

# THE EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT AUTHORITY

Delivery of Special Education  
Services and Programs

January 2015

SPECIAL  
EDUCATION  
PLAN

**THE EDUCATION ACHEIVEMENT AUTHORITY of MICHIGAN**  
**Special Education Plan**

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## Plan Development and Involvement

The Education Achievement System was created by Governor Rick Snyder in the 2012-13 school year. The statewide school system was developed to provide support to students who were enrolled in the lowest performing 5 percent of schools in Michigan. The system was developed to encompass districts from across the state. The development of the statewide school system meant the roles and relationship with potentially twenty-eight Intermediate School Districts would need to be defined. A major function of intermediate school districts is the development of plans for the delivery of special education – it is a requirement per the Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education.

R 340.1831 – An intermediate School District Plan for special education, or any modification thereof, shall be an operational plan that sets forth the special education programs and related services to be delivered. The plan shall comply with 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.1 et. seq. and these rules.

Since plans for the provision of special education services and programs are specific to Intermediate School Districts, the need for the Education Achievement Authority (EAA) for the provision of services is required.

The following plan for special education services and programs was developed in cooperation with the leadership of the EAA and the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC).

The contents of the plan comprise the content of the ongoing training relative to the delivery of special education services and programs. The Chancellor assures that administrators, with available support from special education administration, will be continually made aware of their responsibility relative to special education compliance as referenced in the EAA Special Education Plan for the Delivery of Services and Programs.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
EAA Chancellor

2/24/15  
Date

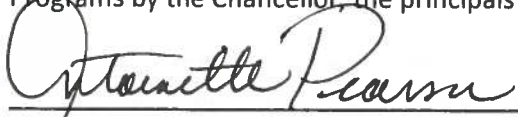
The following signature acknowledges support for the EAA Special Education Delivery of Services and Program Plan.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PAC Chairperson

Date

2/24/15

The following signatures evidences review and acknowledgement of their responsibility to adhere to the services and program requirements outlined in the EAA Plan for Special Education Services and Programs by the Chancellor, the principals of each building and the chairperson of the PAC.



Principal, Bethune Elementary/Middle

2/19/15

Date



Principal, Brenda Scott Elementary/Middle

2/19/15

Date



Principal, Burns Elementary/Middle

19 FEB 15

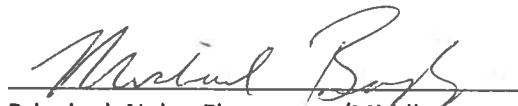
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Principal, Law Elementary/Middle

2/19/15

Date



Principal, Nolan Elementary/Middle

2/19/15

Date



Principal, Phoenix Elementary/Middle

19 Feb 15

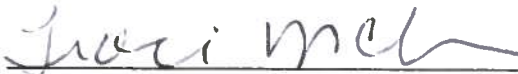
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Principal, Central Collegiate Academy

2-19-15

Date



Principal, Denby High School

2-19-15

Date



Principal, Henry Ford High School

Feb. 19, 2015

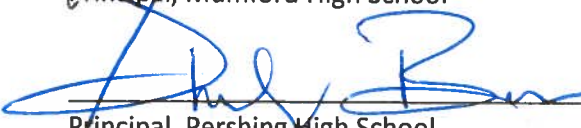
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Principal, Mumford High School

2-19-15

Date



Principal, Pershing High School

2-19-15

Date



Principal, Southeastern High School

Feb 19, 2015

Date

## Special Education Contacts

The special education leadership team works collaboratively from the Central Office of the EAA located at:

300 River Place, Suite 3600  
Detroit, Michigan 48207

The telephone numbers listed are located in the offices and accept voicemail messages. The email addresses are included as it is often the best manner to contact team members who work closely on-site with building-based staff in the schools.

Dr. Eleanor E. White  
Executive Director of Special Education  
[ewhite@eaaofmichigan.org](mailto:ewhite@eaaofmichigan.org)  
313-263-9840

Ms. Michelle Z. DeJaeger  
Supervisor of Special Education  
[mdejaeger@eaaofmichigan.org](mailto:mdejaeger@eaaofmichigan.org)  
313-263-9800

Ms. Tracye Henderson  
Compliance Manager  
[thenderson@eaaofmichigan.org](mailto:thenderson@eaaofmichigan.org)  
313-263-9815

## Surrogate Parent Plan

The EAA will adopt the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Special Education "Policy for the Appointment of Surrogate Parents for Special education Services", dated September 9, 2008 (and subsequent Michigan Department of Education policies thereafter), and state and federal special education rules and regulations.

### **The EAA and PAC will:**

- maintain a list of potential surrogate parents who meet required standards.
- maintain a system to determine the need for a surrogate parent and appoint a surrogate as appropriate. The appointment will end when the need is no longer in evidence.

The EAA will provide annual training for the potential surrogate parents in the areas of parent surrogate responsibilities, special education eligibility and special education processes and procedures.

## **Public Awareness and Child Find Activities**

The activities for children birth to 3 years are coordinated through the Wayne Intermediate School District. The EAA assumes primary responsibility for Child Find activities and outreach for children, both in and out of school, from three years (may be as early as 2.6 months) and age twenty-six (26). Cooperative liaisons with Detroit Public Schools (and other communities) may provide referral information to students and their families regarding access to services and programs.

## **Procedures for Identifying Students with a Suspected Disability**

The procedures for identifying students with a suspected disability may include a review of existing school records and interagency collaboration for referral of student dropouts and Michigan Project Find materials. The following are examples of the types of outreach used for Child Find activities.

- ✓ Methods of dissemination information regarding Child Find activities may include:
- ✓ Annual advertisements in local newspapers
- ✓ Pre-school screenings for 3-5 year old students at EAA sites that have preschool programs
- ✓ Area healthcare agencies hospitals, physicians
- ✓ Community Education
- ✓ Parent Advisory Committee
- ✓ Community Mental Health
- ✓ County Community Services
- ✓ Department of Human Services
- ✓ Head Start Programs
- ✓ Parent Groups

## **Types of Diagnostic Services**

A variety of diagnostic services are available within the EAA. The EAA administration reviews special education caseloads and referrals, on a regular basis, to determine staffing needs. Some services are contracted through outside agencies, while others are indirectly provided by Wayne Regional Educational Service Center (through Detroit Public Schools). The following information identifies services and programs provided via contracted services and/or Wayne RESA Act 18 funds.

## Diagnostic Services

<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<b>DIAGNOSTIC STAFF</b>	<b>SERVICE PROVIDERS</b>
Autism Spectrum Disorder	School Psychologist, School Social Worker, Speech & Language Provider	Contracted Staff
Cognitive Impairment	School Psychologist, School Social Worker	Contracted Staff
Early Childhood Development Delay	School Psychologist, School Social Worker, Occupational Therapist, Speech & Language Provider	Contracted Staff
Emotional Impairment	School Psychologist, School Social Worker	Contracted Staff
Hearing Impairment	HI Teacher Consultant, Audiologist	Detroit Public Schools
Homebound/Hospitalized	Licensed Physician	
OHI	School Psychologist, Licensed Physician	Contracted Staff
Physical Impairment	Licensed Physician, Physical Therapist	Contracted Staff
Specific Learning Disability	School Psychologist, School Social Worker, Speech & Language Provider	Contracted Staff
Speech and Language Impairment	Speech & Language Provider	Contracted Staff
Severe Multiple Impairment	School Psychologist and other professionals as per R 340-1707-1709	Contracted Staff
Visual Impairment	VI Teacher Consultant,	Detroit Public Schools

## Continuum of Services and Programs

### Ancillary Staff

Ancillary Staff are assigned to each school based on student needs. Ancillary staff participate in all aspects of the Child Find process. Additionally, ancillary staff participate in special education meetings, support teachers by assisting with the development of classroom interventions, behavior plans and student observations. Ancillary staff contracted through a third party vendor include:

- |                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| ✓ Interpreters for the Deaf   | Contracted Staff |
| ✓ School Psychologists        | Contracted Staff |
| ✓ School Social Workers       | Contracted Staff |
| ✓ Speech & Language Providers | Contracted Staff |
| ✓ Occupational Therapists     | Contracted Staff |
| ✓ Physical Therapists         | Contracted Staff |
| ✓ Paraprofessionals           | Contracted Staff |

**The EAA assures that copies of contracts or service agreements (per Section 380.1751 (1) (b) of the School Code) are on file at the EAA and available for review.**

### Special Education Programs

It is the belief of the EAA that students be educated in the least restrictive environment, To this end, a full continuum of services and programs are available to students from preschool through age 26. Some programs are not operated by the EAA, but are offered in collaboration with Wayne RESA and Detroit Public Schools.

#### Services:

- **Services offered in collaboration with Detroit Public Schools and available to students enrolled in the EAA include:**

- Teacher Consultant - Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Behavioral Specialist
- Teacher Consultant - Cognitive Impairment
- Teacher Consultant - Emotional Impairment
- Teacher Consultant - Hearing Impairment
- Teacher Consultant - Physical or Otherwise Health Impairment
- Teacher Consultant - Visual Impairment



## **Continuum of Services and Programs**

**Programs offered in collaboration with Detroit Public Schools and available to students enrolled in the EAA follow:**

**Birth through 2 – Early Childhood Services - R 340.1755**

**Programs for students with Autism (Moderate to Severe) - R 340.1758**

**Programs for students who are Blind & Visually Impaired - R 340.1743**

**Programs for students who are Deaf & Hard of Hearing- R 340.1742**

**Programs for students with Moderate Cognitive Impairment – R 340.1739**

**Programs for students with Severe Cognitive Impairment - R 340.1738**

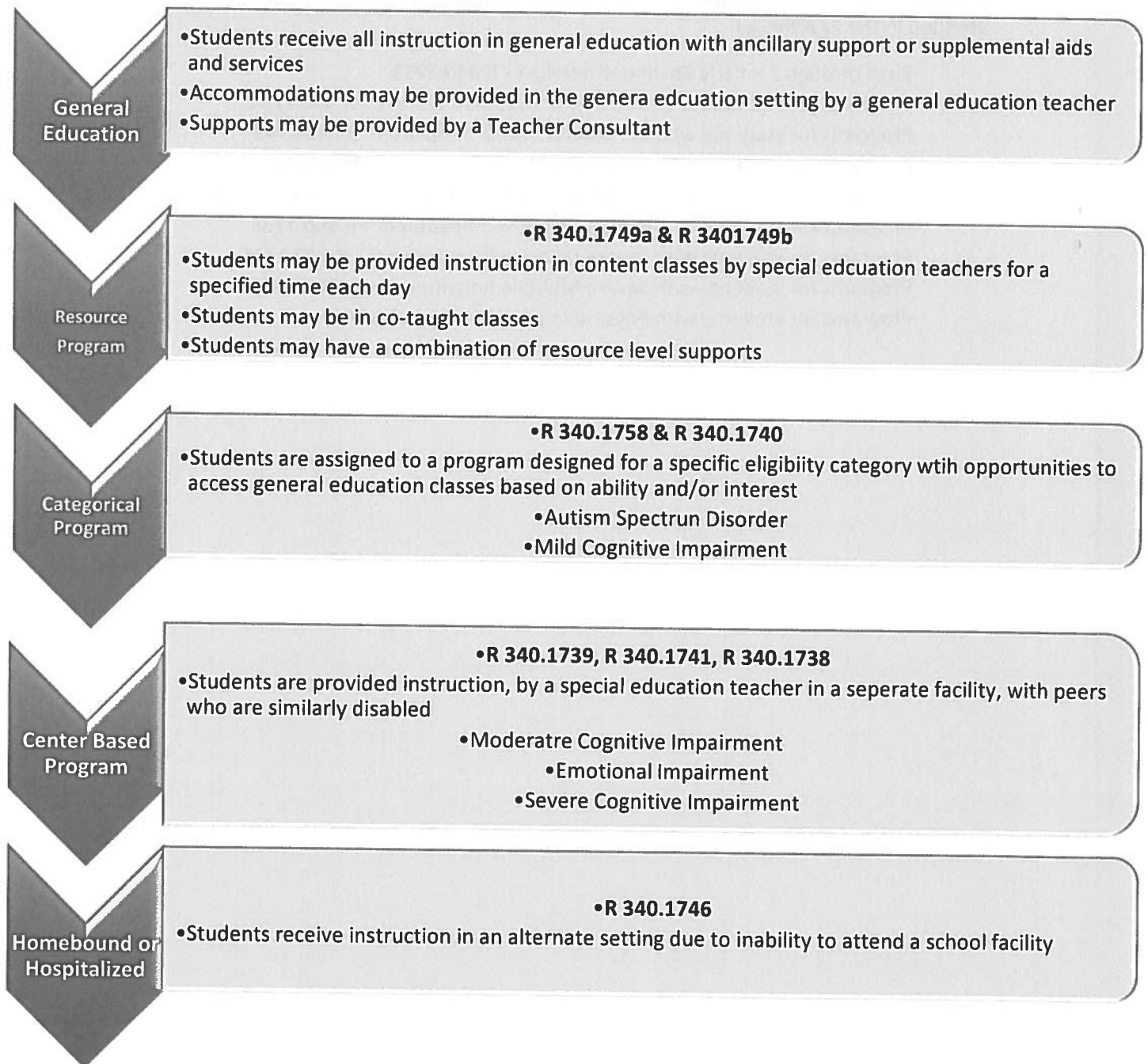
**Programs for students with Severe Emotional Impairment - R 340.1741**

**Programs for students with Severe Multiple Impairment – R 340.1748**

**Programs for students with Physical Impairment - R 340.1744**

## Continuum of Services and Programs

Special Education Programs are taught by teachers employed by the EAA. The following chart displays the variety of offerings at the EAA schools. Categorical programs in selected schools, however, students with identified needs have access to these programs.



## Management of Special Education Programs and Services

### **EAA Plan Approval**

The EAA Plan shall be approved by Michigan's Superintendent of Public Instruction before implementation under **Rule 340.1831(1)**. The EAA Plan shall be developed and approved under Rules **340.1835** through **340.18376**.

### **Assurance of Confidentiality**

Employees of the EAA and those contracted to provide services will maintain confidentiality of any personally identifiable data, information, and records of students with disabilities that are collected, used or maintained in compliance with R 340.1861(3), 34 C.F.R. 300.610 through 300.626.

### **Qualifications of Paraprofessionals**

Qualifications for paraprofessional personnel specifically follow 340.1793 of the *Michigan Revised Administrative Rules for Special Education*. In addition. The EAA requires that paraprofessionals possess a high school diploma or its equivalent and follow all state and federal requirements.

### **Transportation**

The EAA provides special transportation to eligible students as determined by the individualized Education Program (IEP). Transportation procedures are monitored on a continual basis by the EAA supervisors of transportation, The EAA is responsible for all procedures related to the development of contractual agreements for transportation.

The EAA provides transportation to students who live in the EAA catchment area when the appropriate program as determined by an IEP Team Meeting is operated by Detroit Public Schools.

### **Distribution of Funds**

In accordance with R 340.1811 the Education Achievement Authority is not eligible for ACT 18 funds.

## Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

### **PAC Development**

The EAA of Board of Education will appoint the PAC representatives. Appointments will be made from nominations from administrators of each EAA school. Parents will be nominated from each school by the building principal or the designee. Representative must have a child with a disability at the school from which the nomination is made. The special education administrators assigned to supervise each school with notify school administrators of PAC vacancies as they occur. When a vacancy or extended absence of occurs, the respective school has the option of nominating/appointing a parent of a student with a disability to complete the term.

### **Roles and Responsibilities of the PAC**

The EAA special education plan and amendments to such shall be developed in cooperation with the PAC. It shall be the responsibility of the Executive Director of Special Education to assure that the PAC representatives are provided with copies of the current EAA special education plan, subsequent and proposed clarification or, modifications to the plan.

Upon request, the Executive Director of Special Education will review the EAA special education plan with the PAC. At subsequent meetings, the PAC will review any changes in the special education plan and/or area of concern for the PAC representatives.

The Executive Director of Special education will be responsible for presenting the Plan to the PAC for reactions and suggestions. A quorum shall be required for the PAC to make recommendations on the EAA Special Education Plan. A quorum shall consist of more than 50% of the total membership and must include the PAC chairperson. An attempt will be made to reconcile any differences that may exist. If these differences cannot be reconciled, the Executive Director will advise the PAC chairperson of the objection process as defined by R 340.1836. Prior to the submission date, the PAC Chairperson shall be asked to sign the plan indicating that the PAC has been involved in the development of the plan.

## **Administrative Relationship with the PAC**

The Executive Director of Special Education shall act as an advisor to the PAC. The goal of is to have an active and informed PAC that will work cooperatively with administrative personnel in ensuring the effective and efficient delivery of special education services and programs within the EAA.

## **Fiscal & Staff Resources Available to the PAC**

The EAA shall make available staff resources for the purpose of making the PAC an efficient and effective operational unit. The Executive Director of Special Education shall be responsible for assuring that reasonable secretarial support is available to the PAC for committee business. Any expenditures shall be mutually agreed upon by the PAC chairperson and the Executive Director of Special Education.

The following are examples that will be provided in support of PAC:

- Postage for notices and other committee meetings
- Reproductions of appropriate documents
- Mileage and parking costs to attend meetings
- Registration to attend in-state special education conference





STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

April 6, 2015

Ms. Veronica Conforme, Chancellor  
Education Achievement Authority of Michigan  
300 River Place, Suite 3600  
Detroit, Michigan 48207

Dear Ms. Conforme:

I am pleased to inform you that the Education Achievement Authority (EAA) of Michigan Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services (Plan) has been approved.

The approval of your Plan is an authorization for the EAA to receive reimbursement under the State School Aid Act. This action has been taken on the assumption that the EAA will provide special education programs and services in accordance with state and federal regulations. This authorization does not preclude the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) from requesting clarification on items contained within your Plan as the need arises.

If your Plan includes programs and services under Rule 340.1832(e) of the Administrative Rules for Special Education, please allow for the disaggregation of student educational performance data (for students receiving such programs and services), minimally that which is maintained on all students under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. This will allow the EAA and the MDE to evaluate the effectiveness of program and service offerings.

Please inform the building principals of schools in the EAA and the chairperson of the Parent Advisory Committee that your Plan has been approved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Flanagan".

Mike Flanagan  
State Superintendent

c: Eleanor White ✓

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