

South Middleton School District  
Special Education Office  
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Boiling Springs, PA 17007



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## **NOTICE REGARDING INDEPENDENT EDUCATIONAL EVALUATION**

Parents have the right to obtain an Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) of their child. An IEE is an evaluation by a qualified professional who is not an employee of the school district responsible for the child. The parents may request an IEE at the school district's expense if they disagree with an educational evaluation completed by the school district. The school district must respond to the request within a reasonable time. However, the school district may initiate a due process hearing to show that its evaluation is appropriate. If the hearing officer decides that the evaluation is appropriate, the school district will not have to pay for the IEE. Parents may, of course, get an IEE at their own expense.

If the parents obtain an IEE at their expense, the results of the evaluation must be considered by the school district in any decision made with respect to the provision of a free appropriate public education of the child, and may be presented as evidence at a due process hearing regarding the child.

An IEE provided at public expense shall meet all requirements applicable to evaluations conducted by district or intermediate unit personnel, including but not limited to the following:

- Tests and similar evaluation materials shall be:
  - selected and administered in a manner that is free from racial or cultural bias;
  - administered in the native language or mode of communication of the child, unless it is clearly not feasible to do so;
  - selected and administered so that the test results accurately reflect the student's aptitude, achievement level or whatever other factor the test purports to measure, rather than the student's impaired sensory, manual, or speaking skills, unless those skills are the factors that the test purports to measure;
  - validated for the specific purpose for which they are used in manner generally accepted within the profession or discipline for which they are intended;
  - administered in accordance with the instructions or testing protocols provided by the producer or publisher of the test or materials in accordance with sound professional practice and selected administered to assess specific areas of educational need or ability and not merely to produce single standard scores or quotients.

- Current and updated editions of tests used.
- Persons administering the evaluation shall possess current professional certification issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Education qualifying the holders to perform the type of evaluation in question or, if a qualifying area of professional certification does not exist, such other licensure or certification issued by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is required to qualify the holder to administer the type of evaluation in question.
- The evaluator must consult with the chairperson of the Multidisciplinary Team prior to the evaluation.
- The evaluator must observe the student within the educational environment.
- The evaluator must obtain relevant information from the student's teachers.
- The evaluator must consult with the Supervisor of Special Education or his/her designee to ensure the student's accurate educational history.
- The persons administering the evaluations shall prepare and sign a comprehensive report of the evaluation that includes, at a minimum, a statement of all standard and scaled scores obtained, a description of the student's behavior during the evaluation, an analysis of the results and specific educational recommendations. This report must be made available to the chairperson of the evaluation team at least one week prior to the scheduled completion date of the Evaluation Report (ER).
- The results of the evaluation will be considered by the District and the multi-disciplinary team in any decision made with respect to the identification of exceptional students and provision of FAPE (Free Appropriate Public Education) to the child.
- If a hearing officer requests an independent educational evaluation as part of a hearing, the cost of the evaluation will be covered by the District.

Some local referral sources are as follows:

Lincoln Intermediate Union  
65 Billerbeck Street

Daniel Russo, EdD  
Associated Psychologists, Inc.

PO Box 70  
New Oxford, PA 17350  
717/624-6403

Lee Ann Grisolano, PhD  
101 W. Granada Avenue  
Hershey, PA 17033  
717/495-9505

Anne E. Sauve, PhD.  
Psychological Evaluation & Consultation  
4004 Trindle Road  
Camp Hill, PA 17011  
717/737-9401

200 Shell Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17109-4731  
717/657-3867

Behavioral Healthcare Consultants  
Dr. Bernard Kniery, PhD  
1013 Mumma Road, Suite 303  
Lemoyne, PA 17043