

Improving Special Education Services (ISES)
Stakeholders Meeting
Workgroup Recommendations
December 5, 2008

Funds for this project come in part from federal funds awarded as a State Program Improvement Grant to California (CFDA 84.323A) allowed in Part D of Public Law 108-447, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), as amended in 2004. These dollars are considered local assistance funds and will assist individuals serving children birth to 22 years of age and their families.

Workgroup #1 Disproportionality

Indicator # 4a, 4b, 9 & 10 by ethnicity and overall disproportionality indicators

Recommendations

How to communicate new formula to the field:

1. Provide districts an Excel spreadsheet and include district information that allows the district to calculate on an ongoing basis whether the district may be identified as disproportionate.
2. Develop and disseminate a fact sheet about the E-formula and how it is used to identify districts that may be disproportionate.
3. Develop and deliver a Webinar with detailed information about the E-formula and how it is used to identify districts that may be disproportionate.

Workgroup #2 General Supervision-Compliance

Indicator # 15

Recommendations

1. Data and details on noncompliance findings from CDE to SELPAs and parent centers. Ongoing dialogue.
2. CDE to determine best practices, resources (information, trainings, funding) and how to disseminate to districts, parents, and General and Special Education staff and administration.
3. Technical Assistance (TA) from CDE to SELPA compliance meetings.

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Workgroup #3 Parent Involvement

Indicator #8

Recommendations

1. CDE will convene a representative group of families, SELPAs, and COEs to “seal the deal” on the survey questions from the NCSEAM survey. The group will meet between March and May to agree on the survey questions to be posted on the web.

Workgroup #4 Strategic Leadership Plan and SIG 2

Recommendations

1. Use list of 11 items to increase participation:
 - a. Utilized by DAIT teams to create retention plan
 - b. Connect to LRE/ED benefit piece
 - c. Strategically look at schedule of all surveys
 - d. Announcements by representatives to organizations and agencies
 - e. Create a statewide handout and/or ad
 - f. Generate electronic blasts; infomercials?
 - g. Connect with Para/BTSA/Intern supported programs
 - h. Enhance accountability by administration and district office, curriculum/instruction, COE/County Administration
 - i. Handbook
 - j. Involve parents; notification of parents is built into survey
 - k. Volunteers for pilot sites
2. Move forward with details on branching modules.
3. Address accessibility and usability of survey. Branching survey needs to be less than 20 questions.

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