



EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES EVERGREEN REVIEW UPDATES

Evergreen's independent review focused on all aspects of the ESE program: organizational, operational, and programmatic. Throughout the course of this review, common themes emerged. The following five (5) "priority areas" derived from these themes:

1. Expand the continuum of services and placements available within each school.
 - In the elementary grades, focus on educating students with disabilities in the schools they would attend if nondisabled- including students with more challenging needs.
 - In middle school and high school settings, focus on ensuring that students with disabilities being taught the general Florida Standards receive the specially designed instruction, related services, and supplementary aids and services they need to achieve their annual goals and progress in the general curriculum, and that robust transitions and services are implemented.
2. Improve staffing levels to ensure they are sufficient to meet the needs of students with disabilities across all placements. In all schools, caseloads must be reasonable and manageable to ensure that:
 - IEP teams are empowered to base decisions regarding the amount of ESE services and supports each student will receive on the individual student's needs;
 - ESE teachers and service providers can fully implement the IEPs of the students for whom they are responsible; and
 - ESE Specialists are effectively and consistently trained and provided the resources needed to fulfill their duties as case managers and compliance specialists.
3. Reinforce and support the district's Child Find Teams and school-based collaborative problem solving/response-to-intervention (CPS/RtI) teams to ensure students with disabilities are identified, evaluated, and, as appropriate, found eligible or ineligible for ESE services with no undue delay.
 - Increase the capacity of Child Find Teams by adding staff and/or extending the contract year and on ensuring timely evaluation by promptly seeking parental consent once the district has knowledge that a child may be a child with a disability.
 - Ensure CPS/RtI teams have the knowledge, skills, and resources to effectively and efficiently implement the general education requirements found in Rule 6A-6.0331, F.A.C, and that evaluations and eligibility determinations are based on the BCPS ESE Policies and Procedures and applicable State Board of Education rules.

4. Establish a framework to promote and support meaningful and appropriate involvement of internal and external stakeholders in educational programs.
 - Delineate the roles, responsibilities, obligations, and spans of authority of each stakeholder group, and then clearly communicate and consistently implement them.
 - Provide structured opportunities for parents, teachers, school leaders, and district staff to provide input and share their insights regarding improving and enhancing ESE services within the district.

5. Closely monitor ESE budgets and expenditures at the campus and department levels, for both Special Revenues and General Fund, to ensure that ESE program dollars are effectively being used to enhance the delivery of services to students. In addition, analytic data are needed to accurately assess the cost and programmatic benefit of providing ESE services by program category and campus/location. In addition, campus administrators should be required to develop plans for the use of the ESE guaranteed allocation and its impact on ESE students.

Evergreen also identified thirteen (13) "specific task areas" from an analysis of program effectiveness through careful review of available data, benchmarking, interviews, and survey feedback. The specific task areas include:

- 4.1 District and School Staffing and Support
- 4.2 ESE Support and Related Services
- 4.3 Use of Funds
- 4.4 Communication with Stakeholders
- 4.5 Professional Development
- 4.6 Parent Engagement
- 4.7 Community Engagement/Partnerships
- 4.8 Review Child Find – Birth through Age 5
- 4.9 Referral, Evaluation, and Eligibility-Ages 6-21
- 4.10 Individualized Educational Plans (IEPs)
- 4.11 Transition/Matriculation
- 4.12 Inclusionary Practices
- 4.13 Performance and Instruction of Students

The study identified 45 commendations and 110 recommendations. The following is an action plan being utilized by the ESE and Support Services Division to monitor the progress toward completion of the tasks.

ITEM CODING:

GREEN: COMPLETED

YELLOW: PARTIALLY COMPLETED

RED: ANTICIPATED COMPLETION DATE

4.1 District and School Staffing and Support

Commendations

The Division of Exceptional Student Education and Support Services is commended for shifting its focus to curriculum and instruction, while continuing to address issues related to procedural compliance and policies

BCPS is commended for maintaining staffing ratios for its specialized ESE programs that ensure a low student-to-adult ratio and are based on the programmatic needs of students.

The mission and vision of the Exceptional Student Education and Support Services Division promotes collaboration with other district departments and designates comprehensive curriculum and instructional support to schools.

4.1 District and School Staffing and Support

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.1-1: Expedite filling the position of Director of Exceptional Student Education.	COMPLETED: *Accomplished; ESE Director hired March 2014	03/2014	03/2014
4.1-2: Reclassify the position of Curriculum Specialist to Curriculum Supervisor.	COMPLETED: *Aligned in new organization chart as Curriculum Supervisor; positions reclassified *Completion date – approval of new org chart	07/2014	07/2014
4.1-3: Monitor the Division’s goal of shifting its focus to curriculum and instruction.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *ESE Director, Support Services Director and staff are involved in cross-divisional meetings with Literacy department; OSPA; Talent Development; Talent Acquisition; Demographics; Diversity, Intervention and Prevention; ESOL; Head Start/Early Intervention; and Office of Strategic Achievement. Vendor presentations, and K-1 Sub-cadre meetings *Curriculum supervisors regularly meet with cadre directors (OSPA) to continually work with site based management to ensure focus on 1) Curriculum and instruction 2) Provision of proper and necessary support to students with disabilities, and 3) Accountable expenditure of ESE dollars for students with disabilities and ESE Programs	09/2015	On-going

4.1 District and School Staffing and Support

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
<p>4.1-4: Restructure the support facilitation staffing model to support greater collaboration and shared caseloads among ESE and dually certified staff, resulting in improved in-class support for students with disabilities and teachers in the general education setting.</p>	<p><u>PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING:</u> *Professional development redesign</p> <p><u>COMPLETED:</u> *Support Facilitation Manual</p> <p><u>COMPLETED/ON-GOING:</u> *Training rolled out – Summer –Fall 2015 (Summer - 6 middle school teams, Sept 29-30, October 14, 2015; need for additional trainings has been considered/discussed). Collaborative planning, in-class support, caseload numbers, and scheduling of students are topics included in the training for general education teachers and Support Facilitators. This training is being provided by FDLRS with sessions scheduled during the summer and fall of 2016. *56 middle and high school teams have been trained in the support facilitation model since June 2015 *District Supervisors attend school budget conferences to ensure that schools are planning for and hiring the recommended number of Support Facilitators. *Meeting with cadre directors *District and school administrator training</p>	<p>08/2014</p>	<p>10/2015</p> <p>06/2015</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going/ Annually</p>

4.1 District and School Staffing and Support

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
<p>4.1-5: Develop a comprehensive plan for addressing hard-to-fill vacancies and strategies to meet this challenge</p>	<p>COMPLETED/ON-GOING: SLP positions *Plan includes: In conjunction with Human Resources/Talent Acquisition year round advertising, recruitment at annual FLASHA and ASHA conference and presentations to local universities. *Signing bonus incentive of \$2,000.00 has been approved. *Re-opened Affiliation Agreement with FIU to place SLP interns in BCPS schools as additional pool of recruits *Approval to extend DROP dates for current SLPs retiring end of 2015-2016 SY- 5/8 eligible and have agreed to extend into 2016-2017 SY offered to new hires for 2016-2017 SY</p>	<p>12/2014</p> <p>02/2016</p> <p>12/2015</p>	<p>12/2014</p> <p>04/2016</p> <p>04/2016</p>
<p>4.1-6: Update ESE job descriptions to accurately reflect job duties, necessary education, experience, physical requirements, and accountability measures.</p>	<p>PARTIALLY COMPLETED: *The following job descriptions have been submitted to Human Resources/Talent Acquisition for Board approval: Support Facilitator, ESE Specialist, and ESE Preschool Supervisor *Family Counselor job description has been reviewed.</p>	<p>02/2016</p> <p>03/2016</p>	<p>06/2016</p> <p>06/2016</p>
<p>4.1-7: Restructure the ESE Specialist staffing allocation to allow incremental support within the weighted FTE formula.</p>	<p>COMPLETED: *Modified school year 2013-2014 w/special program sites at ES and MS *Hired four (4) ESE Field Coaches to provide coaching and mentoring to ESE Specialists *31 schools were increased to 100%</p>	<p>07/2014</p> <p>07/2014</p>	<p>07/2014</p> <p>07/2014</p>

4.1 District and School Staffing and Support

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
<p>4-1.8: Update the ESE Specialist job responsibilities to accurately reflect the necessary qualifications, extend calendar by at least 10 days, remove non-ESE duties and duties related to gifted education, and ensure school-based accountability.</p>	<p>PARTIALLY COMPLETED: * Focus Groups to address and obtain input * Job description for ESE Specialists has been revised and submitted to Human Resources</p>	<p>06/2014 01/2016</p>	<p>12/2014 06/2016</p>
<p>4.1-9: Evaluate the allocation of transition specialists and job coaches, and redistribute personnel to include assignment to students with mild-to-moderate disabilities from 14 to 18 years of age.</p>	<p>COMPLETED: *Planning began in summer 2014 *Pilot initiated with four schools, started with 11th graders *Completed in all schools</p>	<p>08/2014</p>	<p>On-going 05/2016</p>
<p>4.1-10: Ensure curriculum and instructional supports to schools align with and are integrated within the continuous improvement models.</p>	<p>PARTIALLY COMPLETED: *Model developed, will continue to modify based on data collected throughout the school year *Failure Free Reading, Attainment, First Author programs are being utilized and supported at schools *Destination Knowledge piloted at five (5) elementary schools for students identified with reading deficiencies *District wide implementation of Leaps to support social and emotional/behavioral development</p>	<p>10/2014</p>	<p>On-going</p>

4.1 District and School Staffing and Support – Continued

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
<p>4.1-11: Establish a consistent schedule for ESE Curriculum Supervisors to participate in all principal meetings and visits to schools.</p>	<p>COMPLETED: *ESE Curriculum Supervisors are visit schools and participate in: Zone Principal Meetings (ZPAC), K-1 Sub Cadre and Cadre meetings.</p>	08/2014	On-going
	<p>*Curriculum supervisors attend principals meetings as needed and continuously collaborate with OSPA to ensure the focus stays on the curriculum and instruction for our students with disabilities. Supervisors attend principal meetings as needed to address curricular and operational concerns with site based management/principals. Program specialists (staff) complete weekly visitation logs to document the assistance and support they are providing to their assigned schools.</p>	08/2014	On-going

4.2 ESE Support and Related Services

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
<p>4.2-1: Develop a prioritized schedule in which key areas of district operations are identified for deeper examination and related action.</p>	<p>PARTIALLY COMPLETED: *ESE and Support Services administration and staff are involved in monthly/quarterly cross-divisional meetings with Literacy; OSPA; Talent Development; Talent Acquisition; Demographics; Diversity, Intervention and Prevention; ESOL; Head Start/Early Intervention; Instruction & Intervention and Office of Strategic Achievement.</p>	01/2016	On-going
<p>4.2-2: Create three Supervisor positions for Assistive Technology, Behavior, and Speech and Language.</p>	<p>PARTIALLY COMPLETED: *S/L Supervisor position filled</p>	10/2013	10/2013
	<p>*The ad for the District Coordinator (Behavior) position is currently posted. *AT Supervisor position not being recommended. It was determined the needs can be met by schools identifying assistive technology contacts to increase communication.</p>	03/2016	05/2016

4.2 ESE Support and Related Services

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.2-3: Protect the effective use of staff time by setting and adhering consistently to priorities for services	PARTIALLY COMPLETED: *Build capacity at the school level through identifying Assistive Technology Contact (ATC) at each school site *Build capacity by educating district and site based administration on cases and liability to the district when services are not provided or are interrupted *ATC piloted at 30 schools Weekly phone bridge calls with each Curriculum Support Team for approximately one hour each Wednesday. Extremely effective for our team members to collaborate on specific schools/students/school needs	08/2015	On-going
		08/2010	On-going
4.2-4: Continue to examine staffing of speech/language pathologists (SLPs) with respect to caseload/workload issues and fund additional positions according to findings.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Participated in budget conferences to recommend additional personnel for schools with high caseloads and the use of a new –Accelischedule Program to streamline processes. Result: 16 schools with identified caseload concerns will be resolved with the hiring of additional personnel. *Typical caseload 60-80 *10 Growth positions created for 2014-15 SY, two schools providing additional supplements. *Each curriculum team has a dedicated SLP Program Specialist to provide support to schools.); 2014-2015 SY average caseload numbers: Elementary 54, Middle School 61, High School 47, and Centers 33 *As a result of the change to InD Funding Model Guideline, 12 schools w/InD special program classes were funded for an additional 50% position *OT/PT caseloads range between 40-50 for a full time position	April-May 2014	On-going
		12/2014	10/30/15
4.2-5: Expand the ESE Division’s focus on data to the impact on students caused by staffing decreases in related service areas and develop strategies, including increasing staffing levels, to address identified needs.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Continuous focus on data with each quarter and year-end review *Frequent review of the need for growth positions (additional positions to alleviate larger caseloads) *Ongoing need exists for elementary schools who have high caseloads, but do not generate enough funding to add an SLP position (part-time or full-time) *Six (6) Behavior Technicians were added to each District team, to include PreK	10/2014	On-going
		04/2015	12/2015

4.2 ESE Support and Related Services – Continued			
Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.2-6: Develop strategies to extend the impact the Assistive Technology Office has on educational opportunities for ESE students in all BCPS schools.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED: *Build capacity at the school level through identifying ATCs at each school site	06/2016	On-going
4.2-7: Examine and update reporting processes for assistive technology.	COMPLETED: *Monthly Broward Assistive Technology Team (BATT) meetings *Revise checks/balances timeline from 60 days to 30 days	08/2015	05/2016
4.2-8: Expand identification of specific related services that are needed as students move from particular types of elementary cluster programs to middle schools and use that analysis to guide additional middle school supports for all ESE students.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Piloted during the 2013-2014 school year *Increased during the 2014-2015 school year to 25 schools *Secondary Support Model program to assist *Continuous review/modify as needed *Increased to 36 total SSSM behavior technicians for 15-16 school year. *Two (2) additional middle schools to be added 2016-2017 school year *Researched other districts, no formal matriculation manual or process; rather best practices. *Development of Broward ESE Matriculation Manual *Roll out via December ESE Specialist meeting with guidelines for Spring matriculation activities across grade levels *Completed- District ESE Matriculation Manual, presented to ACE, Parent Advisory and ESE specialists (January/February)	08/20/15 02/2016 Summer 2015 Fall 2015 12/2015	On-going 02/2016
4.2-9: Weigh the cost versus benefits of the school psychology internship positions to the district and identify funds to continue the program.	COMPLETED: *Intern program is funded with Medicaid funds. Benefits include: additional supports to schools at low cost to District, influence on training provided by universities (community partners), and creation of a pipeline for well-trained new school psychologists.	03/2014	07/2014
4.2-10: Develop processes and accountability strategies relating to IEP transportation components, especially the staffing of ESE bus attendants and one-on-one bus attendants.	COMPLETED: *Hired an ESE Specialist for transportation to address processes/accountability relating to transportation needs of ESE students. Guiding questions, proper IEP documentation, and any additional resources required were added to the Transportation section of the special Considerations Tab in EasyIEP.	06/2014	06/2014

4.2 ESE Support and Related Services – Continued

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
<p>4.2-11: Examine BCPS program placement determination in light of the impact of decisions on the length of ESE student bus rides, develop procedures to remedy the issues, and ensure that all transportation-related procedures are uniformly followed in the district.</p>	<p>PARTIALLY COMPLETED: In collaboration with the Transportation Department: *Hired ESE Specialist for Transportation to assist with processes/accountability relating to IEPs *Ongoing meetings are held with Transportation *Revised the timeline for generating transportation requests to maximize the amount of time needed to properly route students *Transportation created a report of ride times for all students—currently under review</p>	<p>06/2014</p> <p>02/2016</p>	<p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p>
<p>4.2-12: Create a Technology Plan for students with disabilities for the 2014-15 school year.</p>	<p>COMPLETED: *Students with disabilities are included in the district's Information & Technology Plan. Assistive Technology Supervisor or designee is included in all technology development communications. (Office of Academics Technology Committee meetings)</p>	<p>07/2014</p>	<p>03/2016</p>

4.3 Use of Funds			
Recommendations	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.3-1: More closely monitor ESE budgets and expenditures at the campus and department level for both Special Revenues and General Fund, to ensure that program dollars are effectively being used to enhance the delivery of services to students.	COMPLETED: *Budget Department provides reports/monitoring *ESE & SS – assist with programming/development/support *Curriculum Supervisors and Coordinator of SEDNET met with ESE Directors and SS Directors regarding school support model recommendations *Curriculum Supervisors attend staffing/budget conferences for each school to recommend allocation of ESE dollars to meet the needs of students with disabilities	03/2014	On-going/ Annually
4.3-2: Gather the analytic data needed to accurately assess the cost and programmatic benefit of providing ESE services by program category and campus or location.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Curriculum Supervisors provide Budget Department with projected program numbers for each school *Budget Department provides reports/monitoring *ESE & SS – assist with programming development and support	10/2013	On-going/ Annually
4.3-3: Require campus administrators to develop plans for the use of the ESE Guaranteed Allocation and its impact on ESE students.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Budget Department provides reports/monitoring *ESE & SS – assist with programming development and support *OSPA – Oversight of campus administration *This is done annually in April during the staffing/budget conferences. Curriculum Supervisors provide input to cadre directors and site-based management regarding the expenditure of ESE generated funds to meet the needs of ESE Students. Use of the funds is monitored throughout the school year by the Curriculum Supervisors. In addition, each school receiving funds for an para funded from IDEA funds, documentation of the paras schedule and duties directly related to supporting specified ESE students must be provided	04/2013	On-going/ Annually

4.4 Communication with Stakeholders

Commendation

The Division of Exceptional Student Education and Support Services is commended for its excellent ESE monthly newsletter, which acts as a vehicle for sharing important and timely information regarding BCPS ESE services with all stakeholders.

4.4 Communication with Stakeholders

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.4-1: Develop a comprehensive ESE Communications Plan.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Cross Divisional Meeting/Committee Calendar	02/2016	On-going/ Annually
4.4-2: Set guidelines for what questions should be submitted through BASIS, shorten the 24-hour response window, create an email response notification, and allow ESE Specialists to call District Program Specialists directly for concerns or issues that require more immediate response.	COMPLETED: *Implementation of ESE Specialist Field Coach position for defined support *Update of referral database *As of August 2015, ESE Specialists no longer use the referral database for questions. They are able to call or email.	08/2014	08/2015
4.4-3: Overhaul the ESE website so that information is organized logically, contains current information, and is visual appealing to BCPS stakeholders.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED: *Updates provided by individual ESE & SS Departments to micro tech for revisions *An additional Micro Technician was hired. Current employee is on military leave. *ESE and SS Division Focus 2016-2017	08/2014	On-going
4.4-4: Increase awareness of commendable ESE staff, programs, and practices.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Highlighted in our newsletter, website and other social media modes; *Community meetings *Creation and participation in first-ever District ESE Down Syndrome Buddy Walk Team Oct 18 th ; will be highlighted in the District ESE 411 newsletter *Just Do It Event – (recognized 185 students) *Autism in Flight *Announcements at Monthly ESE Advisory Meetings *Board resolutions (Downs Syndrome Awareness, Disability History and Awareness, Disability Employment Awareness, Disability Mentoring Day, School Psychology Week, Support of Inclusive Schools Week, Autism Awareness Month, Better Hearing and Speech Month	10/2014	On-going

4.4 Communication with Stakeholders - Continued

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.4-5: Determine and share the most appropriate translation tools for ESE Specialists to use in daily correspondence with parents.	COMPLETED: *Continuous collaboration with ESOL Department *Recommended using "Google Translate" to ESE Specialists *Staff provided with a possible feature in EasyIEP that would translate text added to documents within the EasyIEP system (native language) *Forms have been translated into three languages. Software to translate the written parts of the forms is available using Google Translate as needed	10/2014	04/2016
4.4-6: Use social media platforms to further engage ESE stakeholders.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Currently have the ability to post on BCPS Facebook/Twitter through the Public Information Office	08/2014	On-going

4.5 Professional Development

Commendations

The Division of Exceptional Student Education and Support Services is commended for developing leadership modules to build the capacity of administrators and ESE Specialists regarding critical knowledge of ESE laws, regulations, and inclusive school cultures.

The Directors of Support Services and Office of Psychological Services are commended for their thoughtful approach to planning for professional growth that is likely to sustain and embed new knowledge and skills into practice.

The Division of Exceptional Student Education and Support Services is commended for recognizing the need for Facilitative IEP (FIEP) training and providing it for all school teams and administrators.

4.5 Professional Development

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.5-1: Build on the online training for principals and ESE Specialists and ensure that central office administrators are included.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *18 PDA online courses are available for instructional, administrative and support staff *New courses are developed by the Florida Department of Education and promoted by the ESE and Support Services Division	10/2014	04/2016
4.5-2: Move FDLRS to a direct reporting to the Executive Director of the Division of Exceptional Student Education and Support Services. Assemble core groups with common responsibilities to identify strategies to maximize the use of resources to better meet student needs.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Executive Director started December 2015 *A review of core group alignment is in process	12/2015	06/2017

4.5 Professional Development

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.5-3: Assemble a cross-divisional task group to examine key common elements that are effective with special needs learners that should be core elements of all content, instruction, and professional development discussions, planning, and decisions.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *ESE & SS Program staff have been identified to work with the Instruction & Intervention Department to prepare CARE packets for identified schools *Work with other Directors to assist cross-divisionally *ESE Director and select staff participate at least monthly in meetings with other district level divisions: Literacy; OSPA; Talent Development; Talent Acquisition; Demographics; Diversity, Prevention and Intervention; ESOL; Head Start/Early Intervention; Innovative Learning and the Arts; and Office of Strategic Achievement *Access Points Instructional Framework for grades K-12; in progress	10/2014	On-going
		12/2015	On-going
4.5-4: Develop a teacher course catalog (much like one for high schools or colleges) that prioritizes professional development options according to critical learning needs.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Previously existed through Talent Development and ESE & SS Division catalog of professional learning. *Internal course catalog has been updated *All supervisors have access to a revised database, which can be used to recommend targeted professional development for schools. *A comprehensive calendar with dates and times of all training is available to district employees and updated continually.	Prior to 06/2014	On-going
4.5-5: Develop consistent, efficient, and effective district processes to ensure that all ESE educators are able to benefit from professional learning opportunities related to their field.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Revisited division processes related to professional learning opportunities, and timeline of requesting TDA's, etc. *Monthly ESE Specialist meetings are designed to address current topics with input from all ESE & SS leadership *Teacher Directed Improvement Funds are available through an application process to all instructional personnel through Talent Development	06/2014	09/2014
4.5-6: Commit to the professional growth of staff working with ESE students and communicate that commitment through word, planning, and action.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *In collaboration with The Office of Talent Development, the ESE & Support Services Master Plan for Professional Development is reviewed and updated.	06/2014	04/2016

4.5 Professional Development

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.5-7: Expand the array of training offered to ESE paraprofessionals, and create targeted training for transportation staff in Broward County Public Schools.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *ESE will continue to expand/provide additional training *Educational Support Professionals (ESPs) Summer Institute is provided annually. Training focuses on effective educational and behavioral strategies for the paraprofessional working with SWDs. Topics include job responsibilities, ethical considerations, an overview of disabilities, educational impact, instructional strategies and behavioral strategies and interventions	06/2014	10/26/2015
4.5-8: Convene a representative group of professional development providers that includes those at the Arthur Ashe Center to meet with decision makers to identify all location specific barriers to professional learning, develop specific strategies to ameliorate them, and set a timetable by which obstacles will be resolved.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Facilities point person worked with professional development team to designate additional room for professional learning activities (FDLRS)	10/2014	01/2015

4.6 Parent Engagement

Commendations

Broward County Public Schools is commended for assessing parent training needs, and delivering on those needs.

The Division of Exceptional Student Education and Support Services is commended for planning and delivering an ESE open house for new parents.

4.6 Parent Engagement

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.6-1: Implement Robert's Rules of Order during BCPS ESE Advisory Council meetings to foster more productive and efficient outcomes.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Purchased Robert's Rules of Order, provided to ESE Advisory Chair *Offered services of a parliamentarian to work with the council for the first couple of meetings	06/2014	07/2014

4.6 Parent Engagement

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.6-2: Identify and schedule alternate meeting locations of the ESE Advisory Council and live stream Council meetings to ensure parents across Broward County have an opportunity to participate.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *ESE Director worked with the Executive Board to identify flexible dates, times and locations *ESE Advisory Council members elected to have all meetings for the 2015-2016 school year at Piper Senior High School from 6:30 pm to 9 pm *ESE Advisory utilizes phone bridge and live streaming	10/2014	10/2014
4.6-3: Collect information on issues brought forward by parents during ESE Advisory Council meetings and maintain a list of priority issues.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: During the 2014-2015 school year, the ESE Director and Chair developed a formal process to communicate issues with designated response times and dates.	08/2014	06/2015
4.6-4: Improve the Needs Assessment Survey by adding "School Name" to the demographics section of the survey tool, offering the survey in an electronic format, and ensuring that the calendar of workshops is distributed in a timely manner before the beginning of each semester.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Parent Needs Assessment developed by FDLRS has been updated to reflect "school name." *A parent workshop calendar is created and shared with parents in hard and soft copy	10/2014	01/2015
4.6-5: Prepare multimedia versions of those trainings requested or delivered frequently.	COMPLETED: *Parent trainings are available in multimedia versions on the Brainshark website: www.browardschools.com/parents-students/parents , http://browardschools.com/adobeconnect.com/parentwebinar/ *Additional trainings are developed as needed	01/2015	09/2015
4.6-6: Develop a comprehensive ESE Services Manual for parents that provide information on ESE services specific to BCPS, and supplements information in the FDOE Parent Introduction Guide.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Introduction to ESE Services in Florida – Manual available on BCPS ESE website *Matriculation Guide was completed and presented to ESE Specialists, ESE Advisory Council, Autism Sub-Committee, and Evergreen Task Force. Monthly activities are reviewed monthly with all ESE Specialists.	12/2015	01/2016

4.6 Parent Engagement			
Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.6-7: Conduct a review of school-based volunteer programs and opportunities to ensure that all schools are capitalizing on their pool of potential volunteers.	COMPLETED: The STAR system keeps track of all approved volunteers. The Public Information Office (PIO) coordinates the volunteer services program for the district. The ESE and Support Services Division will continue to work through the PIO and Student Support Initiatives Divisions to capitalize on Mentoring Programs, Parent, Family, and Community Engagement and our Partners in Education www.browardschools.com/getinvolved	02/2016	04/2016
4.6-8: Develop stringent business rules for issue escalation, and implement a tracking system for entering and tracking parent issues through closure.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Created a database to track parent calls from initial contact to closure through the Local Resolution Office	08/2014	12/2014
4.6-9: Establish the role of ESE Parent Liaison within the Division of Exceptional Student Education and Support Services to facilitate and improve parent engagement, and monitor parent issues through resolve.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *ESE Parent Liaison is no longer a separate position; ESE Compliance Specialists support fulfill this need	06/2014	12/2014

4.7 Community Engagement/Partnerships

Commendation

The Division of Exceptional Student Education and Support Services is commended for cultivating, maintaining, and nurturing community partnerships that benefit students with disabilities.

4.7 Community Engagement/Partnerships

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion
<p>4.7-1: Increase the speed of response for students needing immediate mental health services.</p>	<p>PARTIALLY COMPLETED: *ESE and Support Services staff worked with a team of principals to review and modify the process for special day school and alternative school services *Communicated with all schools the process and available services for all students *21 Community Providers offer access to mental health services for families. Providers attend monthly meetings to discuss challenges or access. Schools have access to providers via Behavioral Health Partnership website *A revised portfolio of all Behavior Health Partners (BHP) services was created and distributed electronically *Brainshark will be created to describe the process to all schools *SEDNET department is readily accessible for questions and face-to-face meetings</p>	<p>07/2014</p>	<p>10/2014 01/2016; On-going 06/2016</p>
<p>4.7-2: Develop basic performance measures for community service providers delivering mental health services to students in Broward County Public Schools.</p>	<p>COMPLETED: *Although the Evergreen Review made this recommendation, community service providers do not provide services as a part of the IEP or ESE program. The services are provided in the home and community for the family and youth. *Providers are accountable to their insurance providers. Providers use measures as prescribed by individual insurance plans, grants or funders for effectiveness *Services are only provided on campus at guardian request along with site based approval</p>	<p>06/2014</p>	<p>06/2014</p>
<p>4.7-3: Create a multimedia version of the “What you need to know before you go into a school?” training.</p>	<p>COMPLETED/ON-GOING: Training is available online for providers and schools via Brainshark Brainshark was developed and is revised each year since August 2014 www.brainshark.com/browardschools</p>	<p>08/2014</p>	<p>08/2014</p>

4.7 Community Engagement/Partnerships

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion
4.7-4: Communicate to community service providers the BCPS student eligibility requirements that lead to student referrals for their services.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING *SEDNET Department presented eligibility requirements that lead to student referral at the following community service provider events: Systems of Care Meeting, Cross Systems Interagency Meeting, etc.	08/2014	On-going
4.7-5: Commence monthly meetings of community service providers.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: ESE & SS staff and community service providers determined it more efficient for BCPS staff to participate in monthly meetings with Community Service Providers: Special Needs Advisory Council, Baby Special Needs Advisory Council, etc.	08/2014	08/2014

4.8 Child Find – Birth through Age Five

Commendations

Broward County Public Schools is commended for its seamless transition of toddlers with disabilities served by the local Early Steps to the district's Part B PreK ESE program.
The FDLRS/Child Find staff and PreK Assessment Team members are commended for the unwavering commitment they demonstrate to the program, the children, and their families.
The PreK Assessment Team members are commended for the individualized attention evident in the evaluations reviewed, particularly in light of the strain on resources resulting from the high volume of evaluations completed.

4.8 Child Find – Birth through Age Five

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.8-1: Request that parents and/or guardians complete a customer service poll at each point of contact to solicit feedback regarding barriers they may have experienced in accessing the Child Find services.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Created a customer service survey to obtain parent feedback on satisfaction with the child find process. *Survey is set up and parents are encouraged to complete it after the staffing	10/2014	On-going/ Annually
4.8-2: Revise the policy regarding obtaining consent for evaluation from parents of Pre K children who do not pass the screening to include seeking consent as soon as possible, preferably on the same date as the screening.	COMPLETED: *New process was created which allows for the evaluation on the same day as the screening *Consent for evaluation is obtained at the time screening indicated the need for further evaluation	06/2014	09/2014

4.8 Child Find – Birth through Age Five

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
<p>4.8-3: Establish an internal workgroup to solicit input from size-alike peer districts and/or regional neighboring districts to identify aspects of the district’s Pre K Child Find System that require or would benefit from redesign or restructuring.</p>	<p>COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *BCPS restructured the previous PK Child Find Process *ESE & Support Services staff participate in size-alike district meetings *Upon completion of the restructure of the process, size-alike district peer groups requested a presentation on the BCPS PreK Child Find Process *BCPS has been commended and frequently receives requests from school districts to observe best practices in Broward’s model</p>	<p>09/2014</p>	<p>On-going/ Quarterly</p>
<p>4.8-4: Add at least two permanent Pre K Assessment Teams to those currently in place.</p>	<p>COMPLETED: *Three additional teams have been hired.</p>	<p>09/02/14</p>	<p>08/2015</p>
<p>4.8-5: Make all contracts of staff required for Pre-Kindergarten evaluations 216-day contracts and evaluate the possibility of compressing screening and evaluation sessions.</p>	<p>PARTIALLY COMPLETED: *Working with Budget/HR/BTU to convert positions from 196 to 216 calendar</p>	<p>09/2015</p>	<p>06/2016</p>
<p>4.8-6: Implement policies to provide for stronger district control of basic ESE programmatic decisions, including the location of specialized program clusters or classrooms such as PreK ESE classrooms.</p>	<p>PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *PreK Supervisor works collaboratively with Demographics/Boundaries, OSPA Directors and Transportation to identify new school/class sites as preschool enrollment increases. *Seven new sites were opened February 2016.</p>	<p>08/2014</p>	<p>On-going</p>
<p>4.8-7: Focus efforts to expand the capacity of the PreK ESE program on providing more inclusive placements, including providing services and supports to children in community-based early care/child care programs.</p>	<p>PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Agency placements are considered during initial staffing *Two additional VPK/ESE Preschool Integrated classes will be opened for the 2016-2017 school year.</p>	<p>01/2016</p>	<p>08/2016</p>

4.9 Referral, Evaluation, and Eligibility – Ages Six through 21

Commendations

Broward County Public Schools is commended for committing to a renewed focus on the development and implementation of a fully functioning district-wide multi-tiered system of supports that incorporates clear and consistent procedures for school-based collaborative problem solving teams and gives them the resources necessary to provide effective data-based instruction and interventions to all students.

Psychological Services staff are commended for ongoing support of schools and CPS/Rtl teams as they strive to provide appropriate and effective instruction and intervention to students and produce accurate and meaningful Rtl data to inform evaluation and eligibility decisions for students with disabilities.

Broward County Public Schools is commended for the quality and professionalism demonstrated by its evaluation teams.

4.9 Referral, Evaluation, and Eligibility – Ages Six through 21

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.9-1: Develop an infrastructure to create and support a seamless CPS/Rtl system within a framework of MTSS across all BCPS schools.	COMPLETED: *CPS/Rtl System rolled out under the direction of the Diversity Prevention and Intervention Department *ESE & SS has representation as a part of the stakeholder group	07/2014	On-going
4.9-2: Ensure all stakeholder groups are represented in the committee or workgroup engaged in developing CPS/Rtl procedures and resources, and monitor the process to ensure the individuals selected to participate are knowledgeable, committed, and actively involved.	COMPLETED: *CPS/Rtl System rolled out under the direction of the Diversity Prevention and Intervention Department *ESE & SS has representation as a part of the stakeholder group	07/2014	On-going
4.9-3: Incorporate resources to support social/behavioral development in addition to academic achievement into all MTSS and CPS/Rtl reforms.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *CPS/Rtl System rolled out under the direction of the Diversity Prevention and Intervention Department *District Social Emotional Learning Leadership Team was established to explore current research in Social Emotional Learning *The SEL Team established SEL Standards based on Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL) and SEL framework. *Professional development is ongoing across the District through Z-PAC	08/2015	On-going
4.9-4: Expand the existing body of CPS/Rtl tools to include explicit guidance and technical assistance on the establishment and consistent implementation of decision rules for assessing intervention effectiveness as well as a uniform understanding of what constitutes reasonable and/or sufficient intervention efforts prior referring a student	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *CPS/Rtl System rolled out under the direction of the Diversity Prevention and Intervention Department * Rtl Flow Chart and Decision Making Guide provides guidance for school teams *Professional development provided to schools monthly in Zone Platform for Assistance and Collaboration (Z-PACF) sessions *Link to Rtl Manual: http://www.browardprevention.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/MTSS-Rtl-Manual-Web1.pdf	10/2015	On-going

for evaluation.			
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4.9 Referral, Evaluation, and Eligibility – Ages Six through 21			
Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
<p>4.9-5: Use the significant knowledge base and expertise within Psychological Services to assist in the development of an effective support structure for schools as they develop more effective CPS/Rtl processes.</p>	<p><u>PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING:</u> *School psychologists participated in PLC for MTSS/Rtl/SLD for past 2 years *School Psychologists help school-based team review and graph data to use in decision-making processes *School Psychologists are active members of the CPST/Rtl teams and processes at schools. They provide assessments during Tier 2 and Tier 3 to help determine appropriate interventions for students</p>	09/2014	05/2016
		09/2014	On-going
		09/2015	On-going
<p>4.9-6: Analyze the referral and eligibility data for all schools, disaggregated by level, to determine the extent to which schools are successfully identifying students with disabilities and to ensure that there are no patterns of either over- or under-referral across schools.</p>	<p><u>PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING:</u> *ESE & SS and Student Support Initiatives (SSI) collaborate on data and monitoring *Current data system, referral guidelines, and processes will be reviewed to identify effective structures and improvements needed</p>	03/2016	On-going
<p>4.9-7: Conduct a review of student referral records to identify the extent to which teams engaged in the problem solving process adhere to the criteria for referring students for evaluation without unnecessary delay.</p>	<p><u>PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING:</u> *MTSS/Rtl District Leadership Team Identified criteria and supports necessary to facilitate the review process *Student Support Initiative (SSI) technical assistance and professional development are provided to school teams *Rtl records in BASIS 3.0 are reviewed periodically</p>	06/2015	On-going

4.9 Referral, Evaluation, and Eligibility – Ages Six through 21 – Continued

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
<p>4.9-8: Provide technical assistance and support to foster team member confidence in the integrity and validity of the data produced through CPS/Rtl, in conjunction with actions taken to revise and/or enhance MTSS and the CPS/Rtl process.</p>	<p>PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Rtl/CPS Team composition varies based on the student(s) and the area of concern. Broward County Public Schools MTSS/Rtl Manual and Benchmark Checklist outlines best practice for team composition. http://www.browardprevention.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/MTSS-Rtl-Manual-Web1.pdf *Professional Development provided by University of South Florida PS/Rtl Project Team to BCPS MTSS/Rtl Team on evidenced-based implementation fidelity tools. Implementation of Fidelity planning started.</p>	<p>05/2014</p> <p>01/2016</p>	<p>09/2014</p> <p>On-going</p>
<p>4.9-9: Establish a committee of district and school-based staff involved in referral, evaluation, and eligibility of students with disabilities to evaluate the extent to which current district practices related to specific learning disabilities (SLD) align with written policies of the state and district.</p>	<p>COMPLETED: *The Multidisciplinary Team Report (MDT) for SLD/LI was revised. A subcommittee of the MTSS DLT convened to provide input on the revised MDT report. *The MDT Report for SLD/LI aligns with the current FLDOE required evaluation components.</p>	<p>10/2014</p>	<p>08/2015</p>
<p>4.9-10: Investigate the potential reason for the increasing trend in SLD in BCPS compared with a decreasing trend in the peer school districts, concurrent with the previous recommendation to evaluate practices related to SLD.</p>	<p>COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Although the Evergreen Review indicated an increasing trend in SLD identification, BCPS data indicated that over a 5-year period SLD rates remained relatively stable *Current data reveals a <1% increase in SLD identification over a seven year period *SLD eligibilities will continue to be tracked against size-alike peer districts</p>	<p>05/2014</p>	<p>On-going</p>
<p>4.9-11: Implement policies that clearly establish the roles, responsibilities, and authority of members of the multiple teams involved in ESE functions, including CPS/Rtl teams, eligibility staffing committees, and IEP teams.</p>	<p>PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *CPS/Rtl System rolled out under the direction of the Diversity Prevention and Intervention Department * Rtl Flow Chart and Decision Making Guide provides guidance for school teams. *Roles and Responsibilities have been established and communicated in the following ways: *New ESE Specialist Trainings *Applied Learning Modules for ESE Specialists</p>	<p>08/2014</p> <p>10/2014</p>	<p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p>

4.10 Individualized Educational Plans

Commendations

- Broward County Public Schools is commended for the coordinated and comprehensive set of resources the district provides to ESE Specialists, teachers, service providers, and other interested parties regarding district policies, procedures, and recommended practices. The use of eBox, ESE eNews, and other tools provide all stakeholders with easy access to valuable and timely information.
- Broward County Public Schools is commended for the positive efforts demonstrated by staff with regard to developing meaningful IEPs and for the way parents are actively included in the process.
- Broward County Public Schools is commended for its implementation of a centralized web-based ESE management system.
- Broward County Public School is commended for the quality of the content in the majority of individual educational plans reviewed. It is evident that staff developing the plans are knowledgeable about the students and that care has been taken to reflect the unique nature of each student in their IEPs.
- BCPS is commended for its commitment to increasing and maintaining the quality of IEPs developed within the district by operationalizing the way IEP Teams should implement the intent of IDEA.
- Broward County Public Schools is commended for the impact of its IEP training on the overall content of the plans and the extent to which the present levels and annual goals reflect IEP Team consideration of the unique qualities and needs of the students.

4.10 Individual Educational Plans

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.10-1: Review the alert system in EasyIEP™ to identify ways it can be used more effectively to notify users of upcoming changes to functionality, revised content, or new compliance requirements.	COMPLETED: *EasyIEP has alerts in place that link directly to staff emails; *Four ESE Specialist Field Coaches were hired to assist with training and notification *A new dashboard for all users was launched with additional notification capability	09/2014	02/2016
4.10-2: Solicit input from BCPS Program Specialists, school-based ESE Specialists, and ESE teachers and service providers regarding ways the current IEP system could be enhanced to proactively guide teams in developing high quality IEPs.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *BCPS stake-holders reviewed the state's PEER system and determined the EasyIEP system to be more comprehensive and provides greater functionality *Current IEP System has been updated to include stakeholders' recommendations and enhancements.	10/2014 10/2015	10/2015 On-going
4.10-3: Assess the level and type of support currently in place for EasyIEP™ to determine if it is sufficient to meet the needs of all users, including new hires and experienced teachers, with regard to content and technical support.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Conducted a needs assessment of end-users *It was determined that the addition of two teacher based staff would allow the District team to assist new users with issues	09/2014	10/2015

4.10 Individual Educational Plans

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
<p>4.10-4: Review local policies regarding IEP development and content, assess their impact on quality and efficiency of services, and identify potential benefits and pitfalls inherent in requiring procedures or content that goes beyond federal and state requirements.</p>	<p>COMPLETED/ON-GOING: Local policies and procedures reviewed on an ongoing basis *Compliance team established consisting of 4 Compliance Program Specialists, 4 ESE Specialist Field Coaches and 1 ESE Specialist for Transportation</p>	<p>08/2014</p>	<p>On-going</p>
<p>4.10-5: Include data-based analysis of the potential impact of requiring draft IEP components five days prior for every IEP team meeting in the district's review of local policies recommended above.</p>	<p>PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Local procedure and facilitated IEP (FIEP) promote best practices to improve meaningful parental participation in IEP meetings.</p>	<p>04/2015</p>	<p>On-going</p>
<p>4.10-6: Enhance the training components related to measurable annual goals and internal methods for monitoring and oversight to ensure IEP team members consistently apply what is learned during training. Continue to reinforce the importance of incorporating multiple data sources, including results of classroom, benchmark, and standardized assessments.</p>	<p>COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *BCPS/FDLRS Staff provided training on writing measureable annual goals and objectives *BCPS provides a face to face abridged training on annual goals and objectives *An online IEP goals training is available on the BCPS/ESE website</p>	<p>8/2014 11/2015</p>	<p>On-going On-going</p>
<p>4.10-7: Enhance the training related to measurable postsecondary goals and internal methods for monitoring and oversight to ensure they reflect an observable, measurable action that will occur in the future (after graduation or obtaining the age of 21), and correspond in a meaningful and reasonable way to the students interests, skills, and abilities as described in the present level statement</p>	<p>COMPLETED/ON-GOING: * Training on post-secondary goal information incorporated into the one-day and four-day IEP training * Post-Secondary goals extensively trained at the December ESE Specialist meeting * Ongoing monitoring done by Transition team</p>	<p>03/2015</p>	<p>On-going</p>

4.10 Individual Educational Plans

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
<p>4.10-8: Examine current guidance being provided to IEP teams regarding service decisions and ensure that it clearly and accurately describes the team’s obligation and authority to include in the IEP the services and supports necessary to provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment.</p>	<p>COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Addressed through monthly ESE Specialist meetings and small group applied learning sessions *ESE Field Coaches assist in providing guidance in alignment with local, state and federal guidelines *Addressed through Facilitated IEP Trainings</p>	08/2014	On-going
<p>4.10-9: Implement policies that clearly establish authority of members of a duly constituted IEP team to fulfill their assigned roles and responsibilities</p>	<p>COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Implemented Facilitated IEP training for all ESE Specialists *Implemented applied learning trainings semi-annually</p>	03/2014	On-going
<p>4.10-10: Conduct an in-depth review of IEP implementation, focusing on services that are not directly tied to ESE course enrollment (e.g., support facilitation, consultation, collaboration) and that are provided on an itinerant basis (e.g., speech and language therapy, counseling, occupational therapy, physical therapy).</p>	<p>COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Developed Support Facilitator Training, which describes the roles and responsibilities of: Administrators, ESE Support Facilitators and General Education Teachers. Training provided quarterly</p>	08/2014	08/2015
	<p>*Speech Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, and ESE Family Counselors were trained to appropriately document the services they provide *Delivered services are monitored to ensure compliance with the student’s IEP</p>	08/2014	08/2015
<p>4.10-11: Establish a workgroup, comprised of school leaders and district staff, to develop procedures for ensuring IEPs are implemented in their entirety, focusing on both the subject of instruction (i.e., annual goals) and the amount and type of service required (e.g., direct ESE support, consultation, collaboration, and accommodations).</p>	<p>PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Although the Evergreen Review made this recommendation, it is the ESE and Support Services Division’s interpretation that IDEA and the Florida Rules Governing Exceptional Student Education, clearly identify the IEP Team as the team to develop an appropriate IEP. School staff and administration along with district level are to provide the support needed to allow the teachers to focus on specific subjects and instruction.</p>	08/2014	On-going

4.11 Transition/Matriculation

Commendations

The prekindergarten to elementary matriculation process allows for smooth transition from one setting to another. The process focuses on children's readiness for kindergarten and includes the key stakeholders of receiving schools and families.
Broward County Public Schools is commended for establishing partnerships across the district with community members and developing district-level staff who are well trained in providing assistance to both teachers and students.
Broward County Public Schools is commended for its continuous progress in increasing positive measures of post-school outcomes for students with disabilities.
Broward County Public Schools is commended for its commitment to fostering active involvement by students in the developing their summary of performances (SOPs) to ensure the content as accurate and meaningful as possible.
Broward County Public Schools is commended for its commitment to helping students develop self-determination skills through active participation as members of their IEP teams.

4.11 Transition/Matriculation

Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.11-1: Create a district matriculation procedure for promoting students with disabilities from elementary to middle school.	COMPLETED: *Reviewed and revised matriculation memo and best practices for 2014-2015. *Convened a parent group to discuss transition through the grade levels * The matriculation manual was approved, published and made available electronically. Due to the district utilizing and supporting a site based management philosophy, schools are able to decide what matriculation activities they will use. Program staff work with assigned schools on their matriculation plan/activities for their ESE students	10/2014	01/2016
4.11-2: Assess existing matriculation activities throughout Broward County Public Schools and develop a resource guide of best practices.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Reviewed and revised matriculation memo and best practices *Convened a parent group to discuss transition through the grade levels	10/2014	01/2016 On-going
4.11-3: Create a district protocol for students with disabilities matriculating from middle school to high school to ensure that appropriate and sufficient supports and services are in place to meet each student's needs.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Reviewed and revised matriculation practices *Convened a parent group to discuss transition through the grade levels	10/2014	01/2016 On-going

4.11 Transition/Matriculation			
Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.11-4: Conduct a comprehensive review/evaluation of all transition programming, with a focus on how schools are implementing vocational education for ESE students, and develop a guide based on researched best practices and effective service delivery models.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Reviewed and identified programs with CTACE *ESE Transition Services Supervisor and CTACE Curriculum Supervisors are collaborating to develop vocational programs. Proposal under review	03/2016	08/2016
4.11-5: Utilize the training, technical assistance, and resources provided by the Project 10: Transition Education Network to develop a comprehensive transition program in BCPS secondary schools.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Although the Evergreen Review made this recommendation, there is evidence that BCPS and Project 10 collaborated on a regular basis regarding comprehensive transition planning, collaborative training on Self-Determination, Discovery, Customized Employment, Early warning systems, MOCP's, resource mapping, etc. The plan is to continue to grow this partnership.	08/2014	On-going
4.11-6: Increase the monitoring of students with disabilities who are academically successful and consider participation in accelerated academic programs in transition planning, as appropriate.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *The Transition Support Plan meetings with all at risk 11 th grade students with disabilities is ongoing – All schools have had their initial meetings, all schools will have the follow-up meetings by the end of the school year. To plan is to include meetings with ninth grade students for 2016-17	12/2015	07/2016 On-going 05/2017
4.11-7: Offer Modified Occupational Completion Points (MOCPs) for vocational education to increase opportunities for vocational education or employability skills training for high school students with disabilities.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: CTACE and ESE have collaborated to develop a proposal for a culinary program in which incorporates MOCPs at the Technical Colleges.	03/14/16	10/2016 On-going
4.11-8: Revise the district's pupil progression plan to specify the availability of MOCPs.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *District's pupil progression plan to specify the availability of MOCPs *Collaboration by ESE and CTACE departments	04/2016	10/2016 On-going
4.11-9: Expand capacity in meeting the needs of adult students with disabilities who desire or would benefit the most for community-based services that are not housed on a traditional school campus, and ensure that all students who are eligible for and would benefit from a program have the opportunity to participate.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Meetings being held with CTACE staff. *Twelve programs for adult students with disabilities (18-21) at host businesses, technical colleges, and high schools.	03/14/16	10/2016 On-going

4.11 Transition/Matriculation			
Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.11-10: Establish an easily located page on the Division of Exceptional Student Education and Support Services website to provide parents, students, and staff members with informative and action-oriented information and links to the array of specialized transition programs available across the district.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Links to adult agencies and transition resources added, description of specialized transition programs and agency referral documents included * Transition staff working with IT department to update transition page with agency information, links and transition program descriptions, and services available	01/2016	08/2016
4.11-11: Establish collaborative relationships among transition directors and specialists in the other enrollment group districts.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *ESE Transition Supervisor and transition staff from size-alike districts collaborate on an ongoing basis	08/2014	On-going
4.11-12: Review the business requirements completion of the EasyIEP™ summary of performance to ensure that the logic and flow of the final document are not compromised by efforts to streamline the process.	COMPLETED: *Staff Team investigated state forms compared with local forms and the process aligns with federal guidelines	10/20/014	11/17/2014
4.11-13: Review the summary of performance form to determine if the information regarding a student's status as an English Language Learner (ELL) is necessary. If so, provide training to staff responsible for completing the SOP to ensure a description is provided of ELL services and, if not, delete this section of the form.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *BCPS summary of performance was adopted from Council for Exceptional Children *Current information was reviewed and deemed to be necessary. *Collaborating with ESOL department in training on ELL needs on the Summary of Performance	10/20/14 12/2015	On-going On-going

4.12 Inclusionary Practices
Commendations
BCPS is commended for its focus on and commitment to providing access to the general curriculum through regular class placement for students with disabilities.
BCPS is commended for its progress in ensuring students with significant disabilities have access to nondisabled peers to the maximum extent appropriate by decreasing placements in ESE center schools and embedding additional supports in traditional school campuses through specialized cluster programs.
BCPS is commended for its use of contracted services as a tool to expand the continuum of PreK ESE services to meet the needs of the most significantly involved children and to expand opportunities for inclusion.
BCPS principals, teachers, other faculty, and staff are commended for the supportive and welcoming environment they foster in their schools on a daily basis.

4.12 Inclusionary Practices			
Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.12-1: Identify avenues to increase the level of specialized programmatic support available to all schools (e.g., behavior management, characteristics of ASD, access points and functional performance).	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Expanded the Secondary Student Support Model *Purchased, trained and distributed STEM curriculum for all InD special programs *Training provided on the revised Florida Standards Access Points *Hired six (6) District Behavior Technician's (one per team, including PreK)	10/2015	On-going 12/2015
4.12-2: Conduct a review of current policies and practices regarding routine use of counseling as a primary source of support.	COMPLETED: *Federal guidelines and current local policies were reviewed *The document used to determine the need for services was revised * Brainshark completed to assist staff in understanding this area	08/2014	08/2015
4.12-3: Enhance technical assistance provided to principals to reinforce the expectation that IEP teams consider the unique and individualized needs of a student first, and then work with school leadership to ensure the necessary supports are available.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *ESE Supervisors met with individual Cadre Directors to recommend staffing ratios in order to meet the individual needs of students with disabilities *ESE Supervisors met with Cadre Directors to create a roll out plan to train principals on the Support Facilitation Model	04/2016 04/2016	On-going 08/2016

4.12 Inclusionary Practices			
Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.12-4: Establish stronger district control of basic ESE programmatic procedures, including ensuring that sufficient special education, related services, and supplementary aids and services are available within each school to meet the needs of its students to the extent possible, and implement guidelines for reasonable caseloads and workloads.	<u>PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING:</u> *Continue to participate in budget conferences/process *Level 1 State Self-Assessment participation *ESE Program Specialist participate in on site visits *ESE Curriculum Supervisors routinely review staffing reports and review discrepancies with principals *ESE Supervisors review individual student needs and identify additional supports as warranted *Inclusive Scheduling training is provided by FDLRS *Support Facilitation Model training provided	04/2013	On-going
4.12-5: Provide training and/or technical assistance encouraging principals to pursue innovative and productive strategies to improve the effectiveness of ESE programs in their schools.	<u>COMPLETED/ON-GOING:</u> *Facilitated IEP Training provided to Principals *One School Community Initiative & ESE Leadership Credential Program *Participate in regular meetings with cadre directors *Presentation at level principal meetings to discuss inclusionary practices and highlight best practices within our programs and schools.	08/2014 08/2014 09/2016	03/2015 On-going On-going 09/2016
4.12-6: Review recent organizational and staffing changes and current positions and develop strategies for increasing schools access to district-level program areas specialists and support services.	<u>PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING:</u> *Added 4 ESE Specialist Field Coaches *Added 6 District Behavior Technicians *Expanded Secondary Student Support Model by adding Behavior Technicians *Revised InD Funding Model guidelines to address SLP caseload *ESE Supervisors monitor special program numbers and provide additional support when over the recommended ratio *ESE Supervisors regularly meet with school administration to discuss staffing concerns, provide feedback from observations or classroom walkthroughs, programming, training and additional support they may need.	08/2013 08/2014	On-going On-going
4.12-7: Evaluate current practices related to IEP team decisions regarding placement decisions that require the student to transfer to a traditional school campus other than the zoned school (i.e., cluster site) or to an ESE center school.	<u>COMPLETED/ON-GOING:</u> *Convened Center Principal Task Force *Opened 24 new ASD special program sites over the last three years to service boundary school students *ESE Supervisors regularly meet with principals to discuss placement decisions and support needed	08/2014	On-going

4.12 Inclusionary Practices			
Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.12-8: Expand efforts to identify high-quality regular early childhood programs within the community, and increase the district's portfolio of inclusive programs for young children with disabilities by increasing the number of contracted placements and implementing a push-in model of support.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Site based visits were conducted at all contracted preschools *No new sites will be opened for 2016-2017 *Continue current agency contracts for the 2016-2017 school year.	01/2016	On-going

4.13 Performance and Instruction of Students
Commendations
The Division of Exceptional Student Education and Support Services is commended for its action initiatives that offer opportunities for expanded services and greater support to schools. ESE staff worked collaboratively with school staff to assess and identify key initiatives of action.
The community-based instruction (CBI) program offers instruction of functional skills in natural environments to students with moderate and severe disabilities. The district's program is comprehensive, based on the individual needs of students, and highly supported by local business partners.

4.13 Performance and Instruction of Students			
Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.13-1: Evaluate the effectiveness of the action initiatives to determine continuation, modification, and expansion.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Stakeholders are involved in evaluating program effectiveness via data chats, end user surveys, and student achievement data	10/2014	On-going
4.13-2: Establish opportunities for collaborative planning for special and general education teachers using common lesson planning tools and templates.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Developed resources via the Support Facilitators Model *Ongoing team trainings for school based teams (general and ESE teachers) on collaborative planning and flexible scheduling *Trained 56 school teams in support facilitation *Will be initiating a separate flexible schedule training	01/2015	On-going
		03/2016	On-going
4.13-3: Incorporate high-yield strategies and formative assessment throughout instruction.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *High yield strategies have been imbedded into professional development and program standards *Special Program Classroom Standards and Support Facilitation Standards have been aligned to High Yield strategies *High Yield Strategies have been aligned to the teacher observation tool	08/2016	On-going
		08/2014	On-going

4.13 Performance and Instruction of Students			
Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.13-4: Participate in the Strategic Intervention Model and Content Enhancement Routines training offered by FDLRS, and establish pilot sites in BCPS secondary schools for implementation.	COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *District Staff facilitates SIM professional learning *District staff have been identified to build capacity for training in strategies.	08/2014	On-going

4.13 Performance and Instruction of Students			
Recommendation	District Action(s)	Initiation Date	Completion Date
4.13-5: Identify instructional materials and curricula being used in special programs and develop a district-approved bank of resources that support the instruction of access points to the general education curriculum.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *PreK pilot; two new curriculum resources identified for purchase *Attainment Core Content Collection purchased for 14 High Schools as year one (1) roll out; training and implementation started *K-8 Access Points Instructional Framework is complete; *Anticipate 9-12 Access Points Instructional Framework *Updated Basic Equipment/Curriculum Materials Lists for ASD, InD, and SVE programs	02/2016 06/2015 09/2015	01/2017 08/2016 01/2017
4.13-6: Adopt a life-centered curriculum for students with disabilities who are not being successful in general education and create opportunities for graduation with special diploma based on employability skills.	PARTIALLY COMPLETED/ON-GOING: *Although the evergreen Review made this recommendation, it is no longer applicable due to the passage of SB850 (July 2014) *Students enrolled in six programs were provided employment training and job placement *Life-centered curriculum was piloted at 10 schools *Attainment Core is currently being used at 14 high schools	08/20/15	On-going