pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

January 8, 2015

Dr. David K. Welling
Superintendent
Derry Area SD
982 North Chestnut Street, EXT
Derry, Pa 15627-7600

Dear Dr. Welling:

Enclosed is the Report of Findings presenting results of the cyclical monitoring which was conducted by the Bureau of Special Education (BSE) in the Derry Area SD the week of November 17, 2014.

The Executive Summary is arranged in two parts and includes an Appendix. PART I presents the Summary of Findings including an explanation of the review process and general findings. PART II describes the corrective action process. A description identifying findings of noncompliance, corrective action required, improvement planning needed, and results of interviews of staff and parents can be found in the Appendix. The school district must complete corrective action within the calendar days as outlined in the School District Corrective Action Verification/Compliance and Improvement Plan developed with the BSE Adviser. Follow-up onsite reviews verifying the school district's completion of corrective action will be conducted by the BSE. The BSE Adviser will contact the school district to schedule the initial visit within 60 days of issuance of the monitoring report.

34 CFR 300.600 mandates the BSE to carry out monitoring activities and implementation of any necessary corrective action. Legal compliance is the basis on which high quality programs are built. It is policy of the Department of Education to promote and ensure compliance with special education statutes and regulations through an array of activities such as a coordinated program of plan review, compliance monitoring, technical assistance, and funding decisions. However, if the Department does not succeed in obtaining prompt compliance through activities such as monitoring, then more rigorous steps can be taken to make sure compliance is resolved. These include:

- Disapproval or rescinded approval of the local special education plan
- Deferment of the disbursement of state or federal funds pending resolution of the issue
- Reduction of the amount of funds (for example, by the amount of money it takes to provide an appropriate education to a particular child or children) if a district is unwilling to provide appropriate services

None of these steps are desirable and none should be necessary if each school district is familiar with and attentive to the rules governing special education.

If you have any questions about this report, contact Marie Held, the Chairperson of the compliance monitoring team.

Please convey my thanks to all staff who participated in the review. Their time and assistance is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Patricia Hozella

Patricia Hozella
Director

Attachments: Executive Summary
Appendix: Detailed Report of Findings, Including Corrective Actions Required

CC: Chairperson
Jill Deitrich
SD Monitoring File