

PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Berlin Central School District Board of Education recognizes the value of special education and acknowledges its responsibility for ensuring that all preschool age children with disabilities resident in the District have the opportunity to participate in special education programs and to receive special education services from which they can benefit. The Board therefore authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to establish administrative practices and procedures to carry out this responsibility. Such administrative practices and procedures shall include the following:

1. locating and identifying all preschool age children with disabilities, pursuant to the relevant provisions of the New York State Education law, during the next year. The register of children who are eligible to attend a preschool program is to be maintained and revised annually by the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE);
2. ensuring that the parents of preschool age children with disabilities have received and understand the request for consent for evaluation of their child;
3. developing an individual education program (IEP) for each preschool age child with a disability;
4. appointing and training appropriately qualified personnel, including the members of a CPSE, the membership of which is described in law;
5. maintaining lists of special education programs within Rensselaer County and adjoining counties that are approved by the New York State Education Department; and
6. reporting to the New York State Education Department the number of children with disabilities that are being served, as well as of those not being served.

The Board of Education hereby establishes the CPSE as required under the Education Law. The responsibilities of the CPSE shall include evaluating and recommending placement in appropriate approved programs and providing appropriate special education programs and services for each preschool child with a disability. The CPSE shall review at least annually, the status of each preschool child with a disability.

The Board recognizes that it has ultimate responsibility for determining the appropriate approved preschool programs and services for the children of the Berlin Central School District. If the Board's determination differs from what is preferred for a given child by the child's parent or guardian or from the recommendation of the CPSE, then it must set forth its reasons for reaching a different conclusion. A parent or guardian may appeal her/his child's placement to an impartial hearing officer who is appointed by the Superintendent of Schools.

The Superintendent shall ensure that adequate and appropriate space is made available for such programs and services.

In case the Berlin Central School District is in receipt of state aid for preschool children with disabilities pursuant to Section 4410 of the Education Law. The Superintendent shall develop and maintain a two-year plan that incorporates information on the District's provision of services for preschool age children with disabilities pursuant to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

References

Education Law Sec. 4410

P.L. 99-457

8 NYCRR 200.1, 200.2, 200.3, 200.7, 200.8, 200.16, 200.17.

200.18

200.19, 200.20