

REMEDIAL INSTRUCTION

The Berlin Central School District Board of Education, in its commitment to providing an educational program that meets the needs of individual students, recognizes the importance of remedial instruction. It shall therefore be the responsibility for the Superintendent of Schools to oversee the development, maintenance, and evaluation of a remedial instruction program in the Berlin Central School District. The program shall specifically address the needs of students who must be provided with remedial instruction as a result of scores on state-required tests (in compliance with the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education), as well as the needs of all students who are having difficulty in any subject.

To determine student eligibility for remedial assistance in programs established under this policy, the Superintendent or her/his designee shall design appropriate student assessment procedures. Assessment shall be a collaborative effort undertaken by regular classroom teachers, counselors, and special education personnel in consultation with parents. Referrals may be initiated by parents, the building principal, classroom teachers and counselors based on scores achieved on state competency tests or other indicators and taking into consideration a broad range of student needs.

Individual assessments shall endeavor to gauge a student's need for emotional and physical health services, and shall seek to determine whether her/his inferior academic performance has a basis in a physically or emotionally disabling condition. Student learning style and level of proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing English shall also be assessed. If the latter is a factor then instruction in English as a second language or bilingual instruction, or both, shall be provided prior to any determination regarding the need for any further specialized instruction. All transfer students and new entrants shall be screened to determine their need for remedial instruction.

If a student is eligible for remedial instruction then she/he shall be assigned to an appropriate certified instructor. In-service training in remedial programs shall be provided to teachers as needed.

The actual remedial instruction that is provided shall vary in approach, depending on the particular needs of the student in question. Teachers shall coordinate remedial instruction with the student's regular class work and homework load. Teachers are encouraged to involve parents, community volunteers, teacher aides or assistants, and student peers whenever possible.

All remedial instruction programs and services shall be evaluated annually. Evaluation shall be based on objective student outcomes, including test scores, classroom performance, and student behavior. When seeking to improve existing programs, the Superintendent or her/his designee shall research effective program models used by other districts in New York State and nationally. Such models, if employed, shall be adapted to the District's resources and particular needs. All program outlines shall be submitted to the Board for prior approval.

In addition, the District shall actively seek all applicable state and federal funds to improve its remedial instructional programs and services.

References

8 NYCRR 100.1(g), 100.2(r), 100.3(b), 100.4(d)(e)