



School District of New London

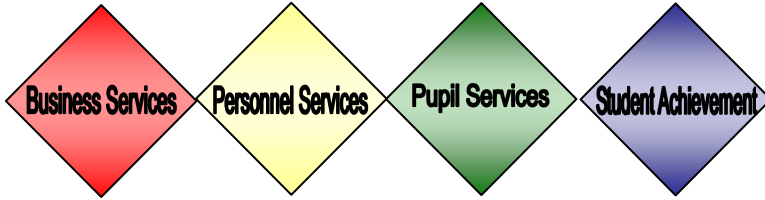
DIVISION

MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Ann Christopherson

Division: Pupil Services

Date: September 2010



DPI Audit Time...AGAIN!



In mid – August, we received word from the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) that we would be quickly participating in another audit. This time the audit focuses on the Verification of Indicator 11 – Eligibility Determined in a Timely Manner and Indicator 13 – Coordinated and Measurable Annual Transition Goals and Services for students sixteen years of age and older student records. The Audit is a next step for DPI which had an audit of its own from the Office of Special Educational Programs (OSEP) at a federal level. The results of OSEP findings stated that the DPI's verification process after a school district audit was not considered rigorous enough for federal standards.

We originally went through an audit and a verification process during the 2007-2008 school year. All districts which went through the process between 2007 and 2010 are each required to submit new student documents for examination verification of compliance with Indicators 11 and 13.

Indicator 11 is a report of performance on a requirement of special education law. A local educational agency (LEA) must determine if a child is a child with a disability within 60 days after the local educational agency receives parental consent for administering tests or other evaluation materials. If the IEP team determines no tests or other evaluation materials need to be administered, the LEA must complete the evaluation within 60 days of providing the parents a notice that no tests or evaluation materials will be administered.

Indicator 13 reports on the percent of youth with IEPs aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes appropriate measurable postsecondary goals that are based upon age appropriate transition assessment, transition services, including courses of study, that will reasonably enable the student to meet those postsecondary goals, and annual IEP goals related to the student's transition services needs. There also must be evidence the student was invited to the IEP team.

I received a preliminary email from DPI on September 1, stating, "Everything looks to be in order and you will be receiving a letter to that effect in the near future."

#1797 Knights of Columbus Donation



Duane Herning and Bob Fleese dropped off a donation of \$617.00 from our local Knights of Columbus Chapter. Twice a year the special education program receives funds from the Knights of Columbus targeted specifically for "students with intellectual challenges."

Last spring we purchased a rather expensive handicapped swing for use at the high school with these monies. Presently, we've had Mr. Yerkey deposit our new windfall for safe keeping. Ms. Wall, Ms. Kamba, and Mrs. Spencer are looking at other materials/needs which may further enhance their programs.



4K and EC:SE double dip

Several students are enrolled in both 4-Year-Old-Kindergarten and Early Childhood: Special Education (EC:SE) this year. Students are mornings in one program and afternoons in the other. They are getting additional experiences and building skills to make them better ready for Kindergarten.

With this change, and a focus on Best Practice, children will also be learning during lunch when they arrive at EC:SE. Children will practice with a family style meal and work on serving themselves and learning appropriate social interactions for meal time.