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| ESE LogoStarLogo08_A |  | **Lee Public Schools****COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEW****REPORT OF FINDINGS****Dates of Onsite Visit:** **October 16-18, 2017****Date of Draft Report:** **December 11, 2017****Date of Final Report: January 5, 2018****Action Plan Due: February 5, 2018****Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Onsite Team Members:****Marc Oldenburg, Office of Public School Monitoring (PSM) Chair****Sandra Hanig, PSM** **Sibel Hughes, Office of English Language Acquisition and Academic Achievement (OELAAA) Chair** |
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**MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

**COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEW REPORT**

**Lee Public Schools**

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**MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

**COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEW REPORT**

**Lee Public Schools**

**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 2017 - 2018 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 2017 - 2018 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 2017 - 2018 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 English 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 68 school districts and charter schools are scheduled for Coordinated Program Reviews in 2017 - 2018, of which all districts participated in the Web-based Monitoring System (WBMS). The Department’s

2017 - 2018 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 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**

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A three-member Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education team conducted a Coordinated Program Review in Lee Public Schools during the week of October 16, 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:

* Administrative staff
* Teaching and support services staff
* Special education parent advisory council representative(s)
* Parent of an English learner
* Persons from the general public

Student record reviews:

* Special education student records
* English learner student records

Surveys:

* Parents of students with disabilities
* Parents of English learners

Observations of classrooms and other facilities

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**

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| 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 that were found by the team to be implemented in a “Commendable” manner, as well as 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. |

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| **DEFINITION OF COMPLIANCE RATINGS** |
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| **Commendable** | Any requirement or aspect of a requirement implemented in an exemplary manner significantly beyond the requirements of law or regulation. |
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| **Implemented** | The requirement is substantially met in all important aspects. |
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| **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. |
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| **Partially Implemented** | The requirement, in one or several important aspects, is not entirely met. |
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| **Not Implemented** | The requirement is totally or substantially not met. |
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| **Not Applicable**  | The requirement does not apply to the school district or charter school. |

Lee Public Schools

**SUMMARY OF COMPLIANCE CRITERIA RATINGS**

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|  | **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 11, 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 40, SE 42, SE 43, SE 44, SE 45, SE 46, SE 47, SE 48, SE 49, SE 50, SE 52, SE 52A, SE 53, SE 54, SE 55, SE 56, SE 59 | CR 6, CR 7, CR 7A, CR 7B, CR 7C, CR 9, CR 10, CR 11A, CR 12A, CR 13, CR 14, CR 15, CR 18, CR 18A, CR 20, CR 21, CR 22, CR 23, CR 25, CR 26A | ELE 1, ELE 2, ELE 3, ELE 4, ELE 6, ELE 7, ELE 8, ELE 9, ELE 10, ELE 13, ELE 15, ELE 18 |
| **PARTIALLY****IMPLEMENTED** | SE 37, SE 39, SE 41, SE 51 | CR 3, CR 8, CR 10A, CR 10B, CR 10C, CR 16, CR 17A, CR 24 | ELE 5, ELE 14 |
| **NOT IMPLEMENTED** |  |  | ELE 17 |

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

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| **CRITERION****NUMBER** |       |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| **SE 37** | Procedures for approved and unapproved out-of-district placements1. 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. 1603 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** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review and interviews indicated that the statement of nondiscrimination in the written contracts with out-of-district placements does not include the protected category of gender identity.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** |       |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| **SE 39** | Procedures used to provide services to eligible students enrolled in private schools at private expenseFor all students with disabilities attending private school(s) located in the district's geographic boundary whose parents reside in Massachusetts or out of state, the school districts:1. Conducts child find activities comparable to those for public school students, for all students enrolled at private expense in private schools located in the geographic boundary of the district.
2. Provides or arranges for the provision of an evaluation for any private school student who is referred for evaluation. The evaluation may take place in the public school, the private school, or an appropriate contracted facility.
3. Provides for ongoing timely and meaningful consultation with private school representatives and representatives of parents of parentally-placed private school children with disabilities prior about:
	1. the child find process for students suspected of having a disability, and how parents, teachers, and private school officials will be informed about the child find process;
	2. what the determination of proportionate share funds is and the calculation of which that determination is based, including the underlying data;
	3. how the consultation process will occur during the school year between the district, private school representatives, and parents;
	4. how, where, and by whom special education and related services will be provided to eligible private school students with disabilities using proportionate share funds, including types of services, how funds will be apportioned if federal funds are insufficient to serve all eligible students, and how and when decisions about proportionate share services will be made; and
	5. how the district will notify private school officials, in writing, if the district does not agree with the view of the private school offices about the provision of services or specific types of services.
4. Obtains signed, written affirmation from participating private school officials that consultation has occurred, and if there is no written affirmation, the district sends ESE documentation about the consultation process.
5. Calculates the proportionate share of federal special education entitlement funds (Fund Code 240) required to be spent, based on the child count taken between October 1 and December 1 of the *prior* fiscal year that includes the number of all eligible private school students attending school in the district's geographic catchment area including residents, non-residents, and home school students, using the ESE form. (N.B.: A student remains eligible for 3 years following identification. Child count includes all students found eligible attending school in the district, regardless of whether they receive(d) special education services.)
6. Determines equitable services and how they will be provided to one or more students with disabilities attending private schools in the district through
	1. a discussion of student needs and possible types of special education and related services that can be provided either directly or through alternative service delivery mechanisms;
	2. consideration that federal grant funds can be used to provide services on the grounds of private schools, although services provided with state and local funds must be provided at a "public school facility or other public or neutral site";
	3. if the amount of proportionate share grant funds are insufficient to serve every eligible student, a discussion of how the district will apportion the services among eligible students, or may choose to supplement the proportionate share of the grant funds with additional grant funds or with state or local funds; and
	4. if the school district disagrees with the views of the private school officials on the provision or type of services, the district must provide private school officials with a written explanation of the reasons the district chose not to provide services directly or through a contract. The school district has the final decision-making authority.
7. Creates a services plan for each eligible private school student who will receive special education or related services from the district using proportionate share funds.
	1. Initiates and conducts meetings to develop, review, and revise services plans for eligible students.
	2. Ensures a representative of each student's private school attends each meeting or is able to participate through individual or conference calls.
8. If using federal funds only, provides special education services and/or related services to private school children at the private school, and if using state funds, provides services to private school students on the grounds of the public school or another public or neutral site.
9. Collects the following data and information, and reports to ESE as necessary in the Fund Code 240 application:
	1. the number of private school and home school children evaluated in a school year;
	2. the number of private school and home school children determined to be eligible in a school year (may include evaluations conducted, or, for non-residents, evaluations provided by the district of residence and accepted as evidence of eligibility); and
	3. the number of private school and home school children served in a school year regardless of where they attend school.
 |
|  | State Requirements | Federal Requirements |
|  | M.G.L. c. 71B, section 2603 CMR 28.03(1)(e) | 34 CFR 300.130-144; 300.300(d)(4) |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review and interviews indicated that the district's procedures for the provision of services to eligible students enrolled in private schools at private expense do not demonstrate evidence of ongoing timely and meaningful consultation with private school representatives and parents of parentally-placed private school children with disabilities to include the determination of proportionate funds calculated, and how funds will be apportioned if federal funds are insufficient to serve all eligible students. Additionally, the school district procedures do not include the requirement to obtain written affirmation that is signed by representatives of participating private schools documenting that meaningful consultation has occurred.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** |       |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| **SE 41** | Age span requirementsThe ages of the youngest and oldest student in any instructional grouping do not differ by more than 48 months. A written request for approval of a wider age range is submitted to the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education in cases where the district believes it is justified. Such requests are implemented only after approval of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. |
|  | State Requirements | Federal Requirements |
|  | 603 CMR 28.06(6)(f) |  |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review and interviews indicated that within the Life Skills Program at the high school, the ages of the youngest and oldest student differ by more than 48 months and a written request for approval of a wider age range was not submitted to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** |       |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| **SE 51** | Appropriate special education teacher licensureExcept at Commonwealth charter schools, individuals who design and/or provide direct special education services described in IEPs are appropriately licensed.**Commonwealth Charter Schools – Special Education Teacher Qualifications**To come into compliance with IDEA, Commonwealth charter schools must use “qualified” teachers to provide specialized instruction or have a “qualified” teacher consult with or provide direct supervision for someone who is not qualified but is delivering specialized instruction.  This is an IDEA requirement. “Qualified” teachers must hold a valid license in special education or have successfully completed an undergraduate or graduate degree in an approved special education program.Please see additional guidance at:[http://www.doe.mass.edu/charter/tech\_advisory/07\_1.html#](http://www.doe.mass.edu/charter/tech_advisory/07_1.html)  (update 2/2011)<http://www.doe.mass.edu/charter/sped/staffqualifications.html> (update 3/23/2012). |
|  | State Requirements | Federal Requirements |
|  | M.G.L. c. 71, s. 38G; s. 89(qq);603 CMR 1.07; 7.00; 28.02(3) | 34 CFR 300.156IDEA § 34 CFR 300.156(a) |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review indicated that at Lee Elementary School, a special education teacher who designs and provides direct special education services described in students' IEPs does not hold a current license in special education.* |

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

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| **CRITERION****NUMBER** | CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR)AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS II. STUDENT IDENTIFICATION AND PLACEMENT |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| CR 3 | Access to a full range of education programsAll students, regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or homelessness, have equal access to the general education program and the full range of any occupational/vocational education programs offered by the district.The district does not segregate English learners (ELs) from their English-speaking peers, except where programmatically necessary, to implement an ELE program. The district also ensures that ELs participate fully with their English-speaking peers and are provided support in non-core academic courses.The district provides access to the full range of academic opportunities and supports afforded non-ELs, such as special education services, Section 504 Accommodation Plans, Title I services, career and technical education, and the supports outlined in the district’s curriculum accommodation plan. |
|  | Title VI: 42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 CFR 100.3(a),(b); EEOA: 20 U.S.C. 1703(f); Title IX: 20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 CFR 106.31, 106.34, 106.35; Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.4; Title II: 42 U.S.C. 12132; 28 CFR 35.130; IDEA 2004: 20 U.S.C. 1400; 34 CFR 300.110; NCLB: Title III, Part A, Sec. 3121(c)(1)(C); Title X, Part C, Secs. 721, 722(g)(4); Mass. Const. amend. art. 114; M.G.L. c. 71A, s. 7; c. 76, s. 5; 603 CMR 26.03 as amended by Chapter 199 of the Acts of 2011 |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review indicated that the school committee policy regarding equal access to the full range of education programs does not include homelessness as a protected category.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** |       |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| CR 8 | Accessibility of extracurricular activitiesExtracurricular activities sponsored by the district are nondiscriminatory in that:1. the school provides equal opportunity for all students to participate in intramural and interscholastic sports;
2. extracurricular activities or clubs sponsored by the school do not exclude students on the basis of race, sex, gender identity, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or homelessness.
 |
|  | Title VI: 42 U.S.C. 2000d; 34 CFR 100.3(a), (b); Title IX: 20 U.S.C. 1681; 34 CFR 106.31, 106.41; Section 504: 29 U.S.C. 794; 34 CFR 104.4,104.37(a), (c); Title II: 42 U.S.C. 12132; 28 CFR 35.130; NCLB: Title X, Part C, Sec. 721; Mass. Const. amend. art 114; M.G.L. c. 76, § 5; 603 CMR 26.06 (1) as amended by Chapter 199 of the Acts of 2011 |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review indicated that the school committee policy regarding equal access to the full range of co-curricular and extracurricular activities is missing the protected categories of homelessness and gender identity.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** | CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR)AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**V. STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES** |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| **CR 10A** | Student handbooks and codes of conduct1. 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** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review indicated that the Lee Elementary, Middle and High School handbooks do not contain complete procedures for the discipline of students with disabilities or procedures for the discipline of students with Section 504 Accommodation Plans.**Also, the nondiscrimination statement in the Lee Elementary School handbook does not contain the protected categories of gender identity and sexual orientation.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** |       |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| CR 10B | Bullying Intervention and Prevention1. 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** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review indicated that the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan on the district's web-site and within the Lee Elementary School handbook does not extend protections to students who are bullied by a member of the school staff and it does not make clear that a member of the school staff may be named the "aggressor" or "perpetrator" in a bullying report.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** |       |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| CR 10C | Student DisciplineEach 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** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review indicated that the district's procedures for the emergency removal of a student contained within the district's student discipline policy do not include that the principal may not remove a student from school on an emergency basis for a disciplinary offense until adequate provisions have been made for the student's safety and transportation.**Additionally, there is no School-wide Education Service Plan in place at each school for students who are expelled or suspended for more than 10 consecutive days, and the district has not developed a system for periodic review of discipline data by special populations.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** |       |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| CR 16 | Notice to students 16 or over leaving school without a high school diploma, certificate of attainment, or certificate of completion1. 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.
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|  | M.G.L. c. 76, §§ 5, 18; St. 1965, c. 741 |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review and interviews indicated that the notice sent to students 16 or over and their parent/guardian within 5 days from the student's tenth consecutive absence does not indicate that the date and time for the exit interview may be extended at the request of the parent/guardian, but for no longer than 14 days.* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** |       |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| CR 17A | Use of physical restraint on any student enrolled in a publicly-funded education program1. 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.
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|  | M.G.L. c. 71, § 37G; 603 CMR 46.00 effective January 1, 2016 |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review and interviews indicated that the district has updated the restraint prevention and behavior support policy to include all required content consistent with regulatory requirements that went into effect January 1, 2016. However, it has not developed procedures for the implementation of this policy to include: 1) methods for preventing student violence, self-injurious behavior and suicide; 2) methods for engaging parents and youth in discussions about restraint prevention and use;* *3) alternatives to physical restraint and method of physical restraint in emergency situations; 4) 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; 5) a description of the training requirements, reporting requirements, and follow-up procedures; 6) a procedure for receiving and investigating complaints; 7) a procedure for conducting periodic review of data and documentation on the program’s use of restraint; 8) a procedure for making both oral and written notification to the parent; and 9) a procedure for the use of time-out.*  |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** | CIVIL RIGHTS METHODS OF ADMINISTRATION (CR)**AND OTHER RELATED GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS****VIII. PROGRAM PLAN AND EVALUATION** |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| **CR 24** | Curriculum reviewThe 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** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review and interviews indicated that individual teachers in the district do not 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 individual teachers do not provide appropriate activities, such as discussions and/or supplementary materials to provide balance and context when stereotypes are depicted in educational materials.* |

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

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| **CRITERION****NUMBER** | ENGLISH LEARNER EDUCATION**II. STUDENT IDENTIFICATION AND PROGRAM PLACEMENT** |
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|  | **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, sections 4 and 5 require 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. 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(9)b.; 603 CMR 14.07** |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review indicated that the district has an ESL curriculum for the middle school and high school levels; but there is no ESL curriculum for the elementary grade level designed to develop English language skills of English learners (ELs).* |

| **CRITERION****NUMBER** | ENGLISH LEARNER EDUCATION**VI. FACULTY, STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION** |
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|  | **Legal Standard** |
| ELE 14 | **Licensure Requirements**Licensure requirements for districts where ELs are enrolled:Every district, including every Commonwealth charter school, has at least one teacher who has an English as a Second Language or Transitional Bilingual Education, or ELL license under G.L. c.71**,** § 38G and 603 CMR 7.04(3). (This requirement does not apply separately to Horace Mann charter schools.)Except at Commonwealth charter schools, *every* teacher or other educational staff member who teaches ELs holds an appropriate license or current waiver issued by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.Core academic teachers who provide sheltered English instruction to English learners in school districts, including charter schools and education collaboratives, must earn an SEI Teacher Endorsement as set forth in 603 CMR 7.00 and 603 CMR 14.00. Principals, assistant principals, and supervisors/directors who supervise or evaluate such teachers must earn an SEI Teacher Endorsement or SEI Administrator Endorsement as set forth in 603 CMR 7.00 and 603 CMR 14.00.Any core academic teacher who is assigned to provide sheltered English instruction to an EL shall either hold an SEI Teacher Endorsement, or is required to earn such an endorsement within one year from the date of the assignment. Any school district that assigns an EL to a core academic teacher who has a year to obtain an SEI endorsement, shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that such EL is assigned to core academic teachers with an SEI endorsement in subsequent school years.No principal, assistant principal, or supervisor/director shall supervise or evaluate a core academic teacher who provides sheltered English instruction to an EL unless such principal, assistant principal, or supervisor/director holds an SEI Teacher Endorsement or SEI Administrator Endorsement, or will earn either endorsement within one year of the commencement of such supervision or evaluation.Except at Commonwealth charter schools, any director of ELE program(s) who is employed in that role for one-half time or more has a Supervisor/Director license and an English as a Second Language (ESL), Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE) or an ELL license.If a district with 200 or more ELs—including all charter schools with 200 or more ELs—has a director of EL programs, that director must have an English as a Second Language, Transitional Bilingual Education, or an EL license even if he or she is employed in that position for less than one-half time. (This requirement does not apply separately to Horace Mann charter schools.)**Authority: Title VI; EEOA; G.L. c. 71, § 38G, §89(ii); St. 2002, c. 218, §§ 24, 25, 30; 603 CMR 7.04(3), 7.09(3); 603 CMR 7.14 (1) and (2); 603 CMR 7.15(9)(b); 603 CMR 14.07.** |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Partially Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review indicated that not all ESL teachers hold an ESL license or a current waiver issued by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.* |

| **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. ESEA**  |
|  | **Rating:** |  **Not Implemented**  | **District Response Required:** | **Yes** |

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| **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Findings:** |
| *Document review and interviews indicated that the district does not have a comprehensive process to evaluate the effectiveness of its ELE programming in developing students' English language skills and increasing their ability to participate meaningfully in the district's educational program.* |

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| 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/>. |

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| Prepared by: | MJO/MLP/SH |

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