



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

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Memorandum

To: Local Superintendents of Schools
 Local Assistant Superintendents of Instruction
 Local Directors of Student Services
 Local Directors of Special Education
 Local Data Managers

From: Carol Ann Baglin, Ed. D., Assistant State Superintendent
 Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services *Carol Ann Baglin*

Ann Chafin, Assistant State Superintendent
 Division of Student, Family, and School Support Services *Ann E. Chafin*

Gary Heath, Assistant State Superintendent
 Division of Accountability and Assessment *Gary Heath*

Date: August 28, 2006

Subject: Fact Sheet # 2 "In-School Suspension"

In response to correspondence from the U. S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) the local superintendents of schools asked the Department to bring together local school system and MSDE personnel knowledgeable about student services, special education and data collection issues to develop a uniform process for collecting and reporting in-school suspension data. The In-School Suspension Workgroup met once a month March through May 2006 to clarify issues and address a process for collecting and reporting in-school suspension data to meet the new federal data collection requirements included in the reauthorized Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 2004.

Through the conscientious and collaborative engagement of the members of the In-School Suspension Workgroup, consensus was reached. Beginning with the **2006-2007 school year**, local school systems are to collect in-school suspension data for **ALL** students. This includes both students with and without disabilities. Attached please find Fact Sheet #2 entitled "In-School Suspension." This document was developed with the input and guidance of the In-School Suspension Workgroup and addresses a number of issues concerning the collection of in-school suspension data. All definitions are consistent with the most current (2006) Maryland Student Records Manual.

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If you have any questions about this material please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Donna R. Riley, Policy and Resource Specialist, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, 410-767-0858 (phone) or email, driley@msde.state.md.us.

Accountability for the provision of appropriate disciplinary actions in response to a student's behavior that violates your local code of conduct to maintain safe schools conducive to learning and appropriate instructional services to improve achievement is a delicate balance that must be continually monitored to enable our schools to meet our State's goals. Your support and diligence in working with your local school system administrators and teachers to continually improve our schools is greatly appreciated.

CAB/DRR:aw

attachment

c: Nancy S. Grasmick
Joann L. Carter
Ronald A. Peiffer
A. Skipp Sanders