



**Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.**  
State Superintendent of Schools

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December 3, 2018

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Mr. Robert Hair  
Superintendent  
Maryland School for the Blind  
3501 Taylor Ave  
Nottingham, Maryland 21236

RE: XXXXX  
Reference: #19-046

Dear Parties:

The Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Early Intervention/Special Education Services (MSDE), has completed the investigation of the complaint regarding special education services for the above-referenced student. This correspondence is the report of the final results of the investigation.

**ALLEGATION:**

On October 11, 2018, the MSDE received a complaint from Ms. XXXXXXXXXXXX, hereafter, “the complainant,” on behalf of her son, the above-referenced student. In that correspondence, the complainant alleged that the Maryland School for the Blind (MSB) violated certain provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) with respect to the above-referenced student.

The MSDE investigated the allegation that the MSB has not ensured that the student has been consistently provided with a one-to-one (1:1) adult support since May 2018, as required by the Individualized Education Program (IEP), in accordance with 34 CFR §§300.101 and .323.

**BACKGROUND:**

The student is sixteen (16) years old and is identified as a student with Multiple Disabilities under the IDEA, related to vision, orthopedics, and health impairments. He attends the MSB and has an IEP that requires the provision of special education instruction and related services.

**FINDINGS OF FACTS:**

1. The student’s IEP requires that he be provided with one-to-one (1:1) adult support to assist with adjusting to “new environments, provide support for safe traveling within school and in the community, and sensory breaks, on a daily basis, during instruction and residential programming.” The IEP also requires that he be provided with one-to-one (1:1) adult support

in the residential program two (2) days each week from 3pm - 7pm, and during Extended School Year (ESY) services.

2. There is documentation that, from May 2018 through October 2018, the student was provided with one-to-one (1:1) adult support in all areas required by the IEP, including during ESY services.

**CONCLUSION:**

Based on the Findings of Facts #1 and #2, the MSDE finds that there is documentation that the student was provided with one-to-one (1:1) staff support, in accordance with 34 CFR §§300.101 and .323. Therefore, this office does not find that a violation occurred with respect to this aspect of the allegation.

**TIMELINE:**

As of the date of this correspondence, this Letter of Findings is considered final. This office will not reconsider the conclusions reached in this Letter of Findings unless new, previously unavailable documentation is submitted and received by this office within fifteen (15) days of the date of this correspondence. The new documentation must support a written request for reconsideration, and the written request must include a compelling reason for why the documentation was not made available during the investigation. Pending this office's decision on a request for reconsideration, the public agency must implement any corrective actions within the timelines reported in this Letter of Findings.

The parties maintain the right to request mediation or to file a due process complaint, if they disagree with the identification, evaluation, placement, or provision of a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) for the student, including issues subject to this State complaint investigation, consistent with the IDEA. The MSDE recommends that this Letter of Findings be included with any request for mediation or a due process complaint.

Sincerely,

Marcella E. Franczkowski, M.S.  
Assistant State Superintendent  
Division of Early Intervention/Special Education Services

MEF:ac

c: XXXXXXXX  
Dori Wilson  
Anita Mandis  
Albert Chichester