVR presentations, Transition activities to buildings and post-secondary, Inclusive practices with state mandated curriculum regulations and enhancing MTSD programming.
 - Utilize email blast, websites and social media to communicate resources

Recommendations/Next Steps

Short-term

- The MTSD continues to conduct a district-wide web-based survey to solicit parent/family/student feedback on special education program quality including items related to specific things that are in need of improvement related to the IEP process.
- The MTSD should conduct a similar district-wide survey of special education staff
- Continue to solicit MSEPAG and MSEPTA input for the development of survey questions
- Data collected from the surveys should be shared with MSEPAG and the the MTSD community.
- The district will continue to seek additional quotes for special education audit

Long-term Steps

- Award contract for district-wide special education audit of Special Education programs to inform a long term (1-3 year) strategic plan for continuous quality improvement.
- Provide parents with information and training sessions surrounding the IEP process.