Notice to Parents

According to state and federal special education regulations, annual public notice to parents of children who reside within a school district is required regarding child find responsibilities. School districts (SDs), intermediate units (IUs) and charter schools (CSs) are required to conduct child find activities for children who may be eligible for services via Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. For additional information related to Section 504/Chapter 15 services, the parent may refer to Section 504, Chapter 15, and the Basic Education Circular entitled Implementation of Chapter 15. Also, school districts are required to conduct child find activities, including screening and evaluations, for children who may be eligible for gifted services via 22 PA Code Chapter 16. For additional information regarding gifted services, the parent may refer to 22 PA Code Chapter 16. If a student is both gifted and eligible for Special Education, the procedures in IDEA and Chapter 14 shall take precedence.

This notice shall inform parents throughout the school district, intermediate unit and charter school of the child identification activities and of the procedures followed to ensure confidentiality of information pertaining to students with disabilities or eligible young children. In addition to this public notice, each school district, intermediate unit and charter school shall publish written information in the handbook and on the web site. Children ages three through 21 can be eligible for Special Education programs and services. If parents believe that the child may be eligible for Special Education, the parent should contact the appropriate staff member identified at the end of this public notice.

Children age three through the admission to first grade are also eligible if they have developmental delays and, as a result, need Special Education and related services. Developmental delay is defined as a child who is less than the age of beginners and at least three years of age and is considered to have a developmental delay when one of the following exists: (i) The child’s score, on a developmental assessment device, on an assessment instrument which yields a score in months, indicates that the child is delayed by 25% of the child’s chronological age in one or more developmental areas. (ii) The child is delayed in one or more of the developmental areas, as documented by test performance of 1.5 standard deviations below the mean on standardized tests. Developmental areas include cognitive, communicative, physical, social/emotional and self-help. For additional information you may contact, Ms. Angie Sees, Supervisor of Early Intervention Services, BlaST IU 17.

Evaluation Process

Each school district, intermediate unit and charter school has a procedure in place by which parents can request an evaluation. For information about procedures applicable to your child, contact the school, which your child attends. Telephone numbers and addresses can be found at the end of this notice. Parents of preschool age children, age three through five, may request an evaluation in writing by addressing a letter to Ms. Angie Sees, Supervisor of Early Intervention Services, BlaST IU 17.

Consent

School entities cannot proceed with an evaluation, or with the initial provision of Special Education and related services, without the written consent of the parents. For additional information related to consent, please refer to the Procedural Safeguards Notice which can be found at the PaTTAN website, www.Pattan.net. Once written parental consent is obtained, the district will proceed with the evaluation process. If the parent disagrees with the evaluation, the parent can request an independent education evaluation at public expense.

Program Development

Once the evaluation process is completed, a team of qualified professionals and parents determine whether the child is eligible. If the child is eligible, the individualized education program team meets,
develops the program and determines the educational placement. Once the IEP team develops the
program and determines the educational placement, school district staff, intermediate unit staff or
charter school staff will issue a notice of recommended educational placement/prior written notice.
Your written consent is required before initial services can be provided. The parent has the right to
revoke consent after initial placement.

Confidentiality of Information

The school districts, intermediate units and charter schools maintain records concerning all children
enrolled in the school, including students with disabilities. All records are maintained in the strictest
confidentiality. Your consent, or consent of an eligible child who has reached the age of majority under
State law, must be obtained before personally identifiable information is released, except as permitted
under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). The age of majority in Pennsylvania is 21.
Each participating agency must protect the confidentiality of personally identifiable information at
collection, storage, disclosure and destruction stages. One official at each participating agency must
assume responsibility for ensuring the confidentiality of any personally identifiable information. Each
participating agency must maintain, for public inspection, a current listing of the names and positions
of those employees within the agency who have access to personally identifiable information.

In accordance with 34 CFR § 300.624, please be advised of the following retention/destruction
schedule for the Pennsylvania Alternate System of Assessment (PASA), Pennsylvania System of School
Assessment (PSSA), and Keystone Exam related materials:

- PSSA, Keystone Exam, and PASA test booklets will be destroyed one year after student reports
  are delivered for the administration associated with the test booklets.

- PSSA and Keystone Exam answer booklets and PASA media recordings will be destroyed three
  years after completion of the assessment.

For additional information related to student records, the parent can refer to the Family Education
Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

This notice is only a summary of the Special Education services, evaluation and screening activities, and
rights and protections pertaining to children with disabilities, children thought to be disabled and their
parents. For more information or to request evaluation or screening of a public or private school child,
contact the responsible school entity listed below. For preschool age children, information, screenings
and evaluations requested, may be obtained by contacting the Intermediate Unit. The addresses of these
schools are as follows:

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<tr>
<th>INTERMEDIATE UNIT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BLaST Intermediate Unit 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>2400 Reach Road, PO Box 3609</td>
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<tr>
<td>Williamsport, PA 17701</td>
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<td>570-323-8561</td>
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<tr>
<th>SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BLaST Intermediate Unit 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>33 Springbrook Drive</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canton, PA 17724</td>
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<tr>
<td>570-673-6001</td>
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<tr>
<td>BRADFORD COUNTY</td>
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| Athens Area School District  
100 Canal Street  
Athens, PA 18840  
570-888-7766 | Canton Area School District  
509 East Main Street  
Canton, PA 17724  
570-673-3191 |
| Northeast Bradford School District  
526 Panther Lane  
Rome, PA 18837  
570-744-2521 | Sayre Area School District  
333 West Lockhart Street  
Sayre, PA 18840  
570-888-6121 |
| Towanda Area School District  
410 State Street  
Towanda, PA 18848  
570-265-9154 | Troy Area School District  
68 Fenner Ave  
Troy, PA 16947  
570-297-2750 |
| Wyalusing Area School District  
11450 Wyalusing New Albany Rd  
Wyalusing, PA 18853  
570-746-1600 | Bradford County Prison  
15927 Route 6  
Troy, PA 16947  
570-297-5047 |
| TIoga COUNTY | |
| Northern Tioga School District  
110 Ellison Road  
Elkland, PA 16920  
814-258-5642 | Southern Tioga School District  
310 Morris Street  
Blossburg, PA 16912  
570-638-2183 |
| Wellsboro Area School District  
227 Nichols Street  
Wellsboro, PA 16901  
570-724-4424 | Tioga County Prison  
1768 Shumway Hill Road  
Wellsboro, PA 16901  
570-724-5911 |
| SULLIVAN COUNTY | |
| Sullivan County School District  
777 South Street, PO Box 240  
Laporte, PA 18626  
570-946-8200 | |
| LYCOMING COUNTY | |
| East Lycoming School District  
349 West Cemetery Street  
Hughesville, PA 17737  
570-584-2131 | Jersey Shore Area School District  
175 A&P Drive  
Jersey Shore, PA 17740  
570-398-5250 |
| Loyalls Township School District  
1605 Four Mile Drive  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
570-326-6508 | Montgomery Area School District  
120 Penn Street  
Montgomery, PA 17752  
570-547-1608 |
| Montoursville Area School District  
50 North Arch Street  
Montoursville, PA 17754  
570-368-2491 | Muncy School District  
206 Sherman Street  
Muncy, PA 17756  
570-546-3125 |
| South Williamsport Area School District  
Raymond R. Kimmelt Building  
515 West Central Avenue  
South Williamsport, PA 17702  
570-527-4470 | Williamsport Area School District  
Service Center  
2780 West Fourth Street  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
570-527-5000 |
The school entity or charter school will not discriminate in employment, educational programs or activities based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, handicap, creed, marital status or because a person is a disabled veteran or a veteran of the Vietnam era. No preschool, elementary or secondary school pupil enrolled in a school district, intermediate unit or charter school program shall be denied equal opportunity to participate in age and program appropriate instruction or activities due to race, color, handicap, creed, national origin, marital status or financial hardship.