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*The Arc of Pennsylvania is
affiliated with The Arc of the
United States and 39 local
chapters of The Arc across PA.*



Jim Buckheit, Executive Director
State Board of Education
333 Market Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17126-0333

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PA. STATE BOARD
OF EDUCATION

Dear Mr. Buckheit,

The Arc of Pennsylvania has been a strong proponent of the proposed reforms to Chapter 49 regulations and applauds the board's decision. The Arc testified before the board in favor of these important reforms and was active in a coalition of organizations that pushed for their implementation.

We continue to encourage the State Board to adopt these regulations so that all teachers are prepared to teach students with disabilities and English language learners in the least restrictive environment, as required by state and federal law.

Teachers do not currently have the tools needed to provide equal access to quality instruction. These proposals ensure that within the required hours all teachers acquire the skills to strengthen their ability to help diverse learners. The proposals also enable existing teachers to gain skills throughout their career, through continuing education paths.

The Arc of Pennsylvania will continue to be involved in the finalization and implementation of these regulations and encourage the State Board of Education to approve these regulations for all of the children in the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

Pam Klipa
Public Policy Specialist
Early Childhood and Education
The Arc of Pennsylvania

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2006 DEC 27 PM 2:13
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