

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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New Jersey K-12 Education

CONSOLIDATED MONITORING REPORT
APRIL 2017

District: Piscataway Township Schools
County: Middlesex
Dates On-Site: January 25, 2017
Case #: CM-032-16

FUNDING SOURCES

| Program | Funding Award |
|----------------|---------------------|
| IDEA Basic | \$ 1,883,868 |
| IDEA Preschool | 52,697 |
| Total Funds | <u>\$ 1,936,565</u> |

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BACKGROUND

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) and other federal laws require that districts provide programs and services based on the requirements specified in each of the authorizing statutes (i.e., ESEA, IDEA, and Carl D. Perkins). The laws further require that state education agencies such as the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) monitor the implementation of federal programs by sub recipients and determine whether the funds are being used by the district for their intended purpose and achieving the overall objectives of the funding initiatives. Due to the impending implementation of new Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) regulations, only IDEA will be reviewed during consolidated monitoring.

INTRODUCTION

The NJDOE visited the Piscataway Township Schools to monitor the district's use of federal funds and the related program plans, where applicable, to determine whether the district's programs are meeting the intended purposes and objectives, as specified in the current year applications and authorizing statutes, and to determine whether the funds were spent in accordance with the program requirements, federal and state laws, and applicable regulations. The on-site visit included staff interviews and documentation reviews related to the requirements of the IDEA Basic and Preschool programs for the period July 1, 2015, through January 25, 2017.

The scope of work performed included the review of documentation including grant applications, program plans and needs assessments, grant awards, annual audits, board minutes, payroll records, accounting records, purchase orders, and an interview of the program administrator regarding the IDEA grants, as well as, current district policies and procedures. The monitoring team members also conducted interviews with district personnel, reviewed documentation for a sample of expenditures and conducted internal control reviews.

EXPENDITURES REVIEWED

The grant reviews included IDEA Basic and Preschool programs from July 1, 2015, through January 25, 2017. A sampling of purchase orders and/or salaries was taken from each program reviewed.

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GENERAL DISTRICT OVERVIEW OF USE OF IDEA GRANT FUNDS

IDEA (Special Education)

The FY 2017 IDEA funds were used to reduce district tuition expenditures for students receiving special education services in approved private schools for students with disabilities and to support students with service plans in a nonpublic setting.

DETAILED FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

IDEA

A review of the expenditures charged to the IDEA grant did not yield any findings.

The NJDOE thanks you for your time and cooperation during the monitoring visit.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathryn Holbrook via phone at (609) 292-0198 or via email at kathryn.holbrook@doe.state.nj.us.