

PUPIL INTERVENTION AND REFERRAL SERVICES

The Board of Education directs the establishment of a coordinated system in each school building in which general education pupils are served, when a need is identified by the IR&S team, for the planning and delivery of intervention and referral services that are designed to assist pupils who are experiencing learning, behavior, or health difficulties and to assist staff who have difficulties in addressing pupils' learning, behavior, or health needs in accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.1.

The intervention and referral services shall be provided to aid pupils in the general education program and, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:46-18.1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.1 et seq., may be provided for pupils who have been determined to be in need of special education programs and services when a need is identified by the IR&S team. The intervention and referral services provided for pupils who have been determined to be in need of special education programs and services shall be coordinated with the pupil's Individualized Education Program team, as appropriate.

The functions of the system of intervention and referral services in each school building shall be to:

- a. Identify learning, behavior, and health difficulties of pupils and determine if there is a valid need for services;
- b. Collect thorough information on the identified learning, behavior, and health difficulties;
- c. Develop and implement action plans which provide for appropriate school or community interventions or referrals to school and community resources, based on the collected data and desired outcomes for the identified learning, behavior, and health difficulties;
- d. Provide support, guidance, and professional development to school staff who identify learning, behavior, and health difficulties;
- e. Provide support, guidance, and professional development to school staff who participate in each building's system for planning and providing intervention and referral services action services;

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- f. Actively involve parent(s) or legal guardian(s) in the development and implementation of intervention and referral services action plans;
- g. Coordinate the access to and delivery of school resources and services for achieving the outcomes identified in the intervention and referral services action plans;
- h. Coordinate the services of community-based social and health provider agencies and other community resources for achieving the outcomes identified in the intervention and referral services action plans;
- i. Maintain records of all requests for assistance, intervention and referral services action plans, and related pupil information pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.2(a)9;
- j. Review and assess the effectiveness of the provisions of each intervention and referral services action plan in achieving the outcomes identified in each action plan and modify each action plan to achieve the outcomes, as appropriate; and
- k. At a minimum, annually review the intervention and referral services action plans and the actions taken as a result of the building's system of intervention and referral services and make recommendations to the Building Principal for improving school programs and services, as appropriate.

The Board of Education establishes the following guidelines for the involvement of school staff and community members in each building's system of intervention and referral services pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.3.

Each Intervention and Referral Team will be composed of the Principal or Assistant Principal; a regular teaching staff member; an educational services staff member; the staff member who referred a pupil in need of assistance or identified an issue requiring remediation; and such other staff members as may be required to assist the pupil or study the issue.

The Intervention and Referral Team will identify pupils in need and plan for appropriate intervention or referral services and/or referral to community resources, based on desired outcomes.

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When a pupil is referred to the Intervention and Referral Team, the team may provide support and guidance to the pupil's classroom teachers, plan and provide for appropriate interventions, coordinate access to and delivery of school services to the pupil, and coordinate the services of community members and/or community-based social and health provider agencies that may aid in the development and implementation of intervention and referral services action plans.

Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) shall be notified whenever a pupil is referred to the Intervention and Referral Team, except as such notice may be waived by laws protecting abused children and the confidentiality of persons seeking drug or alcohol rehabilitation. Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) shall be offered an opportunity to participate in the development and implementation of intervention and referral services action plans.

The Principal shall, in consultation with the Intervention and Referral Team, report to the Board at the end of the school year on the concerns and issues identified by the team and the effectiveness of the services provided in achieving the outcomes identified in the intervention and referral services action plans.

Date: December 1995

Date Reviewed/Revised: November 26, 2012

Legal References:

N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.1 et seq.

See particularly

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.1

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.2

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-8.3

Special Education

Programs to Support Student Development

Establishment of intervention and referral services

Functions of intervention and referral services

School staff and community members roles for planning and implementing intervention and referral services

Possible Cross references:

6164.4

6172

Child Study Team

Alternative educational programs