|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ESE LogoStarLogo08_A |  | **Gill-Montague Regional School District**  **COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEW**  **REPORT OF FINDINGS**  **Dates of Onsite Visit:** **April 24-27, 2017**  **Date of Draft Report:** **August 11, 2017**  **Date of Final Report: September 22, 2017**  **Action Plan Due: October 23, 2017**  **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Onsite Team Members:**  **Sandra Hanig, Office of Public School Monitoring (PSM) Chair**  **Marc Oldenburg, PSM**  **Thomas Hidalgo, PSM**  **Sibel Hughes, Office of English Language Acquisition and Academic Achievement (OELAAA) Chair** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

**MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

**COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEW REPORT**

**Gill-Montague Regional School District**

[SCOPE OF COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEWS 3](#_Toc256000000)

[COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEW ELEMENTS 4](#_Toc256000001)

[REPORT INTRODUCTION 7](#_Toc256000002)

[DEFINITION OF COMPLIANCE RATINGS 9](#_Toc256000003)

[LEGAL STANDARDS, COMPLIANCE RATINGS AND FINDINGS: 10](#_Toc256000004)

[SPECIAL EDUCATION 11](#_Toc256000005)

[CIVIL RIGHTS AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS 18](#_Toc256000006)

[ENGLISH LEARNER EDUCATION 29](#_Toc256000007)

**MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

**COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEW REPORT**

**Gill-Montague Regional School District**

**SCOPE OF COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEWS**

As one part of its accountability system, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education oversees local compliance with education requirements through the Coordinated Program Review (CPR). All reviews cover selected requirements in the following areas:

Special Education (SE)

* selected requirements from the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA-2004); the federal regulations promulgated under that Act at 34 CFR Part 300; M.G.L. c. 71B, and the Massachusetts Board of Education’s Special Education regulations (603 CMR 28.00), as amended effective March 1, 2007. The 2016 - 2017 Web-based Monitoring System (WBMS) districts conducted self-assessments across all criteria.

Civil Rights Methods of Administration and Other General Education Requirements (CR)

* selected federal civil rights requirements, including requirements under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; the Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, together with selected state requirements under M.G.L. c. 76, Section 5 as amended by Chapter 199 of the Acts of 2011 and M.G.L. c. 269 §§ 17 through 19.
* selected requirements from the Massachusetts Board of Education’s Physical Restraint regulations (603 CMR 46.00).
* selected requirements from the Massachusetts Board of Education’s Student Learning Time regulations (603 CMR 27.00).
* various requirements under other federal and state laws.
* The 2016 - 2017 Web-based Monitoring System (WBMS) districts conducted self-assessments across all criteria.

English Learner Education (ELE) in Public Schools

* selected requirements from M.G.L. c. 71A, the state law that governs the provision of education to limited English proficient students, and 603 CMR 14.00, as well as the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. During the 2016 - 2017 school year, all districts that enroll limited English proficient students will be reviewed using a combination of updated standards and a self-assessment instrument overseen by the Department’s Office of Language Acquisition and Academic Achievement (OELAAA), including a request for information regarding ELE programs and staff qualifications.

Some reviews also cover selected requirements in:

College, Career and Technical Education (CCTE)

* college, career and technical education programs under the federal Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 and M.G.L. c. 74.

Districts providing Title I services participate in Title I program monitoring during the same year they are scheduled for a Coordinated Program Review. Details regarding the Title I program monitoring process are available at: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/titlei/monitoring>.

**COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEW ELEMENTS**

**Team:** Depending upon the size of a school district and the number of programs to be reviewed, a team of one to eight Department staff members conducts onsite activities over two to five days in a school district or charter school.

**Timing:** Each school district and charter school in the Commonwealth is scheduled to receive a Coordinated Program Review every six years and a mid-cycle special education follow-up visit three years after the Coordinated Program Review; approximately 66 school districts and charter schools are scheduled for Coordinated Program Reviews in 2016 - 2017, of which all districts participated in the Web-based Monitoring System (WBMS). The Department’s

2016 - 2017 schedule of Coordinated Program Reviews is posted on the Department’s web site at <<<http://www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/review/cpr/schedule.html>>>.  The statewide six-year Program Review cycle, including the Department’s Mid-cycle follow-up monitoring schedule, is posted at <<<http://www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/review/cpr/6yrcycle.html>>>.

**Criteria:** The Program Review criteria for each WBMS review begins with the district/school conducting a self-assessment across all 56 current special education criteria and 26 civil rights criteria. The Office of Public School Monitoring through its Desk Review procedures examines the district/school’s self-assessment submission and determines which criteria will be followed–up on through onsite verification activities. For more details, please see the section on **The Web-based Approach to** **Special Education and Civil Rights Monitoring** at the beginning of the School District Information Package for Special Education and Civil Rights.

The requirements selected for review in all of the regulated programs are those that are most closely aligned with the goals of the Massachusetts Education Reform Act of 1993 to promote student achievement and high standards for all students.

**WBMS Methods:** Methods used in reviewing special education and civil rights programs include:

Self-Assessment Phase:

* District/school review of special education and civil rights documentation for required elements including document uploads. Upon completion of this portion of the district/school’s self-assessment, it is submitted to the Department for review.
* District/school review of a sample of special education student records selected across grade levels, disability categories and level of need. Additional requirements for the appropriate selection of the student record sample can be found in **Appendix II: Student Record Review Procedures** of the School District Information Package for Special Education.

Upon completion of these two portions of the district/school’s self-assessment, it is submitted to the Department for review.

On-site Verification Phase: Includes activities selected from the following;

* Interviews of administrative, instructional, and support staff consistent with those criteria selected for onsite verification.
* Interviews of parent advisory council (PAC) representatives and other telephone interviews, as requested, by other parents or members of the general public.
* Review of student records for special education: The Department may select a sample of student records from those the district reviewed as part of its self-assessment, as well as records chosen by the Department from the special education student roster. The onsite team will conduct this review, using standard Department procedures, to determine whether procedural and programmatic requirements have been implemented.
* Surveys of parents of students with disabilities: Parents of students with disabilities whose files are selected for the record review, as well as the parents of an equal number of other students with disabilities, are sent a survey that solicits information regarding their experiences with the district’s implementation of special education programs, related services, and procedural requirements.
* Observation of classrooms and other facilities: The onsite team visits a sample of classrooms and other school facilities used in the delivery of programs and services to determine general levels of compliance with program requirements.
* Review of additional documents for special education or civil rights.

**Methods for all other programs in the Coordinated Program Review:**

* Review of documentation about the operation of the charter school or district's programs.
* Interviews of administrative, instructional, and support staff across all grade levels.
* Telephone interviews as requested by other parents or members of the general public.
* Review of student records for English learner education and college, career and technical education:  The Department selects a representative sample of student records for the onsite team to review, using standard Department procedures, to determine whether procedural and programmatic requirements have been implemented.
* Surveys of parents of English learners whose files are selected for the record review are sent a survey of their experiences with the district's implementation of the English learner education program and related procedural requirements.
* Observation of classrooms and other facilities: The onsite team visits a sample of classrooms and other school facilities used in the delivery of programs and services to determine general levels of compliance with program requirements.

**Report:** **Preparation:**

At the end of the onsite visit, the onsite team will hold an informal exit meeting to summarize its comments for the superintendent or charter school leader and anyone else he or she chooses. Within approximately 45 business days of the onsite visit, the onsite chairperson will forward to the superintendent or charter school leader (and collaborative director where applicable) a Draft Report containing comments from the Program Review. The Draft Report comments for special education and civil rights are provided to the district/school on-line through the Web-based Monitoring System (WBMS). These comments will, once the district has had a chance to respond, form the basis for any findings by the Department. The district (and collaborative) will then have 10 business days to review the report for accuracy before the publication of a Final Report with ratings and findings (see below). The Final Report will be issued within approximately 60 business days of the conclusion of the onsite visit and posted on the Department’s website at <<http://www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/review/cpr/reports/>>.

**Content of Final Report:**

*Ratings.* In the Final Report, the onsite team gives a rating for each compliance criterion it has reviewed; those ratings are “Commendable,” “Implemented,” “Implementation in Progress,” “Partially Implemented,” “Not Implemented,” and “Not Applicable.” “Implementation in Progress,” used for criteria containing new or updated legal requirements, means that the district has implemented any old requirements contained in the criterion and is training staff or beginning to implement the new requirements in such a way that the onsite team anticipates that the new requirements will be implemented by the end of the school year.

*Findings.* The onsite team includes a finding in the Final Report for each criterion that it rates “Commendable,” “Partially Implemented,” “Not Implemented,” or “Implementation in Progress,” explaining the basis for the rating. It may also include findings for other related criteria.

**Response:** Where criteria are found “Partially Implemented” or “Not Implemented,” the district or charter school must propose corrective action to bring those areas into compliance with the relevant statutes and regulations.  This corrective action plan (CAP) will be due to the Department within 20 business days after the issuance of the Final Report and is subject to the Department’s review and approval. Department staff will offer districts and charter schools technical assistance on the content and requirements for developing an approvable CAP.

Department staff will also provide ongoing technical assistance as the school or district is implementing the approved corrective action plan. **School districts and charter schools must demonstrate effective resolution of noncompliance identified by the Department as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from the issuance of the Department’s Final Program Review Report.**

# **INTRODUCTION TO THE FINAL REPORT**

# 

A four-member Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education team conducted a Coordinated Program Review in the Gill-Montague Regional School District during the week of

April 24, 2017 to evaluate the implementation of selected criteria in the program areas of special education, civil rights and other related general education requirements, and English learner education. The team appreciated the opportunity to interview staff and parents, to observe classroom facilities and to review the programs underway in the district.

The Department is submitting the following Coordinated Program Review Report containing findings made pursuant to this onsite visit. In preparing this report, the team reviewed extensive written documentation regarding the operation of the district's programs, together with information gathered by means of the following Department program review methods:

* Interviews of eight administrative staff.
* Interviews of 34 teaching and support services staff across all levels.
* Interview of one parent advisory council (PAC) representative.
* Interview of one ELE parent.
* Student record review: A sample of 37 special education student records and 20 English learner education student records.
* Surveys of parents of students with disabilities: 50 parents of students with disabilities were sent surveys that solicited information about their experiences with the district’s implementation of special education programs, related services and procedural requirements. Twelve of these parent surveys were returned to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for review.
* Surveys of parents of ELE students: 18 parents of ELE students were sent surveys that solicited information about their experiences with the district’s implementation of English learner education programs, services, and procedural requirements. Three of these parent surveys were returned to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for review.
* Observation of classrooms and other facilities. A sample of 11 instructional classrooms and other school facilities used in the delivery of programs and services was visited to examine general levels of compliance with program requirements.

The report includes findings in the program areas reviewed organized under nine components. These components are:

**Component I: Assessment of Students**

**Component II: Student Identification and Program Placement**

**Component III: Parent and Community Involvement**

**Component IV: Curriculum and Instruction**

**Component V: Student Support Services**

**Component VI: Faculty, Staff and Administration**

**Component VII: Facilities**

**Component VIII: Program Evaluation**

**Component IX: Recordkeeping and Fund Use**

|  |
| --- |
| The district conducted a self-assessment and the Department reviewed all of the criteria in the specific program areas. The Coordinated Program Review Report includes those criteria receiving a rating of "Partially Implemented," "Not Implemented," or “Implementation in Progress.” (Refer to the “Definition of Compliance Ratings” section of the report.) **Program Review Reports no longer include criteria receiving a rating of “Implemented” or “Not Applicable.”** This change will allow the district and the Department to focus their efforts on those areas requiring corrective action. For those criteria receiving a rating of “Partially Implemented” or “Not Implemented,” the district or charter school must propose to the Department corrective actions to bring those areas into compliance with the controlling statute or regulation. For any criteria receiving a rating of “Implementation in Progress,” the district must indicate the steps the district will continue to take in order to fulfill the regulatory requirements. Districts are expected to incorporate the corrective actions into their district and school improvement plans, including their professional development plans. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **DEFINITION OF COMPLIANCE RATINGS** | |
|  | |
| **Commendable** | Any requirement or aspect of a requirement implemented in an exemplary manner significantly beyond the requirements of law or regulation. |
|  | |
| **Implemented** | The requirement is substantially met in all important aspects. |
|  | |
| **Implementation in Progress** | This rating is used for criteria containing new or updated legal requirements and means that the district has implemented any old requirements contained in the criterion and is training staff or beginning to implement the new requirements in such a way that the onsite team anticipates that the new requirements will be implemented by the end of the school year. |
|  | |
| **Partially Implemented** | The requirement, in one or several important aspects, is not entirely met. |
|  | |
| **Not Implemented** | The requirement is totally or substantially not met. |
|  | |
| **Not Applicable** | The requirement does not apply to the school district or charter school. |

Gill-Montague Regional School District

**SUMMARY OF COMPLIANCE CRITERIA RATINGS**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Special Education** | **Civil Rights and Other General Education Requirements** | **English Learner Education** |
| **IMPLEMENTED** | SE 1, SE 2, SE 3, SE 3A,  SE 4, SE 5, SE 6, SE 7, SE 8, SE 9, SE 9A, SE 10, SE 12, SE 13, SE 14, SE 15, SE 16, SE 17, SE 18A, SE 18B,  SE 19, SE 20, SE 21, SE 22, SE 24, SE 25, SE 25A,  SE 25B, SE 26, SE 27,  SE 29, SE 32, SE 33, SE 34, SE 35, SE 36, SE 38,  SE 39A, SE 39B, SE 40,  SE 41, SE 42, SE 43, SE 44, SE 45, SE 47, SE 48, SE 49, SE 50, SE 51, SE 52,  SE 52A, SE 53, SE 54,  SE 56, SE 59 | CR 3, CR 6, CR 7,  CR 7A, CR 7B,  CR 7C, CR 8, CR 10, CR 11A, CR 12A,  CR 13, CR 14, CR 15, CR 20, CR 21, CR 22, CR 25, CR 26A | ELE 1, ELE 2, ELE 3, ELE 4, ELE 6, ELE 7, ELE 9, ELE 10, ELE 11, ELE 12, ELE 14, ELE 15 |
| **PARTIALLY**  **IMPLEMENTED** | SE 11, SE 37, SE 46, SE 55 | CR 9, CR 10A,  CR 10B, CR 10C,  CR 16, CR 17A,  CR 18, CR 18A,  CR 23, CR 24 | ELE 5, ELE 8, ELE 13, ELE 16, ELE 18 |
| **NOT IMPLEMENTED** |  |  | ELE 17 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | | **SPECIAL EDUCATION**  **LEGAL STANDARDS,**  **COMPLIANCE RATINGS AND**  **FINDINGS** | |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** |  | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| **SE 11** | School district response to parental request for independent educational evaluation  If a parent disagrees with an initial evaluation or re-evaluation completed by the school district, and the parent requests an independent educational evaluation, the district implements the following requirements:   1. All independent educational evaluations funded by the district are conducted by qualified persons who are registered, certified, licensed or otherwise approved and who abide by the rates set by the state agency responsible for setting such rates. Unique circumstances of the student are to be justified when an individual assessment rate is higher than that normally allowed. 2. The school district has procedures to offer parents the option of participating in an income eligibility program for free or reduced cost independent educational evaluations that are equivalent to the types of assessments done by the school district. 3. The district extends the right to a publicly funded independent educational evaluation (only if cost shared or funded for state wards or for students receiving free or reduced cost lunch) for sixteen (16) months from the date of the evaluation with which the parent disagrees. 4. If the parent is requesting an independent education evaluation in an area not assessed by the school district, the student does not meet income eligibility standards or the family chooses not to provide financial documentation to the school district establishing family income level, the school district shall respond in accordance with the requirements of federal law. Within five school days, the district shall either agree to pay for the independent education evaluation or, proceed to the Bureau of Special Education Appeals (BSEA) to show that its evaluation was comprehensive and appropriate. If the Bureau of Special Education Appeals finds that the school district’s evaluation was comprehensive and appropriate, then the school district shall not be obligated to pay for the independent educational evaluation requested by the parent. 5. Whenever possible, the independent educational evaluation is completed and a written report sent no later than thirty (30) days after the date the parent requests the independent educational evaluation. If publicly funded, the report is sent to the parents and to the school district. The independent evaluator’s report summarizes, in writing, procedures, assessments, results, and diagnostic impressions as well as educationally relevant recommendations for meeting identified needs of the student. The independent evaluator recommends appropriate types of placements but does not recommend specific classrooms or schools. 6. Within ten (10) school days from the time the school district receives the report of the independent educational evaluation, the Team reconvenes and considers the independent educational evaluation (which may be publicly or privately funded) and whether a new or amended IEP is appropriate. | | | |
|  | State Requirements | | Federal Requirements | |
|  | 603 CMR 28.04(5) | | 34 CFR 300.502 | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Partially Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review indicated that when the parent disagrees with an evaluation completed by the district, the district requires parents to request an independent educational evaluation (IEE) within 16 months for all students. The 16-month requirement, however, applies only for students who are cost shared or state wards or receiving free or reduced cost lunch. In addition, the district’s policy specifically states that it will not consider requests for evaluations for assessments that were not conducted by the district within that same 16-month timeframe, when the requirement is to respond to the request within 5 days of receiving it by either paying for the evaluation or proceeding to the Bureau of Special Education Appeals.* |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** |  | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| **SE 37** | Procedures for approved and unapproved out-of-district placements   1. Individual student program oversight: The school district monitors the provision of services to and the programs of individual students placed in public and private out-of-district programs. Documentation of monitoring plans and all actual monitoring are placed in the files of every eligible student who has been placed out-of-district. To the extent that this monitoring requires site visits, such site visits are documented and placed in the students’ files for review. The duty to monitor out-of-district placements is not delegated to parents or their agents, to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, or to the out-of-district program. 2. Student right to full procedural protections: The school district retains full responsibility for ensuring that the student is receiving all special education and related services in the student's IEP, as well as all procedural protections of law and regulation. Any Team meetings conducted during the time that a student is enrolled in the out-of-district program are initiated by the school district in coordination with the out-of-district program. 3. Preference to approved programs: The school district, in all circumstances, first seeks to place a student in a program approved by the Department pursuant to the requirements of 603 CMR 28.09. Preference is also given to approved programs located within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts if the choice of such program is consistent with the needs of the student and the choice of such program complies with LRE requirements. When an approved program is available to provide the services on the IEP, the district makes such placement in the approved program in preference to any program not approved by the Department. 4. Written contracts: The school district enters into written contracts with all public and private out-of-district placements. At a minimum, such contracts meet the content requirements of 28.06(3)(f)(1-5), and specifically include a statement that the district shall not contract with any out-of-district placement that discriminates on the grounds of race, color, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or national origin, or that discriminates against qualified persons with disabilities. 5. Use of unapproved programs: A school district that places a student in a program that has not been approved by the Department according to the requirements under 603 CMR 28.09 ensures that such programs and services are provided in appropriate settings by appropriately credentialed staff able to deliver the services on the student’s IEP. Students placed by the school district in such programs are entitled to the full protections of state and federal special education law and regulation. 6. Placement documentation: The following documentation is maintained by the school district pursuant to its placement of students in unapproved out-of-district programs:    1. Search: The Administrator of Special Education documents the search for and unavailability of a program approved by the Department. The Administrator places such documentation in the student record.    2. Evaluation of facility: The Administrator of Special Education or his/her designee thoroughly evaluates the appropriateness of any unapproved facility prior to placement of the student in such program. Such evaluation determines whether the unapproved facility can appropriately implement the student’s IEP in a safe and educationally appropriate environment. Such evaluation determines whether the unapproved facility can and will provide the student with all the rights that are accorded to the student under state and federal special education law. Such evaluation is documented in detail and placed in the student record for review. To the extent that this evaluation requires a site visit, such site visits are documented and placed in the student record for review. The duty to evaluate the appropriateness of any unapproved facility is not delegated to the parents or their agents or the proposed unapproved facility.    3. School district approval to operate a private school in Massachusetts: If services in an unapproved program are provided in a school setting, the Administrator of Special Education ensures that such school has received approval from the school committee where the private school is located under M.G.L. c.76, §1 and a copy of such approval is retained in the student record.    4. Pricing: Pursuant to the requirements for Compliance, Reporting and Auditing for Human and Social Services at 808 CMR 1.00, the Administrator obtains pricing forms required to set program prices for programs receiving publicly funded students. Such pricing forms are completed by the proposed placement and document that the price proposed for the student’s tuition is the lowest price charged for similar services to any student in that program.    5. Notification of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education: Prior to placement, if the Team determines that placement in such facility is appropriate, the Administrator notifies the Department of the intent to place the student and the name and location of the proposed placement before placing the student into the program by sending a completed mandated 28M3 form titled “Notice of Intent to Seek Approval for Individual Student Program” and all the required supporting documentation (i.e., completed pricing forms, signed written contract that will govern such placement, and monitoring plan pursuant to 603 CMR 28.06(3)(b)). The district maintains copies of this documentation, as well as any documentation of the Department’s objections to such placement and the steps the district has taken in regard to such objection. The district maintains documentation of the approved price for publicly-funded students as set by the state agency responsible for setting program prices. The district maintains documentation of actual monitoring of the unapproved placement, including any site visits made and other monitoring activities undertaken by the school district.    6. Out of state programs: If out-of-district programs are provided in a placement outside of Massachusetts, and such school has not received approval by the Department under 603 CMR 28.09, the Administrator of Special Education ensures that such school has received approval from the host state. | | | |
|  | State Requirements | | Federal Requirements | |
|  | M.G.L. c. 76, s. 1  603 CMR 18.00; 28.02(14);  28.06(2)(f) and (3); 28.09  808 CMR 1.00 | | 34 CFR 300.2(c) | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Partially Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Record review indicated that the written contract between the district and out-of-district placements contains a statement of non-discrimination that does not include the protected category of gender identity.* |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** |  | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| **SE 46** | Procedures for suspension of students with disabilities when suspensions exceed 10 consecutive school days or a pattern has developed for suspensions exceeding 10 cumulative days; responsibilities of the Team; responsibilities of the district   1. A suspension of longer than 10 consecutive days or a series of suspensions that are shorter than 10 consecutive days but constitute a pattern are considered to represent a change in placement. 2. When a suspension constitutes a change in placement of a student with disabilities, district personnel, the parent, and other relevant members of the Team, as determined by the parent and the district, convene within 10 days of the decision to suspend to review all relevant information in the student’s file, including the IEP, any teacher observations, and any relevant information from the parents, to determine whether the behavior was caused by or had a direct and substantial relationship to the disability or was the direct result of the district’s failure to implement the IEP-“a manifestation determination.” 3. If district personnel, the parent, and other relevant members of the Team determine that the behavior is NOT a manifestation of the disability, then the suspension or expulsion may go forward consistent with policies applied to any student without disabilities, except that the district must still offer:    1. services to enable the student, although in another setting, to continue to participate in the general education curriculum and to progress toward IEP goals; and    2. as appropriate, a functional behavioral assessment and behavioral intervention services and modifications, to address the behavior so that it does not recur. 4. Interim alternative educational setting. Regardless of the manifestation determination, the district may place the student in an interim alternative educational setting (as determined by the Team) for up to 45 school days    1. on its own authority if the behavior involves weapons or illegal drugs or another controlled substance or the infliction of serious bodily injury on another person while at school or a school function or, considered case by case, unique circumstances; or    2. on the authority of a hearing officer if the officer orders the alternative placement after the district provides evidence that the student is “substantially likely” to injure him/herself or others.   Characteristics. In either case, the interim alternative education setting enables the student to continue in the general curriculum and to continue receiving services identified on the IEP, and provides services to address the problem behavior.   1. If district personnel, the parent, and other relevant members of the Team determine that the behavior IS a manifestation of the disability, then the Team completes a functional behavioral assessment and behavioral intervention plan if it has not already done so. If a behavioral intervention plan is already in place, the Team reviews it and modifies it, as necessary, to address the behavior. Except when he or she has been placed in an interim alternative educational setting in accordance with part 4, the student returns to the original placement unless the parents and district agree otherwise or the hearing officer orders a new placement. 2. Not later than the date of the decision to take disciplinary action, the school district notifies the parents of that decision and provides them with the written notice of procedural safeguards. If the parent chooses to appeal or the school district requests a hearing because it believes that maintaining the student’s current placement is substantially likely to result in injury to the student or others, the student remains in the disciplinary placement, if any, until the decision of the hearing officer or the end of the time period for the disciplinary action, whichever comes first, unless the parent and the school district agree otherwise. | | | |
|  | State Requirements | | Federal Requirements | |
|  |  | | 34 CFR 300.530-537 | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Partially Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review indicated that if the Team determines the student’s behavior is a manifestation of the disability, the district’s procedures for the discipline of students with disabilities do not indicate that the district will complete a behavior intervention plan, or review and modify an existing behavior plan, and do not state that the student may be returned to his or her original placement. In addition, procedures do not state that the district will notify the parent of the district’s decision no later than the date of any disciplinary action.* |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** | SPECIAL EDUCATION **VII. SCHOOL FACILITIES** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| **SE 55** | Special education facilities and classrooms  The school district provides facilities and classrooms for eligible students that   1. maximize the inclusion of such students into the life of the school; 2. provide accessibility in order to implement fully each student’s IEP; 3. are at least equal in all physical respects to the average standards of general education facilities and classrooms; 4. are given the same priority as general education programs in the allocation of instructional and other space in public schools in order to minimize the separation or stigmatization of eligible students; and 5. are not identified by signs or other means that stigmatize such students. | | | |
|  | State Requirements | | Federal Requirements | |
|  | 603 CMR 28.03(1)(b) | | Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Partially Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Observations and document review indicated that at Hillcrest Elementary School, small group special education instruction is sometimes provided in an open classroom where concurrent special education, ELE, and Title 1 instruction is provided, creating auditory distractions. Additionally, interviews indicated that meetings between students and the school psychologist, as well as IEP Team meetings, are, at times, held in this room while other students are receiving instruction.* |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | | **CIVIL RIGHTS**  **METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR)**  **AND**  **OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**  **LEGAL STANDARDS,**  **COMPLIANCE RATINGS AND**  **FINDINGS** | |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** |  | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| CR 9 | Hiring and employment practices of prospective employers of students   1. The district requires employers recruiting at the school to sign a statement that the employer complies with applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination in hiring or employment practices and the statement specifically includes the following protected categories: race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity, handicap, religion and sexual orientation. 2. Prospective employers to whom this criterion applies include those participating in career days and work-study and apprenticeship training programs, as well as those offering cooperative work experiences. | | | |
|  | Authority: M.G.L. c. 76, § 5; 603 CMR 26.07(5) as amended by Chapter 199 of the Acts of 2011. | | | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Partially Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review indicated that the district requires prospective employers of students in the School to Work Internship Program to sign an "Employer Contract/Agreement." This contract does not include a statement that the employer complies with applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination in hiring or employment practices to specifically include the protected categories of race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity, handicap, religion and sexual orientation.* |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** | CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR)AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS **V. STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| **CR 10A** | Student handbooks and codes of conduct   1. 1. The district has a code of conduct for students and one for teachers.    2. The principal of every school containing grades 9-12 prepares, in consultation with the school council, a student handbook containing the student code of conduct and distributes it to each student annually, as well as to parents and school personnel; the school council reviews and revises the student code of conduct every year.    3. The principal of every school containing other grades distributes the district’s student code of conduct to students, parents, and personnel annually.    4. At the request of a parent or student whose primary language is not English, a student handbook or student code of conduct is translated into that language. 2. Student codes of conduct contain:    1. procedures assuring due process in disciplinary proceedings and    2. the district’s responsibility to provide every student with an opportunity to make academic progress during the period of suspension whether in-school, out-of-school, or expulsion.    3. appropriate procedures for the discipline of students with disabilities and students with Section 504 Accommodation Plans.    4. if a charter school or a virtual school, the designation by the board of trustees as to who shall serve as the principal and who shall serve as superintendent for the purpose of 603 CMR 53.00. 3. Student handbooks and codes of conduct reference M.G.L. c. 76, s. 5 and contain:    1. a nondiscrimination policy that is consistent with M.G.L. c. 76, s. 5, and affirms the school’s non-tolerance for harassment based on race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity, religion, or sexual orientation, or discrimination on those same bases;    2. the school’s procedure for accepting, investigating and resolving complaints alleging discrimination or harassment; and    3. the disciplinary measures that the school may impose if it determines that harassment or discrimination has occurred. | | | |
|  | Section 504; M.G.L. c. 71, § 37H; M.G.L. c. 71, § 37H ¾; 603 CMR 53.00; 603 CMR 26.08 as amended by Chapter 199 of the Acts of 2011 | | | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Partially Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review indicated that student handbooks for all district schools do not contain procedures for the discipline of students with Section 504 Accommodation Plans. The high school handbook does not contain procedures for the discipline of students with disabilities and the procedures for the discipline of students with disabilities in the elementary and middle school student handbooks are incomplete. (See SE 46)*  *In addition, the middle school handbook does not include a statement of non-discrimination that includes the protected categories of gender identity and sexual orientation; procedures for accepting, investigating, and resolving allegations of discrimination or harassment; or disciplinary measures the school may impose if harassment or discrimination has occurred.* |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** |  | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| CR 10B | Bullying Intervention and Prevention   1. Public schools (including charter schools and collaboratives) must update school handbooks to conform to their updated amended Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan (Plan). The school handbook (and local updated Plan) must be consistent with the amendments to the Massachusetts anti-bullying law, which became effective July 1, 2013. The amendments extend protections to students who are bullied by a member of the school staff. As defined in G.L. c. 71, 37O, as amended, a member of the school staff includes, but is not limited to, an “educator, administrator, school nurse, cafeteria worker, custodian, bus driver, athletic coach, advisor to an extracurricular activity or paraprofessional.” The school handbook must make clear that a member of the school staff may be named the “aggressor” or “perpetrator” in a bullying report. 2. School and district employee handbooks must also contain relevant sections of the amended Plan relating to the duties of faculty and staff and relevant provisions addressing the bullying of students by a school staff member. 3. Each year all school districts and schools must give parents and guardians annual written notice of the student-related sections of the local Plan. 4. Each year all school districts and schools must provide all staff with annual written notice of the Plan. 5. All schools and school districts must implement, for all school staff, professional development that includes developmentally appropriate strategies to prevent bullying incidents; developmentally appropriate strategies for immediate, effective interventions to stop bullying incidents; information regarding the complex interaction and power differential that can take place between and among a perpetrator, victim and witnesses to the bullying; research findings on bullying, including information about specific categories of students who have been shown to be particularly at risk for bullying in the school environment; information on the incidence and nature of cyber-bullying; and internet safety issues as they relate to cyber-bullying. | | | |
|  | M.G.L. c. 71, s. 37H, as amended by Chapter 92 of the Acts of 2010. M.G.L. c. 71, s. 37O(e)(1) & (2). M.G.L. c. 71, s. 370(d), as amended. | | | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Partially Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review and interviews indicated that the school committee has updated the district policy on Bullying Prevention and Intervention to extend protections to students who are bullied by a member of the school staff; however, the student handbooks, faculty handbook, and professional development training for staff on the anti-bullying law do not state that a member of the school staff may be named the "aggressor" or "perpetrator" in a bullying report.* |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** |  | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| CR 10C | Student Discipline  Each school committee and board of trustees shall ensure that policies and procedures are in place in public preschool, elementary, and secondary schools and programs under its jurisdiction that meet, at a minimum, the requirements of M.G.L.c. 71, section 37H ¾, M.G.L.c. 76, section 21, and 603 CMR 53.00. These policies and procedures must address or establish, but are not limited to:   1. The notice of suspension and hearing; 2. Procedures for emergency removal; 3. Procedures for principal hearings for both short and long-term suspension; 4. Procedures for in-school suspension; 5. Procedures for superintendent hearing; 6. Procedures for education services and academic progress (School-wide Education Service Plan); 7. A system for periodic review of discipline data by special populations; 8. Alternatives to suspension. | | | |
|  | M.G.L. c. 71, section 37H ¾, M.G.L. c. 76, section 21, and 603 CMR 53.00, M.G.L. c. 71 section 38R and Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2013. | | | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Partially Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review indicated that the district's policies and procedures for student discipline under M.G.L. c. 71, section 37H ¾, do not include procedures for in-school suspension.*  *Additionally, the principal of each school has not developed a School-Wide Education Services Plan for students who are suspended or expelled for more than 10 consecutive days, and the Notice of Suspension and Hearing is provided only to the parent, rather than to both the parent and the student.* |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** |  | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| CR 16 | Notice to students 16 or over leaving school without a high school diploma, certificate of attainment, or certificate of completion   1. No student who has not graduated from high school shall be considered to have permanently left public school unless an administrator of the school where the student last attended has sent notice within 5 days from the student’s tenth consecutive absence to the student and the parent/guardian of the student in English and the primary language of the parent or guardian (to the extent practicable). The notice shall offer at least two dates and times for an exit interview between the superintendent (or designee) and the student and the parent/guardian to occur prior to the student permanently leaving school. The notice shall include contact information for scheduling the exit interview and indicate that the parties shall agree to a date and time for the exit interview and that the interview shall occur within 10 days of the notice. The time and the date for the exit interview may be extended at the request of the parent/guardian but for no longer than 14 days. The superintendent or designee may proceed with an exit interview without a parent/guardian if the superintendent or designee makes a good faith effort to include the parent/guardian. 2. The exit interview shall be for the purpose of discussing the reasons for the student permanently leaving school and to consider alternative education programs and services available to the student. The superintendent (or designee) shall convene a team of school personnel, such as the principal, guidance counselor, teachers, attendance officer and other relevant school staff, to participate in the exit interview with the student and the parent/guardian. During the exit interview, the student shall be given information about the detrimental effects of early withdrawal from school, the benefits of earning a high school diploma and a list of alternative education program and services available to the student. 3. Any district serving students in high school grades sends annual written notice to former students who have not yet earned their competency determination and who have not transferred to another school    1. to inform them of the availability of publicly funded post-high school academic support programs and    2. to encourage them to participate in those programs.   At a minimum, the district sends annual written notice by first class mail to the last known address of each such student who attended a high school in the district within the past two years.   1. The Superintendent shall annually report to the Department the number of students sixteen years of age or older who have permanently left school, the reasons for such leaving and any alternative educational or other placement the student has taken. | | | |
|  | M.G.L. c. 76, §§ 5, 18; St. 1965, c. 741 | | | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Partially Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review and interviews indicated that the district does not send a notice to students age 16 and older and their parents, within 5 days of their 10th consecutive absence to offer two dates and times for an exit interview prior to the student permanently leaving school.*  *In addition, the district does not send an annual written notice for two years after students have withdrawn from high school without earning their competency determination or transferring to another school, to inform them of the availability of publicly funded post-high school academic support programs and to encourage them to participate in those programs.* |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** |  | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| CR 17A | Use of physical restraint on any student enrolled in a publicly-funded education program   1. Public education programs must develop and implement written restraint prevention and behavior support policy and procedures consistent with new regulations 603CMR 46.00 regarding appropriate responses to student behavior that may require immediate intervention.    1. restraint prevention and behavior support policy and procedures shall be annually reviewed and provided to program staff and made available to parents of enrolled students.    2. restraint prevention and behavior support policy and procedures shall include, but not be limited to: methods for preventing student violence, self-injurious behavior and suicide; methods for engaging parents and youth in discussions about restraint prevention and use; a description and explanation of the program’s alternatives to physical restraint and method of physical restraint in emergency situations; a statement prohibiting: medication restraint, mechanical restraint, prone restraint unless permitted pursuant to 603 CMR 46.03(1)(b), seclusion, and the use of restraint inconsistent with 603 CMR 46.03; a description of the program’s training requirements, reporting requirements, and follow-up procedures; a procedure for receiving and investigating complaints; a procedure for conducting periodic review of data and documentation on the program’s use of restraint; a procedure for implementing the reporting requirements; a procedure for making both oral and written notification to the parent; and a procedure for the use of time-out. 2. Each principal or director shall determine a time and method to provide all program staff with training regarding the program’s restraint prevention and behavior support policy and requirements when restraint is used. Such training shall occur within the first month of each school year and, for employees hired after the school year begins, within a month of their employment. 3. At the beginning of each school year, the principal of each public education program or his/her designee shall identify program staff who are authorized to serve as a school-wide resource to assist in ensuring proper administration of physical restraint. Such staff shall have in-depth training on the use of physical restraint. 4. The program administers physical restraint on students only in emergency situations of last resort when needed to protect a student and/or member of the school community from assault or imminent, serious, physical harm and with extreme caution in order to prevent or minimize any harm to the student as a result of the use of physical restraint. | | | |
|  | M.G.L. c. 71, § 37G; 603 CMR 46.00 effective January 1, 2016 | | | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Partially Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review and interviews indicated that the school committee's written restraint prevention and behavior support policy does not include the following requirements under 603 CMR 46.00:*   * *methods for preventing student violence, self-injurious behavior and suicide;* * *methods for engaging parents in discussions about restraint prevention and use;* * *a description and explanation of the program's alternatives to physical restraint and method of physical restraint in emergency situations;* * *a statement prohibiting medication restraint, mechanical restraint, prone restraint unless permitted pursuant to 603 CMR 46.03(1)(b), seclusion, and the use of restraint inconsistent with 603 CMR 46.03;* * *a description of the program's training requirements, reporting requirements, and follow-up procedures;* * *a procedure for receiving and investigating complaints;* * *a procedure for conducting periodic review of data and documentation on the program's use of restraint;* * *a procedure for implementing the reporting requirements;* * *a procedure for making both oral and written notification to the parent; and* * *a procedure for the use of time-out.* |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** | CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR)AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS **VI. FACULTY, STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| **CR 18** | Responsibilities of the school principal   1. Instructional support. The principal in each of the district’s schools promotes instructional practices responsive to student needs and ensures that adequate instructional support is available for students and teachers. Instructional support includes remedial instruction for students, consultative services for teachers, availability of reading instruction at the elementary level, appropriate services for linguistic minority students, and other services consistent with effective educational practices and the requirements of M.G.L. c. 71B, §2. The principal consults with the Administrator of Special Education regarding accommodations and interventions for students. Such efforts and their results are documented and placed in the student record. Additionally, when an individual student is referred for an evaluation to determine eligibility for special education, the principal ensures that documentation on the use of instructional support services for the student is provided as part of the evaluation information reviewed by the Team when determining eligibility. 2. Curriculum Accommodation Plan. The principal implements a curriculum accommodation plan developed by the district’s general education program to ensure that all efforts have been made to meet the needs of diverse learners in the general education program. The plan assists the regular classroom teacher in analyzing and accommodating diverse learning styles of all children in the regular classroom and in providing appropriate services and support within the general education program including, but not limited to, direct and systematic instruction in reading and provision of services to address the needs of children whose behavior may interfere with learning. The plan includes provisions encouraging teacher mentoring and collaboration and parental involvement. (*The plan may be part of a multi-year strategic plan.)* 3. Coordination with special education. The principal with the assistance of the Administrator of Special Education coordinates the delivery and supervision of special education services within each school building. 4. Educational services in home or hospital. Upon receipt of a physician’s written order verifying that any student enrolled in a public school or placed by the public school in a private setting must remain at home or in a hospital on a day or overnight basis, or any combination of both, for medical reasons and for a period of not less than fourteen school days in any school year, the principal arranges for provision of educational services in the home or hospital. Such services are provided with sufficient frequency to allow the student to continue his or her educational program, as long as such services do not interfere with the medical needs of the student. The principal coordinates such services with the Administrator for Special Education for eligible students. Such educational services are not considered special education unless the student has been determined eligible for such services, and the services include services on the student’s IEP. | | | |
|  | M.G.L. c. 71, § 38Q ½; 603 CMR 28.03(3) | | | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Partially Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Interviews indicated that although the district has a District Curriculum Accommodation Plan (DCAP) and has provided training to staff, the DCAP is not fully implemented to support general education staff to provide services and support in reading instruction at the middle and high school levels, or math instruction at all levels. It does not provide support to general education staff to be able to address the needs of children in the general education classroom whose behavior may interfere with learning.*  *In addition, record review indicated that the district does not document the use of instructional support services provided to students prior to a referral for an initial special education evaluation.* |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** | CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR)AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS **VI. FACULTY, STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| **CR 18A** | School district employment practices  District employment practices in general are free from discrimination on the basis of race, color, gender identity, national origin, sex, or disability. The district’s employee recruitment is aimed at reaching all groups, including members of linguistic, ethnic, and racial minorities, females and males, and persons with disabilities. | | | |
|  | Title VI: 42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 CFR 100.3(c); EEOA: 20 U.S.C. 1703(d); Title IX: 20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 CFR 106.51-106.61; Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.11-104.14; Title II: 42 U.S.C. 12132; 28 CFR 35.140; Mass. Const. amend. art 114 | | | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Partially Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review indicated that the district's employment application includes a statement of non-discrimination that does not include the protected category of gender identity.* |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** |  | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| CR 23 | Comparability of facilities  Where the district provides separate facilities for members of a specific group, those facilities are comparable to those offered other students in the district, including:   1. separate facilities for disabled, limited-English-proficient or pregnant students that are comparable to the facilities for other students in the district; 2. Reserved. | | | |
|  | Title VI: 42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 CFR 100.3(b)(2); Title IX: 20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 CFR 106.33, 106.40(b)(3); Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.34(c); Mass. Const. amend. art. 114; 603 CMR 28.03(1)(b) | | | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Partially Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *See SE 55.* |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** | CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR) **AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**  **VIII. PROGRAM PLAN AND EVALUATION** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| **CR 24** | Curriculum review  The district ensures that individual teachers in the district review all educational materials for simplistic and demeaning generalizations, lacking intellectual merit, on the basis of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin and sexual orientation. Appropriate activities, discussions and/or supplementary materials are used to provide balance and context for any such stereotypes depicted in such materials. | | | |
|  | M.G.L. c. 76, § 5; 603 CMR 26.05(2) as amended by Chapter 199 of the Acts of 2011 | | | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Partially Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review and interviews indicated that the district has not developed procedures for individual teachers to review all educational materials for simplistic and demeaning generalizations, lacking intellectual merit, on the basis of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin and sexual orientation, and balance any stereotypes depicted with activities, discussions and/or supplementary materials to provide context.* |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | | **ENGLISH LEARNER EDUCATION**  **LEGAL STANDARDS,**  **COMPLIANCE RATINGS AND**  **FINDINGS** | |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** | ENGLISH LEARNER EDUCATION **II. STUDENT IDENTIFICATION AND PROGRAM PLACEMENT** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| ELE 5 | **Program Placement and Structure**   1. The district uses assessment data to plan and implement educational programs for students at different instructional levels. 2. G.L. c. 71A, **§** 5 requires that students classified as ELs be educated either in a Sheltered English immersion (SEI) program or Two-Way Immersion program (TWI), unless a program waiver is sought for another ELE program model, such as Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE). The requirement to provide English language development services to ELs applies to all districts that enroll one or more EL students. 3. Core academic teachers in ALL of these programs are expected to hold the SEI Teacher Endorsement and to shelter the content for ELs to make the content of their lessons more comprehensible and to promote the development of academic language needed to successfully master content standards by providing English language development (ELD) to ELs. 4. Districts are required to include ESL instruction in the implementation of their ELE program to advance English language development and promote academic achievement of ELs.   **Authority: Title VI; EEOA; G.L. c. 71A, §§ 2, 4, 7; 603 CMR 7.15; 603 CMR 14.07** | | | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Partially Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Interviews, a review of the Castañeda Three-Pronged Test completed by the district, and a review of student data indicated that English learners (ELs) do not receive as much ESL instruction as the district determined necessary for them to make adequate progress in acquiring the English language. The Department also reviewed the district's performance at meeting English Learner Student Learning Targets for Academic Achievement and concluded that the district is not implementing its chosen ELE program with fidelity and therefore ELs enrolled in the program are not being appropriately served. Please see the district's English Learner Student Learning Targets in the Security Portal at* [*https://gateway.edu.state.ma.us*](https://gateway.edu.state.ma.us)*.* |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** | ENGLISH LEARNER EDUCATION **III. PARENT AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| ELE 8 | **Declining Entry to a Program**  The district provides English language support to students whose parents have declined entry to a sheltered English immersion, two-way immersion, or other ELE program.  **Authority: Title VI; EEOA; G.L. c. 71, §38Q1/2** | | | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Partially Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Record review, document review and interviews indicated that the district does not actively monitor the progress of the students whose parents opted out of the ELE program to ensure that these students’ linguistic and academic needs are met and that the district takes affirmative steps and appropriate action as required by Title VI and EEOA to provide them access to its educational programs.* |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** | ENGLISH LEARNER EDUCATION **V. STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| ELE 13 | **Follow-Up Support**   1. The district actively monitors students who have exited an ELE education program for four years and provides language support to those students, if needed. 2. The district provides language support, if needed, to remedy any academic deficits the student incurred as a result of participation in the ELE program.   **Authority: Title VI; EEOA; NCLB; Title III** | | | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Partially Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review and interviews indicated that the district does not actively monitor the progress of students who have exited the ELE program and provide them support, if needed.* |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** | ENGLISH LEARNER EDUCATION **VII. SCHOOL FACILITIES** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| ELE 16 | **Equitable Facilities**  The district ensures that ELs are provided facilities, materials and services comparable to those provided to the overall student population.  **Authority: Title VI; EEOA; G.L. c. 76, § 5; 603 CMR 26.07** | | | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Partially Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *See SE 55.* |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** | ENGLISH LEARNER EDUCATION **VIII. PROGRAM PLAN AND EVALUATION** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| ELE 17 | **Program Evaluation**  The district conducts periodic evaluations of the effectiveness of its ELE program in developing students' English language skills and increasing their ability to participate meaningfully in the educational program. Where the district documents that the program is not effective, it takes steps to make appropriate program adjustments or changes that are responsive to the outcomes of the program evaluation.  **Authority: Title VI; EEOA. Title III § 3121** | | | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Not Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review and interviews indicated that the district does not have a formal process for evaluating the effectiveness of its ELE programming and does not document steps taken to make appropriate program adjustments or changes, if needed. Please see* [*http://www.doe.mass.edu/ell/ProgramEvaluation.pdf*](http://www.doe.mass.edu/ell/ProgramEvaluation.pdf)*.* |

| **CRITERION**  **NUMBER** | ENGLISH LEARNER EDUCATION **IX. RECORD KEEPING** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Legal Standard** | | | |
| ELE 18 | **Records of ELL Students**  ELL student records include:   1. home language survey; 2. results of identification and proficiency tests and evaluations; 3. ACCESS for ELLs report; 4. MCAS/PARCC report; 5. information about students' previous school experiences if available; 6. copies of parent notification letters; 7. progress reports, in the native language, if necessary; 8. report cards, in the native language, if necessary; 9. evidence of follow-up monitoring, if applicable; 10. documentation of a parent’s consent to “opt-out” of ESL instruction, if applicable; 11. waiver documentation, if applicable; 12. individualized learning plan (optional).   **Authority: Title VI; EEOA; G.L. c. 69, § 1I; c. 71A, §§ 5, 7; 603 CMR 14.02, 14.04** | | | |
|  | **Rating:** | **Partially Implemented** | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Record review and interviews indicated that the district does not include documentation of a parent's consent for a student to opt-out of ESL instruction or documentation of follow-up monitoring of opt-out and FEL students. Student records did not consistently include information about students' previous school experiences, ELE progress reports, reports of state testing, or evidence of translations when parents had requested them.* |

|  |
| --- |
| This Coordinated Program Review Final Report is also available at:  <http://www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/review/cpr/reports/>.  Profile information supplied by each charter school and school district, including information for individual schools within districts, is available at  <http://profiles.doe.mass.edu/>. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| WBMS CPR Final Report 2017 | |
| File Name: | Gill-Montague RSD CPR Final Report 2017 |
| Last Revised on: | September 20, 2017 |
| Prepared by: | SKH/MLP/SH |