



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

Peter McWalters
Commissioner

April 21, 2008

Dear Superintendent of Schools:

Subject: Advisory Regarding Staffing Policy and Plan

Regulations governing the education of children with disabilities were approved by The Rhode Island Board of Regents on December 19, 2007. These regulations include the requirement (§ 300.157) that districts have a staffing plan policy and a staffing plan based on the needs of students with disabilities, assign personnel in accordance with those needs, and evaluate the delivery of services. These new special education staffing regulations will be in effect on July 1, 2008.

In order to comply with the regulations, each school district must complete the checklist outlining the plan for completing both a staffing policy and a staffing plan along with the supporting documentation. The staffing plan should be received by the Rhode Island Department of Education as part of the district's Consolidated Resource Plan (CRP).

All documentation is available electronically through the web based CRP application. Attached are hard copies of the staffing policy and plan checklist, protocol, and guidance.

Very truly yours,

Peter McWalters
Commissioner

PM:KN
attachments

cc: Directors of Special Education
Business Managers
School Committee Chairs