

Special Services Cooperative of Wamego

USD # 323 Rock Creek

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Mike Bilderback, Director

Diana Phillips, Office Manager

November 30, 2005

Re: Federal and State Recommended Changes in IEP Content

Dear Colleague,

Both the federal and state departments interpretation of IDEA 2004 allows for the following IEP changes to be implemented at the discretion of local LEA's. The intent of the following changes is to reduce paperwork requirements formerly mandated by replacing staff time and effort spent on student performance enhancement and team working strategies.

The Special Services Cooperative Superintendent Advisory Board approved "piloting" changes recommended by myself at their October/November meeting held on November 3rd.

Effective immediately the following changes can be made when writing IEP's for students identified with primary exceptionalities of Gifted and Speech ONLY.

- PLEP "section" should address content that is specific to the "needs" and "goals" set for the forthcoming year for each student. All other content can be omitted and replaced by simply stating, "N/A". *(Please see attachments for details.)*
- In the goals and benchmarks "section," staff is no longer required to write the benchmarks. You are still required to write the goal(s) and the baseline(s). *(Please see attachments for details.)*
- At least one post-secondary goal *must* be in place by the time the student is 14 years old. *(Please see attachments for details.)*

Footnotes: Not writing the benchmarks still will require progress notes to be written quarterly/trimester.

Exceptions to the changes recommended above-a.)Any student that is not meeting the state standards at least at the proficient level in any area measured will continue with the "traditional" IEP requirements that we have had in place for the past several years. **b.)** In addition, any student that is not at grade level or **c.)** is scheduled to take the KAMM assessment will be required a "traditional" IEP as well. In other words, all PLEP fields will be addressed and all goals will continue to have baseline data and benchmarks.

Thank you.



Mike

Cc: All Building Principal
All School Psychologists

Attachments: 2