

CHRIS CHRISTIE Governor KIM GUADAGNO Lt. Governor State of New Jersey DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PO BOX 500 TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

KIMBERLEY HARRINGTON Acting Commissioner

April 25, 2017

Ms. Teresa Rafferty, Superintendent Piscataway Township Schools 1515 Stelton Road Piscataway, NJ 08854

Dear Ms Rafferty:

The New Jersey Department of Education has completed a review of funds received and disbursed from one or more federal programs by the <u>Piscataway Township Schools</u>. The funding source reviewed was the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The review covered the period July 1, 2015 through January 25, 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 <u>www.state.nj.us/education/compliance/monitor/</u>. Also, pursuant to <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:23A-5.6(c), you must post the report on the district's website.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathryn Holbrook at (609) 292-0198.

Sincerely,

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

RJC/KH/dk:Piscataway Township Schools CM Cover Letter Enclosure c: Kimberley Harrington Robert Bumpus Karin Garver Peggy McDonald Anne Corwell John Worthington David Saenz Kimberly Murray Kathryn Holbrook Yasmin Hernandez-Manno Stephen M. Eells

STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PO BOX 500 TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

PISCATAWAY TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

1515 STELTON ROAD PISCATAWAY, NJ 08854 PHONE: (732) 572-2289



New Jersey K-12 Education

CONSOLIDATED MONITORING REPORT APRIL 2017

District: County: Dates On-Site: Case #: Piscataway Township Schools Middlesex January 25, 2017 CM-032-16

FUNDING SOURCES

Program

Funding Award

IDEA Basic IDEA Preschool \$ 1,883,868 52,697

Total Funds

\$ 1,936,565

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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 will be reviewed during consolidated monitoring.

INTRODUCTION

The NJDOE visited the Piscataway Township Schools 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 IDEA Basic and Preschool programs for the period July 1, 2015, through January 25, 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 grants, as well as, current district policies and procedures. The monitoring team members also conducted interviews with district personnel, reviewed documentation for a sample of expenditures and conducted internal control reviews.

EXPENDITURES REVIEWED

The grant reviews included IDEA Basic and Preschool programs from July 1, 2015, through January 25, 2017. A sampling of purchase orders and/or salaries was taken from each program reviewed.

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GENERAL DISTRICT OVERVIEW OF USE OF IDEA GRANT FUNDS

IDEA (Special Education)

The FY 2017 IDEA funds were used to reduce district tuition expenditures for students receiving special education services in approved private schools for students with disabilities and to support students with service plans in a nonpublic setting.

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 Kathryn Holbrook via phone at (609) 292-0198 or via email at kathryn.holbrook@doe.state.nj.us.