



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PO Box 500
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

KIMBERLEY HARRINGTON
Acting Commissioner

April 12, 2017

Dr. Geoffrey Zoeller, Superintendent
Rochelle Park School District
300 Rochelle Avenue
Rochelle Park, NJ 07662

Dear Dr. Zoeller:

The New Jersey Department of Education has completed a review of funds received and disbursed from one or more federal programs by the **Rochelle Park School District**. The funding source reviewed was the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The review covered the period July 1, 2015 through February 28, 2017. The resulting report is enclosed. Please provide a copy of the report to each board member. All issued Consolidated Monitoring Reports will be posted on the department's website at www.state.nj.us/education/compliance/monitor/. Also, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.6(c), you must post the report on the district's website.

If you have any questions, please contact Steven Hoffmann at (973) 621-2750.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Cicchino, Director
Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance

RJC/SH/I:\Rochelle Park CM cover letter.doc
Enclosure

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY
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ROCHELLE PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT
300 ROCHELLE AVENUE
ROCHELLE PARK, NJ 07662
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New Jersey K-12 Education

**CONSOLIDATED MONITORING REPORT
APRIL 2017**

District: Rochelle Park School District
County: Bergen
Dates On-Site: April 4, 2017
Case #: CM-008-16

FUNDING SOURCES

IDEA Basic		\$127,137
IDEA Preschool		5,247
	Total Funds	<u>\$132,384</u>

**ROCHELLE PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT
CONSOLIDATED MONITORING REPORT
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BACKGROUND

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) and other federal laws require that districts provide programs and services based on the requirements specified in each of the authorizing statutes (i.e., ESEA, IDEA, and Carl D. Perkins). The laws further require that state education agencies such as the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) monitor the implementation of federal programs by sub recipients and determine whether the funds are being used by the district for their intended purpose and achieving the overall objectives of the funding initiatives. Due to the impending implementation of new Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) regulations, only IDEA and Special Education will be reviewed during consolidated monitoring.

INTRODUCTION

The NJDOE visited the Rochelle Park School District to monitor the district's use of federal funds and the related program plans, where applicable, to determine whether the district's programs are meeting the intended purposes and objectives, as specified in the current year applications and authorizing statutes and to determine whether the funds were spent in accordance with the program requirements, federal and state laws, and applicable regulations. The on-site visit included staff interviews and documentation reviews related to the requirements of the following programs: IDEA Basic and Preschool for the period July 1, 2015, through February 28, 2017.

The scope of work performed included the review of documentation including grant applications, program plans and needs assessments, grant awards, annual audits, board minutes, payroll records, accounting records, purchase orders, and an interview of the program administrator regarding the IDEA grant, as well as, current district policies and procedures. The monitoring team members also conducted interviews with school personnel, reviewed documentation for a sample of expenditures and conducted internal control reviews.

EXPENDITURES REVIEWED

The grants reviewed included IDEA Basic and Preschool from July 1, 2015, through February 28, 2017. A sampling of purchase orders and/or salaries was taken from each program reviewed.

**ROCHELLE PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT
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GENERAL OVERVIEW OF USE OF IDEA FUNDS

IDEA Projects

The majority of FY2017 IDEA Basic funds are being used to reduce district tuition cost for students receiving special education services in approved private schools for students with disabilities. IDEA Preschool funds are used for contracts with related service providers.

DETAILED FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

IDEA

A review of the expenditures charged to the IDEA grant did not yield any findings.

The NJDOE thanks you for your time and cooperation during the monitoring visit.

If you have any questions, please contact Steven Hoffmann via phone at (973) 621-2750 or via email at steven.hoffmann@doe.state.nj.us.