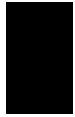




Mohammed Choudhury  
State Superintendent of Schools

April 5, 2022



Ms. Trinell Bowman  
Associate Superintendent-Special Education  
Prince George's County Public Schools  
John Carroll Administration Building  
1400 Nalley Terrace  
Hyattsville, Maryland 20785

RE: [REDACTED]  
Reference: #22-092

Dear Parties:

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services (DEI/SES), has completed the investigation of the complaint regarding special education services for the above-referenced student. This correspondence is the report of the final results of the investigation.

**ALLEGATION:**

On February 4, 2022, the MSDE received a complaint from Mr. [REDACTED] hereafter, “the complainant,” on behalf of the above-referenced student. In that correspondence, the complainant alleged that the Prince George’s County Public Schools (PGCPS) violated certain provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) with respect to the above-referenced student.

The MSDE investigated the allegation that the PGCPS did not ensure that accessible copies of each document the IEP team planned to discuss at the February 5, 2021 Individualized Education Program (IEP) team meeting was provided to the parents at least five (5) business days before each scheduled meeting, in accordance with COMAR 13A.05.01.03 and COMAR 13A.05.01.07.

**BACKGROUND:**

The student is sixteen (16) years old, is identified as a student with Autism under the IDEA, and has an Individualized Education Program (IEP) that requires the provision of special education and related services.

The student is placed by the PGCPS at [REDACTED] a nonpublic, separate, special education school.

Ms. Trinell Bowman  
April 5, 2022

**FINDINGS OF FACTS:**

1. On February 5, 2021, the IEP team met to "review the student-specific corrective actions for MSDE State Complaints #20-137, #21-028 and #21-030."
2. During the IEP team meeting, the IEP team discussed the progress that the student had made towards achieving his annual IEP goals.
3. Following the IEP team meeting, staff at the student's school provided the complainant with a quarterly progress report describing the student's progress towards achieving his IEP goals.

**DISCUSSION/CONCLUSION:**

In this case, the complainant alleges that the school staff should have provided him with a copy of the progress report five days prior to the IEP team meeting convened on February 5, 2021. Based on the Findings of Facts, #1-3, the MSDE finds that the PGCPSS was not required to provide the parent with a document that it did not plan on discussing at least five days prior to an IEP team meeting, in accordance with COMAR 13A.05.01.03 and COMAR 13A.05.01.07. Therefore, the MSDE does not find that a violation occurred with respect to this allegation.

**TIMELINES:**

As of the date of this correspondence, this Letter of Findings is considered final. This office will not reconsider the conclusions reached in this Letter of Findings unless new, previously unavailable documentation is submitted and received by this office within fifteen (15) days of the date of this correspondence. The new documentation must support a written request for reconsideration, and the written request must include a compelling reason for why the documentation was not made available during the investigation. Pending this office's decision on a request for reconsideration, the public agency must implement any corrective actions within the timelines reported in this Letter of Findings.

The parties maintain the right to request mediation or to file a due process complaint, if they disagree with the identification, evaluation, placement, or provision of a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) for the student, including issues subject to this State complaint investigation, consistent with the IDEA. The MSDE recommends that this Letter of Findings be included with any request for mediation or a due process complaint.

Sincerely,

Marcella E. Franczkowski, M.S.  
Assistant State Superintendent  
Division of Early Intervention/Special Education Services

MEF:gl

c: Monica Goldson                      Gail Viens  
Barbara VanDyke                      Darnell Henderson  
Keith Marston                          Gerald Loiacono