



Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

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Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D.
Commissioner

July 30, 2010

Ellen Chambers, Executive Director
SPEDWatch
P.O. Box 1440
Pepperell, MA 01463

Dear Ellen,

I am following up on our meeting of June 7th when you made two requests:

- 1 - that ESE require school districts to locate and compensate students who have potentially been harmed by noncompliance ESE has identified; and,
- 2 - that ESE post on its website its corrective action plan reviews.

Moving forward we will be doing the latter, but not the former. The former exceeds what is required under federal and state law and regulation. The second is a step we can and will take to increase transparency and accountability. Shortly, we will be posting Corrective Action Plan Reviews completed since January 1, 2010. Going forward, the reviews will be posted as they are completed.

As to your specific request to Dan Weiner concerning Springfield mentioned in your letter of July 5th to me and detailed in a letter to Dan on July 6th, I am enclosing the letter we have sent to the superintendent regarding the district's obligations with respect to high school students with disabilities who did not earn passing scores on the MCAS.

Thank you for continuing to share insights and suggestions with me.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karla Brooks Baehr".

Karla Brooks Baehr
Deputy Commissioner

Enclosure

C: Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D., Commissioner
Carole Thomson, Associate Commissioner
Darlene Lynch, Director, PQA