

January 6, 2010

SYSYEM TECHNICAL ASSISATANCE REVIEW REPORT

Wayne County Schools

Vikki Hopps Special Education Director

Divisions for Special Education Services and Supports

1870 Twin Towers East Atlanta, Georgia 30334 404-656-3963 The Division for Special Education Services continuously reviews statewide data for systems that have previously been selected for Focused Monitoring. As a state, there have been some positive changes in performance for students with disabilities, however, if statewide data indicates there are systems that have shown little to no improvement in the performance of students with disabilities in the priority indicator originally selected for monitoring, additional support will be provided. The Division has developed a process of monitoring to incorporate additional support and technical assistance to systems that continue to perform in the lower quartile and continue to show an opportunity for growth. This process is known as the System Technical Assistance Review (STAR).

Wayne County was originally Focused Monitored January 9 -11, 2007 in the area of mathematics. Wayne County was selected to participate in the STAR process on October 20-22, 2009. The monitoring team consisted of:

Kimberly Green, Ed.D, Divisions for Special Education Services and Supports, GaDOE Jan Stevenson, Divisions for Special Education Services and Supports, GaDOE Kachelle White, Divisions for Special Education Services and Supports, GaDOE Paul West, Special Education Administrator, Forsyth County Schools Marcia Singson, Parent of a student with a disability Jennifer Dickson, Parent of a student with a disability

The following data was reviewed prior to the on-site visit:

CRCT	Results	
• • .		

SWD % Meets/Exceeds	FY09	FY08	FY07
Math	35.7	35.5	47.2
RELA	47.5	52.7	56.1

School Improvement Plan
STAR Self- Assessment
Professional Learning Activities
Supplement Programs
Individual Education Programs (IEPs)
Professional Survey Results
System Data Profiles
Focused Monitoring Report and Corrective Action Plan
Annual Yearly Progress Data
GLRS Initiatives

During the on-site visit the following activities took place:

Interviewed 32 teachers
Interviewed 13 administrators/support personnel
Interviewed 26 parents
Interviewed 6 paraprofessionals
Conducted 24 observations

AREA	SUMMARY
	An asterisk (*) indicates that the topic was previously discussed as an area of concern/compliance issue in the original Focused Monitoring Report.
INSTRUCTION	According to interviews conducted, Wayne County special education teachers need Georgia Performance Standards (GPS) training in the subject areas they are currently teaching. Continued follow-up, coaching, and modeling are needed to ensure that teachers are implementing the GPS with fidelity.
	Training on Differentiated Instruction is needed. Teachers stated they received professional learning on Differentiated Instruction and developing lesson plans to include Differentiated Instruction; however teachers continue to struggle with implementation. Co-teaching teams need support through coaching and modeling. Modeling allows teachers to observe other co-teaching teams as they instruct students with varying ability levels. Continued follow-up, coaching, and modeling are needed to ensure that teachers are implementing the GPS with fidelity *
	According to the interviews conducted, 90% of professionals stated that additional training in co-teaching is needed. Teachers also stated that co-teaching teams are not consistently paired from year to year. Changing the teachers who are assigned to co-teach each year has a direct impact on developing strategies and effective planning. Common planning is needed to improve co-teaching in Wayne County Schools. The co-teaching models that were consistently observed included one teacher/one observe and one teach/one circulate. When interviewed, teachers did not express knowledge of other models of co-teaching, (i.e. teacher/observer, teacher/teacher circulate, station teaching, parallel teaching, alternate teaching, team teaching). This is an indication that additional training and coaching of co-teaching models is needed for all teachers. In addition, administrators need to be familiar with the co-teaching models inorder to support teachers and provide effective feedback when completing administrative walkthroughs. Professional development on the roles of co-teachers in the lesson planning process is imperative. *
	RECOMMENDATIONS
	Administrator and/or academic coach walk-throughs and observations should incorporate a tool to observe and provide constructive feedback for teachers to include the following; co-teaching strengths and weaknesses, use of differentiated instruction, and GPS implementation (including content specific vocabular and rigor).
	DOCUMENTATION
	Wayne County will submit sample copies of completed classroom observation/walkthrough forms (documenting feedback to teachers).
	Wayne County will submit sample copies of completed classroom observation/walkthrough forms documenting evidence of the different co-teaching models being implemented with fidelity by the coteaching teams.
	Wayne County will provide documentation of GPS training for all teachers that have not received training in the subject area they are currently teaching. In addition, provide follow-up "re-fresher" training for teachers that have received training in the past. Documentation will be submitted to include GPS training schedule, agenda, and sign-in sheets.
	<u>RESOURCES</u>
	GLRS: Online Co-Teaching and Differentiation Course, Coaching Support
PROGRESS MONITORING	A plan of action to address progress monitoring through common assessments and benchmarks has not been developed and implemented consistently and systemically. The plan for progress monitoring must be communicated clearly for all teachers. Teachers have limited familiarity with progress monitoring. Teachers need professional learning to include the frequency of progress monitoring and how to use the results to adjust instruction. Some teachers give weekly assessments but they are not implemented consistently across grade levels. According to the professional survey, only 66% responded that they use progress monitoring to adjust instruction weekly.
	RECOMMENDATIONS

Professional learning is needed on various progress monitoring tools and system expectations related to

frequency, record keeping, and analyzing data to adjust instruction based on results. In addition, a systematic process needs to be established to compile student level data to monitor progress.

A systematic plan addressing progress monitoring is needed. All staff should be familiar with the definition of formative and summative assessment, progress monitoring tools, as well as the frequency required of various progress monitoring instruments, and the interventions appropriate for the areas of weakness.

DOCUMENTATION

Wayne County Schools will submit documentation that professional learning has been provided to staff on the use of progress monitoring and how staff will use the data to drive instructional practices. This should include making the determination of when an intervention is needed for a student who may be struggling in a particular content area.

Wayne County will submit a copy of a systemic plan addressing progress monitoring. This plan should be evidence that all staff are using formative and summative assessment, progress monitoring tools, as well as the interventions that are being used for the appropriate areas of weakness.

RESOURCES

Book: Students With Disabilities Can Make AYP: What Every School Leader Should Know.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

A review of the professional learning documentation provided by the system showed professional learning has been provided in the following areas between June 2006 and July 2009:

- GPAT Training
- IEP/Eligibility
- Differentiated Instruction
- Co-teaching and Scheduling
- Autism
- STEEP Assessment
- RTI
- Pyramid of Interventions
- iLearn
- Assistive Technology
- Writing Effective Functional Behavior Assessments
- Scheduling for LRE

According to the professional survey, 39% responded they receive follow-up support and coaching when implementing new classroom practices (i.e. co-teaching, differentiation, GPS, etc.).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Professional learning is a continuous need in the following areas:

- GPS
- Differentiated Instruction
- Special Education Teachers Providing support in the General Education Classroom
- Co-teaching and inclusive practices
- Progress Monitoring
- Paraprofessionals need additional support to meet the needs of students with various disabilities, behavior concerns, and identifying their role in the classroom setting them in the classroom setting
- Writing Effective IEPs, including but not limited to Transition Planning, Present Levels of Academic Achievement Functional Performance, Standards Based Goals and Objectives

It is also recommended that in conjunction with the above recommended professional learning that follow-up and support be provided to support teachers in each area.

DOCUMENTATION

Wayne County will provide a revised school improvement plan imbedding the above mentioned professional learning topics.

Wayne County will provide documentation that follow-up support has been provided for all professional learning areas as mentioned in the above recommended areas of professional learning.

RESOURCES

Book: Students With Disabilities Can Make AYP: What Every School Leader Should Know.

Thinkfinity Learning Village

GLRS: Online Co-Teaching and Differentiation Course, Coaching Support

Elluminate Sessions: LRE, Standards Based IEPs, Transition, Math Strategies, Math Talks

Implementation Manual for the Special Education State Rules

COMPLIANCE/ ON-SITE FINDING/S	SUPPORTING EVIDENCE	REQUIRED EVIDENCE OF CORRECTION BY January 6, 2011
APPLICABLE FEDERAL/STATE REGULATIONS		
C.F.R. 300.106	Free and Appropriate Public Education: Extended School Year Services (ESY) "(a)General. (1) Each public agency must ensure that extended school year services are available as necessary to provide FAPE." In reviewing the IEPs and speaking with staff, it was determined that Extended School Year (ESY) is not provided for students with disabilities. Teachers need additional professional learning to understand the full consideration of the need for ESY.	Wayne County will submit documentation of staff training for ESY. Sample IEPs will also be submitted to document the consideration of ESY for all students with disabilities.
C.F.R. 300.320	Individualized Education Programs: Definition of IEP [b](1)-(2)"Appropriate measurable postsecondary goals based upon age appropriate transition assessments related to training, education, employment, and, where appropriate, independent living skills,; and (2) The transition services (including courses of study) needed to assist the child in reaching those goals." In reviewing the IEPs and interviews with staff and parents of middle and high school age students, it was determined that Transition Plans did not have the required component of measurable post secondary goals, and did not have annual goals that will enable the student to meet the post secondary goals.	Wayne County will provide professional development for teachers on writing and planning for appropriate transition plans. Wayne County will provide a copy of the agendas for the Transition Plan Professional Development, as well as documentation of ongoing monitoring. Wayne County will also submit sample transition plans for review.

APPLICABLE FEDERAL/STATE REGULATIONS

C.F.R. 300.114

Least Restrictive Environment

Full Continuum of services for special education students as indicated in the Special Education State Rule [C.F.R. 300.114(2)(i) "To the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities, including children in public or private institution or other care facilities, are educated with children who are nondisabled" was not available in Wayne County. A full continuum should be considered and available for each student. According to the professional's interviewed, record reviews and classroom observations, the full continuum of services is not always considered for students with disabilities in Wayne County Schools. Several professionals and central office staff stated that the full continuum of services was not offered although some students with disabilities could benefit from receiving services in the resource setting at the high school level. Also, when interviewed, professionals stated that students with disabilities were not placed appropriately for math.

Wayne County will provide a sample of IEPs that document a consideration of the full continuum of placement options, placement decisions which are supported by the present levels of academic and functional performance, and placement based on the individual needs of the learner.

Wayne County will provide school schedules indicating the models of service delivery provided in each building.

Wayne County will provide a list from each school which will show list of students with disabilities who did not meet expectations in math and/or reading. The list should indicate where (general, special, co-taught, etc...) the student with disabilities receives their primary math and/or reading instruction.

Resources

The following resources are available on the Georgia Department of Education website and Wayne County is strongly encouraged to utilize these supports:

- · Elluminate Sessions: LRE, Standards Based IEPs, Transition, Math Strategies, Math Talks
- Implementation Manual for the Special Education State Rules
- Testing Accommodations Manual
- Transition Manual
- Transition DVD
- LRE DVD series
- Book: Students With Disabilities Can Make AYP: What Every School Leader Should Know.
- Thinkfinity
- Learning Village
- GLRS: Online Co-Teaching and Differentiation Course, Coaching Support

Wayne County Due Date: February 22, 2010

Area of Improvement/Noncomplicance #1:Some Students with Disabilities (SWD) are not provided a free appropriate public education (FAPE) as related to Extended School Year (ESY)

Actions/Strategies/ Interventions or Programs	Professional Learning	Resources or Materials Needed (Include funding source, personnel and cost)	Person or Position Responsible for Supervision of Implementation	Timeline for Implementation (Specific Dates)	Means of Evaluation (Who is responsible; what will be used to evaluate the action, strategy, intervention or program?)	Documentation of CAP activities due to the DES with dates	Evidence of Impact (Student Learning Data)
Wayne county will provide training for special education teachers in documenting the consideration of ESY for SWD.	ESY training conducted by county personnel	ESY training materials	SpEd Director Sped Facilitator	November 2009 Redelivery August 2010	SpEd Director and Facilitator will review IEPs to monitor appropriate documentation to consider ESY.	Agenda/Sign-in sheets from ESY staff training Five sample IEPs and ESY consideration forms August 31, 2010 Sept 30, 2010 October 29, 2010	Increased performance on Reading and Math CRCT Data Increased performance on EOCT and GHSGT Data

Wayne County Due Date: February 22, 2010

Area of Improvement/Noncomplicance #1: Least Restrictive Environment

Actions/Strategies/	Professional	Resources or	Person or	Timeline for	Means of	Documentation of CAP	Evidence of Impact
Interventions or Programs	Learning	Materials Needed (Include funding source, personnel and cost)	Position Responsible for Supervision of Implementation	Implementation (Specific Dates)	Evaluation (Who is responsible; what will be used to evaluate the action, strategy, intervention or program?)	activities due to the DES with dates	(Student Learning Data)
Wayne County will consider a full continuum of services as it relates to placement options, decisions based on a student's present level of academic and functional performance and individual learning needs.	Professional development in addressing LRE for Students with Disabilities	Elluminate Sessions on LRE Learning Village LRE training by county personnel	SpEd Director SpEd Facilitator Building Administrators	September 2010	Sped Director and Facilitator will review IEPs for full continuum of services consideration	Sample IEPs that document placement options and decisions School schedules that indicate models of service delivery List of SWD in each school which documents: SWD who did not meet state targets in reading/math and Location where SWD receive their primary math or reading instruction Sept 30,2010 Nov 30, 2010 Dec 17, 2010	Increased performance on Reading/Math CRCT Increased performance on EOCT and GHSGT

Wayne County Due Date: February 22, 2010

Area of Improvement/Noncomplicance #1: IEPs as related to Transition Plans

Actions/Strategies/ Interventions or Programs	Professional Learning	Resources or Materials Needed (Include funding source, personnel and cost)	Person or Position Responsible for Supervision of Implementation	Timeline for Implementation (Specific Dates)	Means of Evaluation (Who is responsible; what will be used to evaluate the action, strategy, intervention or program?)	Documentation of CAP activities due to the DES with dates	Evidence of Impact (Student Learning Data)
Special education teachers will provide appropriate post-secondary goals in SWD IEP transition plans.	Wayne County will provide professional development for sped teachers on writing and planning appropriate transition plans.	GLRS Transition Plans Training Elluminate on Transition Planning TP training by Wayne County Transition Specialist	SpEd Director SpEd Facilitator Transition Specialist	October 2009 Redelivery October 2010	Sped Director, Facilitator and Transition Specialist will review transition plans for appropriate post- secondary goals.	Copy of agendas/sign-in sheets for Transition Plan professional development Documentation of ongoing monitoring Five sample Transition Plans Oct 29, 2010 Nov 30, 2010 Dec 17, 2010	Post secondary positive outcome survey Graduation Data Dropout Data

Wayne County Due Date: February 22, 2010

Area of Improvement/Noncomplicance #1: Professional Learning

Actions/Strategies/ Interventions or Programs	Professional Learning	Resources or Materials Needed (Include funding source, personnel and cost)	Person or Position Responsible for Supervision of Implementati on	Timeline for Implementa tion (Specific Dates)	Means of Evaluation (Who is responsible; what will be used to evaluate the action, strategy, intervention or program?)	Documentation of CAP activities due to the DES with dates	Evidence of Impact (Student Learning Data)
Wayne County will provide continuous professional learning with follow-up and support to each teacher in the following areas:	Wayne County will provide training for regular and sped inclusion teachers to strengthen delivery of instruction related to GPS, DI, Coteaching, PM and Sped teachers support SWD in the general education classroom. Wayne County will provide training to paraprofessionals in meeting the needs of SWD with varying	GPS training by Instructional Coaches DI, PM, SpEd support, paraprofessional and IEP training by GLRS and county personnel redelivery	SpEd Director Building administrator	August 2010 September 2010 October 2010	Sign-in rosters and agendas from training collected by Professional Learning and SpEd Director	Copy of Consolidated Application which states the provision of the professional learning topics listed. Agenda/sign-in sheets from collaborative meetings indicating discussion topics of impact of training Aug 31, 2010 Sept 30, 2010 Nov 30, 2010	Increased performance by SWD on CRCT Reading and Math Data Increased performance on EOCT and GHSGT

exceptionalities,			
behavior concerns			
in the regular class			
setting.			

Wayne County Due Date: February 22, 2010

Area of Improvement/Noncomplicance #1: Instruction

Actions/Strategies/ Interventions or Programs	Professional Learning	Resources or Materials Needed (Include funding source, personnel and cost)	Person or Position Responsible for Supervision of Implementation	Timeline for Implementation (Specific Dates)	Means of Evaluation (Who is responsible; what will be used to evaluate the action, strategy, intervention or program?)	Documentation of CAP activities due to the DES with dates	Evidence of Impact (Student Learning Data)
Wayne County will develop an observation tool documenting: evidence of : Co-teaching strengths and weaknesses Use of differentiated instruction And GPS implementation.	Professional development in coteaching, differentiated instruction and GPS implementation	GLRS/RESA PD360 Elluminate sessions School-based collaborative meetings	Principals SpEd Director Instructional Coaches	August 2010	Monitoring Walkthroughs done by building level administrative teams, SpEd Director and Instructional Coaches	Each school will provide data from walkthroughs Summary from each school demonstrating impact on student performance Agendas from meetings/sign-in sheets Sept 30, 2010 Oct 29, 2010 Nov 30, 2010	Increased performance by SWD on CRCT Reading and Math Data Increased performance by SWD on EOCT and GHSGT Data

Wayne County Due Date: February 22, 2010

Area of Improvement/Noncomplicance #1: Progress Monitoring

Actions/Strategies/ Interventions or Programs	Learning	Resources or Materials Needed (Include funding source, personnel and cost)	Person or Position Responsible for Supervision of Implementation	Timeline for Implementation (Specific Dates)	Means of Evaluation (Who is responsible; what will be used to evaluate the action, strategy, intervention or program?)	Documentation of CAP activities due to the DES with dates	Evidence of Impact (Student Learning Data)
Wayne County will initiate a systematic plan of progress monitoring (PM) through common assessments and benchmarks each nine weeks.	Rtl Coordinators, SpEd Facilitator, and school psychologists will be required to participate in PM training by GLRS.	Train the trainer redelivery will be held at each school site in school-based collaborative meetings for all staff. Administrators will participate in the book study Students with Disabilities Can Make AYP: What Every School Leader Should Know.	SpEd Director SpEd Facilitator Building Level Administration Team (Principal, Assistant Principal and Rtl Coordinator)	October 2010	SpEd Director, SpEd facilitator and Administrative teams will review PM folders to monitor and assess the efficacy of PM data to develop interventions and strategies which improve weaknesses in content areas.	Evidence of training for each school's staff Copy of systematic plan addressing progress monitoring Agendas/sign-in sheets Summative data to include benchmark test data Oct 29, 2010 Nov 30, 2010 Dec 17, 2010	Reading/Math CRCT data, EOCT and GHSGT Data