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PA. STATE BOARD  
OF EDUCATION  
INDEPENDENT REGULATOR  
REVIEW COMMISSION

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

Dear Mr. Jim Buckheit, Executive Director

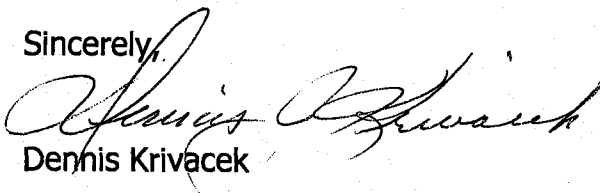
Please adjust the caseload chart for special education teachers at Level 2 to a maximum of 20 and Level 1 to a maximum of 40. The increase in communication with families and working with the regular education teachers has stretched staff. While email and progress reporting are both good tools they require manpower to implement them. Our society expects immediate results which email and progress monitoring both provide. Time as to be built into a person's schedule to perform these tasks so the parents do have a pulse of what their child is doing in school and the progress reporting allows for the educational team to monitor if the child is achieving at the rate of speed established by the IEP team previously.

I would suggest that you allow educators the ability to request an evaluation of students. Allowing the professional staff the opportunity to request the evaluation and have that request followed through would be very effective getting students the services they need promptly. In addition I want to recognize the fact that the State Board put in place a method for dealing with verbal requests for evaluations. This will help the educational community in how to handle these requests.

It is important to define terms and the definition you have for restraints is one in which I think the educational community will understand and respond to. Clarity is very important.

I understand that you are required to implement hearing interpreters qualification language in Chapter 14. What I think is needed is that the training should have the clarity in language to say that the offerings by the school entity should be during the employee's work day and at no cost. On many salary schedules they are paid at the paraprofessional level and to expect them to purchase the services would create a hardship.

Sincerely,



Dennis Krivacek