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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

July 2007

Pennsylvania State Board of Education
333 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

Dear Mr. Jim Buckheit, Executive Director

Support the reduction of the caseload chart for Level II to 20 students. When supporting students both in self contained settings and in the regular education classrooms you are going to team meetings, preparing for lessons, co-teaching, maintaining records for progress reporting and many other duties. Speech caseload numbers should be reduced due to the requirements of supporting students in numerous school buildings over the course of the week. I would recommend 50 based on the information shared by our Speech Therapists.

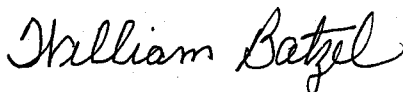
I endorse your recommendation that the special education plan must have behavior training figured out and outlined in the document. This is critical as we see more students in our regular education settings. With the increased number of students in the regular education setting is it also important that the continuum of services be spelled out in the special education plan so all parties know the array of services that are available to support students. Please keep this language in your final version of Chapter 14.

The LEA must be an administrator. Guidance counselors and special education teachers do not have the authority to agree to the purchase of equipment or the increase in related services for students at IEP meetings. This authority has not been given to the appointed LEA. I do endorse the language that does not excuse the LEA from attendance at the IEP meeting.

The two year post secondary requirement for employment as a paraprofessional is premature. Our districts and communities do not have the current capacity to fill the vacancies.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,



William Batzel

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