

Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District
School Administrative Unit #63

192 Forest Rd., Lyndeborough, NH 03082
603-654-8088

Bryan K. Lane
Superintendent of Schools

Betty Moore, M.Ed.
Director of Student Support Services

Lise Tucker
Business Administrator

Student Support Services Report
April 18, 2017

On March 23, 2017, the New Hampshire Board of Education approved new rules governing special education. These rules, which became effective on March 24th, readopt most of the prior rules, but amend dozens of them.

According to our law firm, Drummond Woodsum, some of the most significant changes in the rules:

- The deadline to complete an initial evaluation or reevaluation, formerly 45 days, is now 60 days.
- The 60-day deadline to complete a reevaluation can be extended by up to 30 days with written parental consent.
- The IEP team that reviews evaluation results and determines a student's disability must still include a teacher certified in special education. However, the rules no longer require that this special education teacher's certification include an endorsement in the disability being considered.
- Parents are still entitled to "receive" written notice scheduling an IEP meeting at least 10 days before the meeting. However, if the school district mails the notice at least 12 days before the meeting, it can assume the parents received the notice on time.
- The rules require that a school district send a student's parents copies of each examiner's report at least 5 days before an IEP meeting at which the report will be discussed. The old rules required this disclosure only if the parents *requested* advance copies. The new rules require this advance disclosure *in all instances*, unless the student's parents waive their right to advance copies.

I attended the NHSEA Law Day on Friday, 4/14 at which the new rules were a topic of conversation and interpretation as presented by attorneys from the firms of Drummond Woodsum and Wadleigh, Starr, Peters.

I will be distributing copies of the new rules to staff for their review, followed by an in-service to clarify the changes and how they may impact our current practices and procedures.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Moore
Director of Student Support Services