


January 14, 2025




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

RE:   
Reference: #25-136

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 on the final results of the investigation.

**ALLEGATIONS:**

On, November 15, 2024, MSDE received a complaint from , 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) concerning the above-referenced student.

MSDE investigated the following allegations:

1. The PGCPS did not ensure that Behavior Consult service was provided as required by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP), during third quarter of 2023-2024 school year, in accordance with 34 CFR § 300.101 and COMAR 13A.05.01.09.
2. The PGCPS did not ensure that the student was provided with speech and language therapy as required by the student's IEP from September 23, 2024, to September 27, 2024, in accordance with 34 CFR § 300.101 and COMAR 13A.05.01.09.
3. The PGCPS failed to provide the parent with the explanations and interpretations of the student's education records prior to an IEP team meeting convened on October 4, 2024, in accordance with 34 CFR § 300.613, .501 and COMAR 13A.05.01.11.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The student is 19 years old, is identified as a student with Autism under the IDEA and has an IEP that requires the provision of special education and related services. The student currently attends the [REDACTED] in Prince George's County.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT:**

1. The student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) in effect during the third quarter of the 2023-2024 school year (ending on April 5, 2024), was drafted on May 10, 2023. Included as a supplementary aid and service is the requirement for a quarterly behavior consult to facilitate ongoing communication regarding Insaaf's behavioral and wellness needs between the school team and home and to support ongoing collaboration and problem-solving which assists in individualizing programming to [the student's] needs.
2. The student was attending the [REDACTED], a separate nonpublic special education day school during the third quarter of the 2023-2024 school year. There is documentation of a Behavior Consult during the third quarter of the 2023-2024 school year (on March 14, 2024), by [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED].
3. There is documentation that notification of the Behavior Consult was sent to the complaint via United States Postal Service on April 22, 2024.
4. The student's IEP that was in effect from September 23, 2024 through September 27, 2024, is dated April 30, 2024, and requires that he receive two thirty-minute sessions of speech/language therapy weekly, as a related service.
5. PGCPs acknowledges that the student did not receive the required services during this timeframe.
6. There is documentation that the student was provided with make-up sessions for the missed services on October 31, 2024. from 1:00-3:30 p.m. and from 10:30-11:00 a.m.
7. There is documentation that on September 23, 2024, the complainant sent an email to the student's teacher asking for the names of the staff members who would be attending the October 10, 2024, IEP team meeting for the student.
8. There is documentation that PGCPs responded to the complainant on September 27, 2024, prior to the October 10, 2024, IEP team meeting, writing: "In terms of participants at the IEP meeting, IDEA mandates that the district must inform parents who will be in attendance at an IEP team meeting and our notices are not required to identify individuals who will be participating by name as long as the notice contains the individuals by their positions. The IEP invitation has been reviewed and updated to ensure the participants' positions are correctly indicated on the invitation."

9. There is documentation that on October 4, 2024, the complainant made requests for information regarding an "Alternative Framework Supervisor."
10. There is documentation that on October 9, 2024, PGCPs responded to 32 requests for interpretations and explanations of the student record.

## **DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS:**

### **Allegation #1**

Based on Findings of Fact #1 through #3, MSDE finds that the PGCPs did ensure that Behavior Consult service was provided as required by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP), during third quarter of 2023-2024 school year, in accordance with 34 CFR § 300.101 and COMAR 13A.05.01.09. Therefore, there is no violation concerning this allegation.

### **Allegation #2**

Based on Findings of Facts # 4 through #6, MSDE finds that the PGCPs did not ensure that the student was provided with speech and language therapy as required by the student's IEP from September 23, 2024, to September 27, 2024, in accordance with 34 CFR § 300.101 and COMAR 13A.05.01.09. Therefore, this office finds a violation concerning this allegation

Notwithstanding, this student has received make-up sessions for the services that were missed during the timeframe identified. Accordingly, no additional student specific correction is required.

### **Allegation #3**

Based on Finding of Facts #7 through #10, MSDE finds that the PGCPs has provided the parent with the explanations and interpretations of the student's education records prior to an IEP team meeting convened on October 4, 2024, in accordance with 34 CFR § 300.613, .501 and COMAR 13A.05.01.11. Thus, no violation is found concerning this allegation.

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 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. The written request for reconsideration should be provided to Tracy Givens, Section Chief, Dispute Resolution via email [Tracy.Givens@maryland.gov](mailto:Tracy.Givens@maryland.gov). 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. MSDE recommends that this Letter of Findings be included with any request for mediation or a due process complaint.

Sincerely,

Antoine L. Hickman, Ed.D.  
Assistant State Superintendent  
Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services

ALH/abb

c: Millard House, II, Superintendent, PGCPs  
Keith Marston, Supervisor Special Education Compliance, PGCPs  
Lois Smith-Jones, Liaison, Special Education Compliance, PGCPs  
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