



## Wyoming Department of Education

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### MEMORANDUM NO. 2009-185

**TO:** School District Superintendents

**FROM:** Peg Brown-Clark, State Director of Special Education

**DATE:** November 20, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Permanent Rules, Chapter 7, Services for Children with Disabilities



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### IMPORTANT: PLEASE NOTE DEADLINE

The Wyoming Department of Education (Department) began permanent rule promulgation of the Chapter 7, Services for Children with Disabilities Rules and Regulations on November 13, 2009. A copy of the proposed rules is enclosed.

The public comment period began November, 13, 2009, and will end at 5:00 p.m. on Dec. 28, 2009. All comments are to be submitted to Teresa Canjar, Executive Assistant, via email at [tcanja@educ.state.wy.us](mailto:tcanja@educ.state.wy.us) or in hard copy to 2300 Capitol Avenue, Hathaway Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Cheyenne, WY 82002.

In addition to written comments, the Department has scheduled the following public hearings via the WEN to accept public comment on the noted rules:

- Dec. 1, 2009 (5:00 – 6:30 PM)
  - Riverton High School, 2001 W. Sunset, Riverton;
  - Central High School, 5500 Education Drive, Cheyenne;
  - Sheridan High School, 1056 Long Drive, Sheridan;
  - Casper College, 125 College Drive, Casper;
  - Laramie High School, 1275 North 11<sup>th</sup>, Laramie; and,
  - Rock Springs High School, 1375 James Drive, Rock Springs.
  
- Dec. 3, 2009 (5:00 – 6:30 PM)
  - Riverton High School, 2001 W. Sunset, Riverton;
  - Central High School, 5500 Education Drive, Cheyenne;
  - Evanston High School, 701 West Cheyenne Drive, Evanston;

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- Casper College, 125 College Drive, Casper; and
  - Gillette High School, 1000 Camel Drive, Gillette.
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- Dec. 7, 2009 (5:00 – 6:30 PM)
    - Riverton High School, 2001 W. Sunset, Riverton;
    - Central High School, 5500 Education Drive, Cheyenne;
    - Sheridan High School, 1056 Long Drive, Sheridan;
    - Shoshone Learning Center, 140 North Ferris, Powell; and
    - Laramie High School, 1275 North 11<sup>th</sup>, Laramie.

In addition to the required rulemaking documents, the Department has prepared a Supplemental Packet which outlines the stakeholder input undertaken in revision of the rules, and includes a strike and underscore copy of Chapter 7 which compares the previously proposed permanent rules to those currently proposed for adoption. A copy of this document is also enclosed.

Thank you.

Enclosures (2)



## Notice of Intent to Adopt Rules

1. General Information		
a. Agency/Board Name <i>See attached list for references</i> Wyoming Department of Education / Wyoming State Board of Education		
b. Agency/Board Address 2300 Capitol Avenue (Hathaway Building)	c. Agency/Board City Cheyenne	d. Agency/Board Zip Code 82002
e. Name of Contact Person Teresa Canjar	f. Contact Telephone Number 307-777-6213	
g. Contact Email Address tcanja@educ.state.wy.us		
h. Date of Public Notice: November 16, 2009	i. Comment Period Ends: December 28, 2009	
j. Program(s) <i>See attached list for references</i> Services for Children with Disabilities		
2. Rule Type and Information		
a. Choose all that apply: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>New Rules*</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Amended Rules</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Repealed Rules</b>		
<small>* "New" rules means the first set of regular rules to be promulgated by the Agency after the Legislature adopted a new statutory provision or significantly amended an existing statute.</small>		
<small>If "New," provide the Enrolled Act number and year enacted: 34 C.F.R. Parts 300 and 301, Federal Register Vol. 73, No. 231, December 1, 2008</small>		
b. Provide the Chapter Number, and Short Title of Each Chapter being Created/Amended/Repealed ( <i>if more than 5 chapters are being created/amended/repealed, please use the Additional Rule Information form and attach it to this certification</i> )		
Chapter Number: <b>7</b>	Short Title: <b>Services for Children with Disabilities</b>	
Chapter Number:	Short Title:	
c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Statement of Reasons is attached to this certification.		
d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> In consultation with the Attorney General's Office, the Agency's Attorney General representative concurs that strike and underscore is not required as the proposed amendments are pervasive (Section 5 of the Rules on Rules).		
e. A copy of the proposed rules* may be obtained:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> By contacting the Agency at the physical and/or email address listed in Section 1 above. <input type="checkbox"/> At the following URL: _____		
<small>* If Item "d" above is not checked, the proposed rules shall be in strike and underscore format.</small>		

### 3. Public Comments and Hearing Information

a. A public hearing on the proposed rules has been scheduled.  Yes  No

If "Yes:"	Date:	Time:	City:	Location:
	December 1, 2009; December 3, 2009; December 5, 2009	5:00 - 6:30 pm; 5:00 - 6:30 pm; 5:00 - 6:30 pm	Via the WEN Video in the following locations: Dec. 1: Casper, Cheyenne, Laramie, Riverton, Rock Springs, Sheridan; Dec. 3: Casper, Cheyenne, Evanston, Gillette, Riverton; and Dec. 5: Cheyenne, Laramie, Powell, Riverton, Sheridan.	Via the WEN Video in the following locations: Dec. 1 - Casper College, Cheyenne Central HS, Laramie HS, Riverton HS, Rock Springs HS, Sheridan HS; Dec. 3 - Casper College, Cheyenne Central HS, Evanston HS, Gillette HS, Riverton HS; and Dec. 5 - Cheyenne Central HS, Laramie HS, Powell Shoshone Learning Center, Riverton HS, Sheridan HS

b. What is the manner in which interested person may present their views on the rulemaking action?

By submitting written comments to the Agency at the physical and/or email address listed in Section 1 above.

At the following URL: \_\_\_\_\_

A public hearing will be held if requested by 25 persons, a government subdivision, or by an association having not less than 25 members. Requests for a public hearing may be submitted:

To the Agency at the physical and/or email address listed in Section 1 above.

At the following URL: \_\_\_\_\_

c. Any person may urge the Agency not to adopt the rules and request the Agency to state its reasons for overruling the consideration urged against adoption. Requests for an agency response must be made prior to, or within thirty (30) days after adoption of the rule, addressed to the Agency and Contact Person listed in Section 1 above.

### 4. Federal Law Requirements

a. These rules are created/amended/repealed to comply with federal law or regulatory requirements.  Yes  No

If "Yes:" Applicable Federal Law or Regulation Citation: 34 C.F.R. Parts 300 and 301, Federal Register Vol. 73, No. 231, December 1, 2008

Indicate one (1):

The proposed rules meet, but do not exceed, minimum federal requirements.

The proposed rules exceed minimum federal requirements.

Any person wishing to object to the accuracy of any information provided by the Agency under this item should submit their objections prior to final adoption to:

To the Agency at the physical and/or email address listed in Section 1 above.

At the following URL: \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. State Statutory Requirements

a. Indicate one (1):

The proposed rule change *MEETS* minimum substantive statutory requirements.

The proposed rule change *EXCEEDS* minimum substantive statutory requirements. Please provide a statement explaining the reason the rules exceeds the requirements:

### 6. Authorization

a. I certify that the foregoing information is correct.

Printed Name of Authorized Individual	Tania Hytrek
Title of Authorized Individual	Legal Counsel
Date of Authorization	November 10, 2009

#### Distribution List:

- Attorney General and LSO: Hard copy of Notice of Intent; Statement of Reasons; Clean copy of the rules; and Strike-through and underline version of rules (if applicable).
- Secretary of State: Electronic version of Notice of Intent sent to [rules@state.wy.us](mailto:rules@state.wy.us)

## CHAPTER 7 – SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

### STATEMENT OF REASONS

The Wyoming Department of Education (Department) is required to promulgate rules which govern the educational services for the disabled population ages three (3) through twenty-one (21) that comply with Individual with Disabilities Improvement Act (IDEA), 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq. and 34 C.F.R. Parts 300 and 301. In December of 2008, the United States Department of Education, specifically the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS), substantively modified 34 C.F.R. Part 300. These proposed permanent Chapter 7 Rules for Children with Disabilities are in response to the changes in federal law and regulations.

The proposed permanent Chapter 7 Rules for Children with Disabilities comply with the amended Federal Regulation and eliminate language conflicting with 34 C.F.R. Part 300 and reduce substantially the provisions that were redundant in the Permanent Chapter 7 Rules that these will replace. In addition, the proposed rules preserve the IDEA special education funding for Wyoming children and schools and comply with the amended Wyoming Rules on Rules. These rules are new rules and meet the substantive statutory requirements for rulemaking as required by Wyoming Statutes.

## CHAPTER 7

### SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

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## CHAPTER 7

### SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

#### Section 1. **Authority.**

(a) These rules are authorized by W.S. § 21-2-202(a)(xviii) and have been adopted by the Wyoming State Superintendent of Public Instruction as authorized by the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act, W.S. §§ 16-3-101 through 16-3-115.

(b) These rules govern the operation of all special education programs and services provided to children with disabilities ages three (3) through the completion of the school year in which the child turns twenty-one (21), pursuant to Wyoming law, by a school district, by State and local juvenile and adult correctional facilities, and by other public agencies within the State of Wyoming.

#### Section 2. **Scope.**

(a) All provisions under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) (20 U.S.C. §1400 *et seq.*) and all federal regulations pertaining to the IDEA, including any subsequent amendments or revisions of the law, regulations, and/or rules, apply to each political subdivision in Wyoming, regardless of whether the political subdivision received any federal IDEA Part B funds. The IDEA requires the state educational agency, or the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE), ensure the requirements of the IDEA and Wyoming educational standards are met in all education programs administered by the State or any school district or other public agency within Wyoming providing services to children with disabilities.

(b) For purposes of services to children with disabilities between the ages of three (3) through completion of the school year in which the child turns twenty-one (21), unless specifically addressed in these rules, WDE hereby adopts all requirements in the IDEA and supporting federal regulations at 34 C.F.R. Parts 300 and 301, including the 2008 Amendments. The public may view the IDEA and federal regulations on WDE's website at [www.k12.wy.us/se.asp](http://www.k12.wy.us/se.asp). All references to a specific rule include, but are not limited to, any applicable provision in the IDEA and the federal regulations. The requirements of the IDEA are binding on each school district or public agency that has direct or delegated authority to provide special education and related services to children with disabilities in Wyoming. This does not limit the responsibility of any school district or public agency for providing or paying appropriate costs for a Free Appropriate Public Education for children with disabilities in Wyoming.

(c) WDE shall ensure that federal special education funds are appropriated to and spent by school districts or public agencies in accordance with these rules, the IDEA, including but not limited to 34 C.F.R. §§300.200 through 300.230 and that school districts or public agencies submit a plan to provide assurances to WDE that they provide for the education of children with disabilities within their jurisdiction, having in effect policies, procedures, and programs that are consistent with the Wyoming policies and procedures established under Part B of the IDEA. These funds shall be recovered

by WDE for services to any child determined to be erroneously classified and reported to WDE as a child with a disability. WDE may use whatever State, local, federal or private sources of support that are available to meet the requirements of the IDEA.

### Section 3. **Definitions.**

(a) All terms defined in the following federal laws and regulations and any other federally defined terms are incorporated herein by reference for purposes of these rules:

(i) The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA), 20 U.S.C. §1400 *et seq.*; and,

(ii) The IDEA regulations at 34 C.F.R. Part 300 (governing Part B programs for school-aged children with disabilities), and 34 C.F.R. Part 301 (governing programs for preschool children with disabilities).

(b) The following definitions are specifically defined by WDE for the purposes of these rules.

(i) **“Developmental Delay”** means a child with a disability ages three (3) through nine (9) who is determined, through appropriate diagnostic instruments and procedures, to be experiencing delays in the following areas: physical development, cognitive development, communication development, social or emotional development, or adaptive development and who, by reason thereof, needs special education and related services.

(ii) **“Elementary school”** means a school consisting of kindergarten through grade five (5), or any appropriate combination of grades within this range, as determined by the plan of organization for schools authorized by the board of trustees, including a nonprofit institutional day or residential school or a public elementary charter school that provides elementary education as determined by Wyoming law. [See 34 C.F.R. § 300.13 and W.S. 21-13-101(a)(iv)].

(iii) **“High school”** means a school consisting of grades nine (9) through twelve (12), or any combination of grades within this range, as determined by the plan of organization for schools authorized by the district board, including a nonprofit institutional day or residential school or a public secondary charter school as determined by Wyoming law, except that it does not include education beyond grade 12. [See 34 C.F.R. § 300.36 and W.S. 21-13-101(a)(vi)]

(iv) **“Home based education”** means a program of educational instruction provided to a child by the child's parent or legal guardian or by a person designated by the parent or legal guardian. An instructional program provided to more than one family unit does not constitute a home-based educational program. [See W.S. §21-4-101(a)(v)]

(v) **“Middle school”** means a school, consisting of grades six (6) through eight (8) or any combination of grades within this range, as determined by the plan of organization for schools authorized by the district board of trustees, including a nonprofit

institutional day or residential school or a public charter school. [See 34 C.F.R. §§300.13 and 300.36 and W.S. 21-13-101(a)(vii)]

(vi) **"Preschool children with disabilities"** means children three (3) through five (5) years of age in Wyoming identified as eligible for special education and related services. [See W.S. §21-2-701]

(vii) **"Private school"** means, for the purpose of these rules, any nonpublic, elementary or secondary school providing basic academic educational programs for children and may include parochial and church or religious schools and home-based educational programs. [See W.S. §21-4-101(a)(iii)]

#### Section 4. **Identification, Evaluation, and Eligibility Determinations.**

(a) Child find. Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.111, each school district or public agency shall adopt and implement policies and procedures to ensure that all children with disabilities who reside within the school district's or public agency's educational jurisdiction, including children with disabilities attending private schools or facilities such as residential treatment centers, day treatment centers, hospitals, mental health institutions, detention and correctional facilities, children who are highly mobile, and children who are advancing from grade to grade, regardless of the severity of their disability, and who are in need of special education and related services, are located, evaluated and identified in compliance with all applicable requirements of IDEA, including but not limited to 34 C.F.R. §§ 300.111, 300.131, 300.301 through 300.306 and these WDE rules and standards.

(i) School districts or public agencies must provide parents with public notice of its child find activities pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.612(b).

(ii) School districts or public agencies must implement procedures to ensure protection of the confidentiality of any personally identifiable information collected, used, or maintained in child find activities in accordance with the federal regulations, including but not limited to 34 C.F.R. §§300.32, 300.134 and 300.610 through 300.627.

(iii) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.130 through 300.144, if a child is parentally enrolled in a private elementary or secondary school outside the boundaries of the school district or public agency in which the student is living, the school district or public agency where the private school is located is responsible for child find activities, evaluations, and provision of services.

(iv) School districts and public agencies shall coordinate child find responsibilities for children ages birth through two (2) with early intervention providers or agencies.

(b) Initial evaluation.

(i) In accordance with 34 C.F.R. §300.301, either a parent, school district, or public agency may initiate a request for a full and individual initial evaluation.

(A) A school district or public agency shall establish procedures for requesting an initial evaluation.

(B) If a comprehensive initial evaluation is determined warranted, consent must be obtained consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.300, and the evaluation must be conducted consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.301 through 300.311.

(C) A comprehensive evaluation shall include, as needed, evaluative services provided by a licensed physician to determine a child's medically related disability that results in the child's need for special education and related services. [See 34 C.F.R. §300.34(c)(5)]

(D) If the school district or public agency does not suspect that the child has a disability and refuses a parent's request for an initial evaluation, the school district or public agency must provide written notice to the parent consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.503. The parent may challenge the refusal by utilizing the dispute resolution procedures in these rules.

(c) Eligibility under the IDEA.

(i) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.8, to be eligible for special education and related services under the IDEA a child must meet the criteria for one (1) or more of the disability categories listed in this section, and the disability must adversely affect the student's educational performance such that the student needs special education, as defined in 34 C.F.R. §300.39, and related services, as defined in 34 C.F.R. §300.34.

(ii) Limitation. Speech Language Impairment is the only disability category that would be considered either:

(A) A special education service if eligibility criteria is met, or

(B) A related service if the eligibility criteria for one (1) of the other disability categories is satisfied.

(d) Disability categories and eligibility criteria.

(i) **Autism Spectrum Disorder.** Autism Spectrum Disorder means a developmental disability significantly affecting verbal and nonverbal communications and social interaction, generally evident before age three (3) that adversely affects a child's educational performance. Other characteristics often associated with Autism Spectrum Disorder are engagement in repetitive activities and stereotyped movements, resistance to environmental change or change in daily routines, and unusual responses to sensory experiences. Autism Spectrum Disorder does not apply if a child's educational performance is adversely affected primarily because the child has an Emotional Disability as defined in this section.

(A) Autism Spectrum Disorder eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall include recommendations for instruction from a qualified diagnostician, such as a licensed psychologist, psychiatrist or other qualified professional. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements of these rules, a child is

identified as a child with Autism Spectrum Disorder if four (4) out of five (5) following criteria are satisfied:

(I) Impaired communication: The child is unable to use expressive and receptive language for social communication in a developmentally appropriate manner; lacks nonverbal communication skills or uses abnormal nonverbal communication; uses abnormal form or content when speaking; or is unable to initiate or sustain conversation with others;

(II) Inappropriate relationships: The child exhibits deficits relating to people; marked lack of awareness of others' feelings; abnormal seeking of comfort at times of distress; absent or abnormal social play; or inability to make friends. The child does not relate to or use objects in an age appropriate manner;

(III) Abnormal sensory processing: The child exhibits unusual, repetitive, or non-meaningful responses to auditory, visual, olfactory, taste, tactile or kinesthetic stimuli;

(IV) Impaired cognitive development: The child has difficulty with concrete versus abstract thinking, awareness, judgment or the ability to generalize. The child may exhibit perseverative thinking or impaired ability to process symbolic information; or

(V) Abnormal range of activities: The child demonstrates a restricted repertoire of activities, interests, and imaginative development evident through stereotyped body movements, persistent preoccupation with parts of objects, distress over trivial changes in the environment, unreasonable insistence on routines, restricted range of interests, or preoccupations with one (1) narrow interest.

(ii) **Cognitive Disability.** Cognitive Disability means significantly sub-average general intellectual functioning, existing concurrently with deficits in adaptive behavior and manifested during the developmental period that adversely affects a child's educational performance.

(A) Cognitive Disability eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with these rules, a child is identified as a child with a Cognitive Disability if all of the following criteria are met:

(I) Documentation on an individual test of intelligence that the child's intellectual functioning is two (2) or more standard deviations below the mean, taking into consideration the standard error of measurement. In the event that an individual test of intelligence is not able to be administered to the child, the evaluation team shall document how they determined that the child's profile of intellectual functioning indicates sub-average performance in a majority of areas;

(II) Documentation on an individually administered test or assessment that the child's academic or pre-academic skills are coexistent with the child's deficits in

intellectual functioning. Behavior observations, criterion-referenced tests, or documentation of classroom performance may be used when a child's level of functioning cannot appropriately be measured by standardized tests; and

(III) Documentation on standardized adaptive behavior measurements, that includes information gathered from parents and school staff, that the child's deficits in adaptive behavior are coexistent with the child's deficits in intellectual functioning.

(iii) **Deaf-Blindness.** Deaf-Blindness means concomitant hearing and visual impairments, the combination of which causes such severe communication and other developmental and educational needs that they cannot be accommodated in special education programs solely for a child with deafness or a child with blindness.

(A) Deaf-Blindness eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with these rules. The initial evaluation process shall include a licensed audiologist, certified teacher of the visually impaired, and other qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements of these rules, a child is identified as a child with Deaf-Blindness if all of the following criteria are met:

(I) Eligibility criteria for Hearing Impairment, Including Deafness, are met;

(II) Eligibility criteria for Visual Impairment, Including Blindness, are met; and

(III) The child's current level of performance indicates significant problems with motor functioning, communication, self-help/adaptive skills, social skills, or pre-academic or academic skills.

(iv) **Developmental Delay.** Developmental Delay means a child with a disability ages three (3) through nine (9) who is determined through appropriate diagnostic instruments and procedures to be experiencing developmental delays in the following areas: physical development, cognitive development, communication development, social or emotional development, or adaptive development, that adversely affects educational performance and who, by reason thereof, needs special education and related services. Developmental Delay is a category available to children ages three (3) through nine (9) who do not qualify in other categories under these rules, but meet the Developmental Delay criteria. School districts or public agencies are free to utilize Developmental Delay as a disability category if adopted by the local governing board and annual assurances are provided to WDE that the criteria is implemented consistent with these rules.

(A) Developmental Delay eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In

accordance with these rules, a child is identified as a child with a Developmental Delay if the following criteria are met:

(I) The child's performance is significantly below the mean of expected performance, measured at 1.75 standard deviations below the expected performance for children of comparable chronological age in one (1) area (physical, cognitive, social/emotional, communication, or adaptive functioning); or

(II) The child's performance is markedly below the mean of expected performance, measure at 1.5 standard deviations below the expected performance for children of comparable chronological age in two (2) or more areas (physical, cognitive, social/emotional, communication, or adaptive functioning); and

(III) Results of hearing and vision screening that provide evidence that the child's performance is not the result of hearing or vision impairments.

(B) Exceeding the age of eligibility: Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.305(e)(1), the school district or public agency must evaluate the child before determining the child is no longer a child with a Developmental Delay.

(v) **Emotional Disability.** Emotional Disability means a condition exhibiting one (1) or more of the following characteristics over a long period of time and to a marked degree that adversely affects a child's educational performance: an inability to learn that cannot be explained by intellectual, sensory, or health factors; an inability to build or maintain satisfactory interpersonal relationships with peers or teachers; inappropriate types of behavior or feelings under normal circumstances; a general pervasive mood of unhappiness or depression; or a tendency to develop physical symptoms or fears associated with personal or school problems. The term includes schizophrenia. The term does not apply to children who are socially maladjusted, unless they have an Emotional Disability as defined in these rules.

(A) Emotional Disability eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall include recommendations for social, emotional, or behavioral instruction from a qualified diagnostician, such as a licensed psychologist, school psychologist, psychiatrist, or other qualified professional. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements of these rules, a child is identified as a child with an Emotional Disability if the following criteria are met:

(I) Documentation from regular education positive behavioral interventions evidences that the behavior adversely affects the child's educational performance.

(II) The child continues to exhibit behavioral or emotional characteristics over a long period of time and to a marked degree that adversely affects the child's educational performance as evidence by one (1) or more of the following:

(1.) An inability to learn that cannot be explained by intellectual, sensory, or health factors;

(2.) An inability to build or maintain satisfactory interpersonal relationships with peers and teachers;

(3.) Inappropriate types of behavior or feelings under normal circumstances;

(4.) A general pervasive mood of unhappiness or depression; or

(5.) A tendency to develop physical symptoms or fears associated with personal or school problems.

(III) The term does not apply to children who are socially maladjusted, unless it is determined that they have an Emotional Disability consistent with the criteria above.

(vi) **Hearing Impairment, Including Deafness.** Hearing Impairment, Including Deafness means a hearing impairment including deafness that, with or without amplification, adversely affects educational performance, may be permanent or fluctuating, and may be so severe that the child is impaired in processing linguistic information through hearing, with or without amplification.

(A) Hearing Impairment, Including Deafness eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with these rules. The initial evaluation process shall include a licensed audiologist and other qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with these rules, a child is identified as a child with a Hearing Impairment, Including Deafness, if the following criteria are met:

(I) Documentation of the child's potential requirement for amplification and one (1) of the following hearing losses:

(1.) Sensorineural hearing loss; or

(2.) Conductive hearing loss.

(II) Documentation that the hearing loss interferes with the student's ability to function in an educational program using traditional materials and techniques due to the child's difficulty in using or understanding spoken language.

(vii) **Multiple Disabilities.** Multiple Disabilities means concomitant impairments (such as Cognitive Disability-Blindness; Traumatic Brain Injury-Orthopedic Impairment), the combination of which causes such severe educational needs that they cannot be accommodated in special education programs solely for one (1) of the impairments. The term does not include Deaf-Blindness unless eligibility criteria in an additional disability category are satisfied.

(A) Multiple Disabilities eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of these rules. The

initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability.

(viii) **Orthopedic Impairment.** Orthopedic Impairment means a severe orthopedic impairment that adversely affects a child's educational performance. The term includes impairments caused by a congenital anomaly, impairments caused by disease (e.g., poliomyelitis, bone tuberculosis), and impairments from other causes (e.g., cerebral palsy, amputations and fractures or burns that cause contractures).

(A) Orthopedic Impairment eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements of these rules, a child is identified as a child with an Orthopedic Impairment if the following criteria are met:

(I) Documentation of an Orthopedic Impairment from a physician within the previous twelve (12) months for an initial evaluation; and

(II) Documentation that the child's impaired motor functioning significantly interferes with educational performance; and either

(III) Documentation that the child exhibits deficits in muscular or neuromuscular functioning that significantly limit the child's ability to move about, sit, or manipulate materials required for learning; or

(IV) Documentation that the child's bone, joint, or muscle problems affect ambulation, posture, or gross and fine motor skills.

(ix) **Other Health Impairment.** Other Health Impairment means having limited strength, vitality, or alertness, including a heightened alertness to environmental stimuli, that results in limited alertness with respect to the educational environment, that is due to chronic or acute health problems, such as asthma, attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, diabetes, epilepsy, a heart condition, hemophilia, lead poisoning, leukemia, nephritis, rheumatic fever, sickle cell anemia, and Tourette Syndrome, and adversely affects a child's educational performance.

(A) Other Health Impairment eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements of these rules, a child is identified as a child with an Other Health Impairment if the criteria below are met:

(I) Subject to the provision below regarding attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, documentation of an acute or chronic health problem from a licensed physician within the previous twelve (12) months for an initial evaluation;

(1.) In concert with the above provision, as determined appropriate by a school district or public agency, a licensed psychologist or certified psychologist, in lieu of a physician may document the child meets eligibility requirements for an Other Health Impairment with respect to attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder for an initial evaluation; and

(II) Documentation that educational performance is adversely affected due to acute or chronic limited strength, vitality, or alertness.

(x) **Specific Learning Disability (SLD).** Specific Learning Disability means a disorder in one (1) or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or in using language, spoken or written, that may manifest itself in an imperfect ability to listen, think, speak, read, write, spell, or to do mathematical calculations, including conditions such as perceptual disabilities, brain injury, minimal brain dysfunction, dyslexia and developmental aphasia. A Specific Learning Disability does not include learning problems that are primarily the result of visual, hearing, or motor disabilities, cognitive disability, emotional disability, or of environmental, cultural or economic disadvantage.

(A) Specific Learning Disability eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by a group of qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with these rules, a child is identified as a child with a Specific Learning Disability if the criteria in this section are satisfied.

(B) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.308, the determination of whether a child suspected of having a Specific Learning Disability is a child with a disability as defined in 34 C.F.R. §300.8, must be made by a group, which includes the child's parents and qualified professionals, including:

(I) The child's regular teacher, or if the child does not have a regular teacher, a regular classroom teacher qualified to teach a child of his or her age; or

(II) For a child of less than school age, an individual qualified by Wyoming to teach a child of his or her age; and

(III) At least one (1) person qualified to conduct individual diagnostic examinations of children, such as a school psychologist, speech-language pathologist, or remedial reading teacher.

(C) With respect to the evaluation described in paragraph (A) above, and consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.310, the school district or public agency must ensure that the child is observed in the child's learning environment, including the regular classroom setting, to document the child's academic performance and behavior in the areas of difficulty. In the case of a child of less than school age or out of school, a group member must observe the child in an environment appropriate for a child of that age. The group, in determining whether a child has a Specific Learning Disability, must decide to:

(I) Use information from an observation in a routine classroom instruction and monitoring of the child's performance that was done before the child was referred for evaluation; or

(II) Have at least one (1) member of the group conduct an observation of the child's academic performance in the regular classroom after the child has been referred for an evaluation and parental consent, consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.300(a), is obtained.

(D) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.309(a), the group determines that a child has a Specific Learning Disability if:

(I) The child does not achieve adequately for the child's age or meet Wyoming grade-level standards in one (1) or more of the following areas, when provided with learning experiences and instruction appropriate for the child's age or Wyoming grade-level standards:

- (1.) Oral expression;
- (2.) Listening comprehension;
- (3.) Written expression;
- (4.) Basic reading skill;
- (5.) Reading fluency skills;
- (6.) Reading comprehension;
- (7.) Mathematics calculation;
- (8.) Mathematics problem solving; and

(II) The child does not make sufficient progress to meet age or Wyoming grade-level standards in one (1) or more of the above areas when using a process based on the child's response to scientific, research-based intervention.

(E) The group shall use either the Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula or a response to intervention process when determining whether a child is not making sufficient progress to meet age or Wyoming grade-level standards.

(I) Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula: The group may determine that the child demonstrates a severe discrepancy between current achievement level and expected achievement level of at least 22 points upon an initial evaluation, utilizing Appendix A of these rules. Expected achievement is based on the correlation between tests of the child's composite intellectual standard score compared to the child's composite achievement score in one (1) or more core achievement areas.

(1.) The Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula in Appendix A of these rules must be utilized when making an eligibility determination based on a severe discrepancy between intellectual ability and achievement.

(2.) A severe discrepancy exists when application of the Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula results in a difference between expected and actual achievement greater than or equal to 1.5 standard deviations (See Appendix A).

(II) Response to intervention process: The group may determine that the child does not make sufficient progress to meet age or Wyoming grade-level standards in one (1) or more of the areas in paragraph (D)(I) of this section when using a process based on the child's response to scientific, research-based intervention.

(F) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.309, to ensure that underachievement in a child suspected of having a Specific Learning Disability is not due to lack of appropriate instruction in reading or math, as part of the evaluation the group must consider:

(I) Data that demonstrate that prior to, or as a part of, the referral process, the child was provided appropriate instruction in regular education settings, delivered by qualified personnel; and

(II) Data based documentation of repeated assessments of achievement at reasonable intervals, reflecting formal assessment of student progress during instruction, which was provided to the child's parents.

(G) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.309, the group must determine that underachievement of a child suspected of having a Specific Learning Disability is not primarily the result of:

- (I) A visual, hearing, or motor disability;
- (II) Cognitive disability;
- (III) Emotional disability;
- (IV) Cultural factors;
- (V) Environmental or economic disadvantage; or
- (VI) Limited English proficiency.

(H) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.309(c), a school district or public agency must promptly request parental consent to evaluate the child to determine if the child needs special education and related services, and must adhere to the timeframes in 34 C.F.R. §§300.301 through 300.303, unless extended by mutual written agreement of the child's parents and the group of qualified professionals under the following circumstances:

(I) If, prior to a referral, a child has not made adequate progress after an appropriate period of time when provided instruction described in (F) above, and

(II) Whenever a child is referred for an evaluation.

(I) Specific documentation required for the eligibility determination. Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.311, for a child suspected of having a Specific Learning

Disability, the documentation of the determination of eligibility must contain a statement of each of the following:

- (I) Whether the child has a Specific Learning Disability;
- (II) The basis for making the determination, including an assurance that the determination has been made in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §300.306(c)(1);
- (III) The relevant behavior, if any, noted during the observation of the child and the relationship of that behavior to the child's academic functioning;
- (IV) The educationally relevant medical findings, if any;
- (V) Whether:
  - (1.) The child does not achieve adequately for the child's age or to meet Wyoming grade-level standards consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.309(a)(1); and
  - (2.) The child does not make sufficient progress to meet age or Wyoming grade-level standards consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.309(a)(2)(i).
- (VI) The determination of the group concerning the effects of a visual, hearing, or motor disability; cognitive disability; emotional disability cultural factors; environmental or economic disadvantage; or limited English proficiency on the child's achievement level.
- (VII) If the child has participated in a process that assesses a child's response to scientific, research-based intervention:
  - (1.) The instructional strategies used and the student-centered data collected; and
  - (2.) The documentation that the child's parents were notified about:
    - a. Wyoming's policies regarding the amount and nature of student performance data that would be collected and the general education services that would be provided;
    - b. Strategies for increasing the child's rate of learning; and
    - c. The parents' right to request an evaluation.
- (VIII) Each group member must certify in writing whether the report reflects the member's conclusion. If it does not, the group member must submit a separate statement presenting the member's conclusions.
- (xi) **Speech or Language Impairment.** Speech or Language Impairment means a communication disorder, such as Stuttering, impaired Articulation, a Language Impairment or a Voice Impairment, that adversely affects a child's educational performance.

(A) Speech or Language Impairment eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by a Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) and other qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements of these rules, a child is identified as a child with a Speech or Language Impairment in the qualifying area(s) of Articulation, Stuttering, Language Impairment, or Voice Impairment if the following specific criteria are met.

(I) Articulation eligibility criteria. Articulation means speech sound production or phonological errors atypical of a child of comparable age and development.

(1.) Eligibility criteria: One (1) of the following criteria must be met:

a. Documentation that the child exhibits errors of speech sound production beyond the age at which 85% of typically developing children have achieved mastery (based on current developmental norms);

b. Documentation that the child's performance on a standardized evaluation instrument is 1.5 standard deviations or greater below the mean for the child's chronological age based on a norm-referenced test of articulation or phonology;

c. Documentation that one (1) or more phonological patterns of sound are significantly disordered and evidence that the child's conversational intelligibility is affected; or

d. Documentation that the child's scores are at a moderate, severe, or profound rating on appropriate evaluation instruments.

(II) Stuttering eligibility criteria. Stuttering means abnormal flow of speech evident in interruptions by hesitations, repetitious or prolongation of sounds, syllables, words or phrases or articulatory positions or by avoidance and struggle behaviors.

(1.) Eligibility criteria: Either criteria a. or b. must be met in addition to criteria c.

a. Documentation that the child demonstrates at least a moderate rating or its equivalent on a formal fluency rating scale; or

b. Documentation that the child exhibits stuttering on 5% or more of words spoken in a representative language sample or demonstrates stuttering in varied speaking situations; and

c. An observation documenting that the child's stuttering interferes with communication and calls attention to itself.

(III) Language Impairment eligibility criteria. Language Impairment means a deficiency in language comprehension or production evident in the content, form or use of oral communication or its equivalent.

(1.) Eligibility criteria: Both of the following criteria must be met:

a. The child demonstrates on standardized measures an understanding and use of morphologic, syntactic, semantic, or pragmatic patterns at 1.5 standard deviations below the mean for the child's chronological age; and

b. Documentation that receptive or expressive language interferes with the child's oral communication or primary mode of communication.

(IV) Voice Impairment. Voice Impairment means a significant deviation in pitch, intensity or quality, which significantly interferes with communication for an extended period of time and is atypical for a child of comparable age and development.

(1.) Voice Impairment eligibility criteria: Voice Impairment must be evidenced by:

a. Documentation that the child exhibits significantly abnormal voice quality, pitch, resonance, loudness, or duration; and

b. Documentation that the condition is present for an extended period of time.

(B) The evaluation process must take into account that the child does not exhibit any one (1) of the following exclusionary factors:

(I) Mild, transitory, or developmentally appropriate speech or language difficulties that children experience at various times to various degrees;

(II) Speech or language difficulties resulting from dialectical difference or from learning English as a second language, unless the child has a Language Impairment in his or her native language;

(III) Difficulties with auditory processing without a concomitant impairment in speech sound production;

(IV) A tongue thrust which exists in the absence of a concomitant impairment in speech sound production; or

(V) Elective or selective mutism or school phobia without a documented oral Speech or Language Impairment.

(xii) **Traumatic Brain Injury.** Traumatic Brain Injury means acquired injury to the brain caused by an external physical force, resulting in total or partial functional disability or psychosocial impairment, or both, that adversely affects a child's educational performance. Traumatic Brain Injury applies to open or closed head injuries resulting in impairments in one (1) or more areas such as cognition; language; memory; attention; reasoning; abstract thinking; judgment; problem-solving; sensory; perceptual and motor abilities; psychosocial behavior; physical functions; information processing; and speech.

Traumatic Brain Injury does not apply to brain injuries that are congenital or degenerative, or to brain injuries induced by birth trauma.

(A) Traumatic Brain Injury eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with these requirements, a child is identified as a child with a Traumatic Brain Injury if the following criteria are satisfied:

(I) Documentation from a physician, within the previous twelve (12) months, that the child has sustained a brain trauma (e.g., skull fracture, contusions, and/or bullet wound, etc.) resulting in the onset of an impairment; and

(II) Documentation that the Traumatic Brain Injury adversely affects the child's educational performance in one (1) or more of the following areas: cognitive ability, social behavior, use of adaptive skills, physical ability, vision, hearing, or ability to communicate.

(xiii) **Visual Impairment, Including Blindness.** Visual Impairment, Including Blindness means an impairment in vision, even with correction, that adversely affects a child's educational performance. The term includes both partial sight and blindness.

(A) Visual Impairment eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with these rules. The initial evaluation team shall consist of a certified teacher of the visually impaired and other qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements of these rules, a child is identified as a child with a Visual Impairment, Including Blindness if criteria in paragraph (I) is met in addition to one (1) additional criteria in paragraphs (II) through (V).

(I) Documentation of loss of vision which adversely affects the child's educational performance and requires the use of specialized tests, techniques, materials, or assistive technology devices; and

(II) Documentation of visual acuity in the better eye with the best possible correction of:

(1.) 20/200 or less (blind); or

(2.) 20/50 or less (partially sighted);

(III) Documentation of reduced visual field to 20 degrees or less in the better eye;

(IV) Documentation of a progressive loss of vision which may, in the future, affect the child's ability to learn; or

(V) Visual acuity, which cannot be measured, but in which the child has a functional loss of vision as determined through a functional vision assessment.

Section 5. **Special Education Process.**

(a) Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).

(i) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.101 and 300.102 and W.S. §21-2-501, school districts and public agencies shall ensure that a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) is available to all children with disabilities residing in Wyoming no later than the child's third (3<sup>rd</sup>) birthday through the completion of the school year the child turns twenty-one (21), including those children who have been suspended or expelled from school.

(ii) Preschool children with disabilities means children age three (3) through five (5) in Wyoming who are identified as eligible for special education and related services under the IDEA, federal regulations and these rules.

(iii) Any preschool children with disabilities who are five (5) years of age on or before September 15<sup>th</sup> and who are receiving services from a school district shall be the responsibility of that school district for the purpose of ensuring the provision of FAPE. [See W.S. §21-2-704.]

(b) Least Restrictive Environment (LRE).

(i) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.114 through 300.120 and any Wyoming LRE policy or procedure adopted pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.165, except as provided in §300.324(d)(2) (regarding children with disabilities in adult prisons), WDE must ensure that school districts and public agencies have policies and procedures in place to ensure that:

(A) To the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities, including children in public or private institutions or other care facilities, are educated with children who are nondisabled; and

(B) Special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of children with disabilities from the regular educational environment occurs only if the nature or severity of the disability is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily.

(ii) Each school district or public agency must ensure that a continuum of alternative placements is available to meet the needs of children with disabilities for special education and related services.

(iii) The continuum of alternative placements must include the alternative placements listed in 34 C.F.R. §300.39 and make provisions for supplementary services, defined in 34 C.F.R. §300.42, to be provided in conjunction with regular class placement.

(iv) The placement decision: In determining the educational placement of a child with a disability, including a preschool child with a disability, the school district or public agency must ensure that:

(A) The placement decision:

(I) Is made by a group of persons, including the parents, and other persons knowledgeable about the child, the meaning of the evaluation data, and the placement options; and

(II) Is made in conformity with the LRE provisions above and 34 C.F.R. §§300.114 through 300.118.

(B) The child's placement:

(I) Is determined at least annually;

(II) Is based on the child's IEP; and

(III) Is as close as possible to the child's home.

(v) Unless the IEP of a child requires some other arrangement, the child shall be educated in the school that he or she would attend if nondisabled.

(vi) In selecting the LRE, consideration shall be given to any potentially harmful effect on the child or on the quality of services that he or she needs.

(vii) A child with a disability shall not be removed from education in age-appropriate regular classrooms solely because of needed modifications in the general curriculum.

(c) Extended School Year (ESY).

(i) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.106 and any Wyoming ESY policy or procedure adopted pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.165, each school district or public agency must ensure that extended school year services are available as necessary to provide FAPE.

(A) ESY services means special education and related services that:

(I) Are provided to a child with a disability:

(1.) Beyond the normal school year of the school district or public agency;

(2.) In accordance with the child's IEP; and

(3.) At no cost to the parents of the child; and

(II) Meet the standards of Wyoming.

(B) ESY services must be provided only if a child's IEP team determines, on an individual basis, that the services are necessary for the provision of FAPE to the child. In implementing the requirements of this section, the school district or public agency must consider a multi-factor approach in determining whether ESY services are necessary, and may not:

(I) Limit extended school year services to particular categories of disability; or

(II) Unilaterally limit the type, amount, or duration of those services.

(d) Individualized Education Program (IEP) and placement decisions.

(i) School districts and public agencies shall develop, implement, review and revise IEPs consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.320 through 300.328.

(ii) IEP teams shall make placement decisions in accordance with the rules herein and with the least restrictive environment provision at 34 C.F.R. §§300.114 through 300.118.

(e) **Reevaluations.** A school district or public agency must ensure that a reevaluation of each child with a disability is conducted in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.303 through 300.311.

(f) IEPs for transfer students.

(i) Procedures for children with disabilities who transfer between school districts or public agencies in Wyoming in the same school year shall be consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.323(e).

(ii) Procedures for children with disabilities who transfer to Wyoming school districts or public agencies from another state shall be consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.323(f).

(iii) Procedures for preschool children with disabilities transitioning from developmental preschool centers in the state of Wyoming to school districts or other public agencies shall be consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.323(e).

(iv) Procedures for children identified as Developmentally Delayed who transfer to a school district or public agency that has not adopted the Developmentally Delayed criteria shall be consistent with the procedures in 34 C.F.R. §300.323(f) for students who transfer from another state.

(A) The school district or public agency, consistent with the consent requirements, shall:

(I) Conduct an evaluation and eligibility determination consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.301 through 300.311; and

(B) Meet the requirements above with respect to continuing to provide FAPE to the child, including services comparable to those described in the child's IEP from the previous public agency until completion of the evaluation and eligibility determination consistent with these rules and IDEA.

(g) **Inter-district placements.** Each school district or public agency shall provide FAPE to children with disabilities residing within its boundaries. If the school district or public agency is unable to provide the programs and services necessary for the child with a disability to receive FAPE, the school district or public agency shall

contract with another school district or public agency to provide those programs and/or services. [See W.S. §21-2-502.]

(h) Residential placement by another entity.

(i) If a child with a disability has been placed in a residential treatment facility or psychiatric hospital by another public agency or court, the residential treatment facility or hospital shall initiate action to develop, review, or revise the child's IEP consistent with IDEA and these rules, or if necessary, evaluate and identify the child as a child with a disability according to IDEA and these rules.

(ii) The facility or hospital shall notify the child's resident school district or public agency of the child's placement at the facility or hospital. The resident school district or public agency shall participate in planning and implementing FAPE for the child.

(iii) In the event that the residential treatment facility is unable or unwilling to provide FAPE to the child as required under the IDEA, the resident school district or public agency is responsible for ensuring that the child receives FAPE. (See W.S. §21-2-502.)

(i) Court-ordered placements.

(i) The Department of Family Services (DFS) shall pay residential and treatment costs excluding educational and medical costs of court ordered placements of children in private residential treatment facilities and group homes located in Wyoming.

(ii) Programs providing education services including programs for children with disabilities provided by a Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), shall bill WDE directly for educational costs of court ordered placements.

(iii) All costs billed to WDE under this section shall be in the manner and form required by WDE, and consistent with W.S. §21-13-315 and Chapter 14 of WDE Rules and Regulations.

**Section 6. Procedural Safeguards.** Each school district or public agency shall implement procedural safeguards consistent with the requirements of 34 C.F.R. §§300.500 through 300.536, including dissemination of a procedural safeguards notice that meets the requirements of 34 C.F.R. §300.504.

(a) Parent participation and involvement. The parents of a child with a disability must be afforded an opportunity to participate in the special education process and examine educational records pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.501.

(b) Parental consent. The school district or public agency shall implement parental consent and the revocation of parental consent procedures consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.9 and 300.300 (including the 2008 Amendment and any subsequent amendments).

(c) Independent educational evaluation (IEE). Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.502, the parents of a child with a disability shall have the right to obtain an independent educational evaluation of the child.

(d) Prior written notice. Prior written notice shall be given to the parents of a child with a disability a reasonable time before the school district or public agency proposes to, or refuses to, initiate or change the identification, evaluation, educational placement of the child, or the provision of FAPE to the child consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.503.

(e) Discipline procedures. Discipline of a child with a disability shall be implemented consistent with the requirements of 34 C.F.R. §§300.530 through 300.536 and any Wyoming discipline policy or procedure adopted pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.165.

(f) Surrogate parents. The procedures for appointment of a surrogate parent shall comply with 34 C.F.R. §§300.30 and 300.519.

(g) Transfer of parental rights at age of majority. When a student reaches the age of 18, parental rights under the IDEA shall transfer to the student in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.320(c) and 300.520. [See W.S. §14-1-101.]

(h) Unilateral private placements. Requirements for unilateral placement by parents of children with disabilities in private schools shall be consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.129 through 300.144 and §300.148.

(i) Special education records. The school district or public agency must protect the confidentiality of student education records consistent with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and its implementing regulations at 34 C.F.R. §99, and consistent with the IDEA and 34 C.F.R. §§300.610 through 300.627.

Section 7. **Dispute Resolution.** In compliance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.151, 300.506, and 300.508, WDE shall ensure the adoption of dispute resolution policies and/or procedures pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.165.

(a) Mediation. In accordance with the procedures specified in 34 C.F.R. §300.506 WDE shall offer parties to disputes involving any matter arising under Part B of the IDEA, including disputes arising prior to a due process hearing request, an opportunity to resolve the dispute through mediation.

(b) Wyoming state complaint procedures. In compliance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.151 through 300.153, WDE shall resolve any state complaint, including a complaint filed by an organization or individual from another state, that alleges a violation of Wyoming or Federal laws, and meets the requirements of the above referenced complaint provisions.

(i) In resolving a state complaint in which a failure to provide appropriate services has been found, WDE, pursuant to its general supervisory authority under Part B of the IDEA, shall address:

(A) The failure to provide appropriate services, including corrective action appropriate to address the needs of the child; and

(B) The appropriate future provision of services for all children with disabilities.

(c) Due process hearing procedures. A parent or public agency may file a due process complaint on any of the matters relating to the identification, evaluation, educational placement, or provision of FAPE to the child consistent with procedures outlined in 34 C.F.R. §§300.507 through 300.518 and 300.532.

(d) Child's status during proceedings. Except as provided in 34 C.F.R. §300.533 (regarding disciplinary removals), during the pendency of any administrative or judicial proceeding regarding a due process hearing, unless the Wyoming school district, or public agency and the parents of the child agree otherwise, the child that is the subject of the dispute must remain in his or her current educational placement consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.518.

#### Section 8. **Special Education Funding.**

(a) School district or public agency eligibility. School district or public agency Part B funding shall be implemented in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.200 through 300.230 and any other applicable provisions.

(b) Compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Each school district or public agency shall adopt and implement appropriate policies, procedures, programs and services to ensure that children with disabilities who reside within the agency's educational jurisdiction, including children who are enrolled in private schools or facilities such as residential treatment centers, day treatment centers, hospitals, mental health institutions are identified and evaluated, and have access to FAPE in compliance with all applicable requirements of Wyoming laws and any applicable federal laws and regulations.

(c) Condition of assistance. A school district or public agency is eligible for federal funding under Part B of the IDEA for a fiscal year if the school district or public agency submits a plan that provides assurances to the WDE that the school district or public agency meets each of the conditions set forth in this section and these rules.

#### Section 9. **General Supervision.**

(a) Pursuant to its general supervisory responsibility, WDE shall ensure that the requirements of the IDEA and federal regulations are carried out and that each school district or public agency implements programs that meet the standards of Wyoming, consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.149 and any formally adopted Wyoming policy or procedure.

(b) In accordance with W.S. §§21-2-701(a)(1) and 21-2-703 the Department of Health, Developmental Disabilities Division (Division), is assigned responsibility for ensuring the provision of FAPE to preschool children with disabilities. Pursuant to W.S.

§21-2-702, the Division shall be deemed an intermediate educational unit, and as such, shall function as an educational service agency consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.12(c). [See 34 C.F.R. §300.12 and W.S. §§21-2-701 through 21-2-703.]

(c) Monitoring focus. WDE shall enforce the requirements of the IDEA and monitor the implementation of these rules by school districts and public agencies in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.600 through 300.608 (including the 2008 Amendment and any subsequent amendments). The primary focus of the monitoring activities shall be on:

(i) Improving educational results and functional outcomes for all children with disabilities; and

(ii) Ensuring that the school districts or public agencies meet the program requirements under Part B of the IDEA, with a particular emphasis on those requirements that are most closely related to improving educational results for children with disabilities.

(d) Priority areas. Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.600(d), WDE shall monitor school districts and public agencies using quantifiable indicators in each of the following priority areas, and using such qualitative indicators as are needed to adequately measure the performance in those areas:

(i) Provision of FAPE in the least restrictive environment;

(ii) Wyoming exercise of general supervision, including child find, effective monitoring, the use of resolution meetings, mediation, and a system of transition services defined in 34 C.F.R. §§300.43 and 300.124.

(iii) Disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services, to the extent the representation involves inappropriate identification, pursuant to data collected in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §300.646.

(e) Wyoming use of targets. WDE shall use the targets established in Wyoming's performance plan under 34 C.F.R. §300.601 and the priority areas described in 34 C.F.R. §300.600(d) to analyze the performance of each school district or public agency.

(f) Public reporting and privacy. Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.602 (including the 2008 Amendment and any subsequent amendments) WDE shall:

(i) Make Wyoming's performance plan, under 34 C.F.R. §300.601(a) available through public means.

(ii) Make Wyoming's annual performance report under 34 C.F.R. §300.602(b)(2) available through public means.

(iii) Report annually to the public on the performance of each school district or public agency in Wyoming under 34 C.F.R. §300.602(b)(1)(i)(A).

(g) Determinations. Based on the information provided by school district or public agencies, information obtained through monitoring visits, and any other public information made available, WDE shall determine if the school district or public agency:

- (i) Meets the requirements and purposes of Part B of the IDEA;
- (ii) Needs assistance in implementing the requirements of Part B of the IDEA;
- (iii) Needs intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B of the IDEA; or
- (iv) Needs substantial intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B of the IDEA.

(h) Enforcement. WDE shall enforce the requirements of the IDEA using appropriate enforcement mechanisms consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.600 through 300.606 (including the 2008 Amendment and any subsequent amendments):

(i) Needs assistance. If WDE determines, for two (2) consecutive years, that a school district or public agency needs assistance in implementing the requirements of Part B of the IDEA, WDE shall take one (1) or more of the following actions:

(A) Advise the school district or public agency of available sources of technical assistance that may help the school district or public agency address the areas in which it needs assistance. Such technical assistance may include:

(I) The provision of advice by experts to address the areas in which the school district or public agency needs assistance, including explicit plans for addressing the area for concern within a specified period of time;

(II) Assistance in identifying and implementing professional development, instructional strategies, and methods of instruction that are based on scientifically based research;

(III) Designating and using distinguished superintendents, principals, special education administrators, special education teachers, and other teachers to provide advice, technical assistance, and support; and

(IV) Devising additional approaches to providing technical assistance, such as collaborating with institutions of higher education, educational service agencies, national centers of technical assistance, and private providers of scientifically based technical assistance.

(B) Direct the use of school district or public agency Part B funds on the area or areas in which it needs assistance.

(C) Identify the school district or public agency as a high-risk grantee, and impose special conditions on the use of Part B funds by the school district or public agency.

(ii) Needs intervention. If WDE determines, for three (3) or more consecutive years, that a school district or public agency needs intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B of the IDEA, the following shall apply:

(A) WDE may take any of the actions described in paragraph (i) above.

(B) WDE shall take one (1) or more of the following actions:

(I) Require the school district or public agency to prepare a corrective action plan or improvement plan if WDE determines that the school district or public agency should be able to correct the problem within one (1) year.

(II) Require the school district or public agency to enter into a compliance agreement if WDE has reason to believe that the school district or public agency cannot correct the problem within one (1) year.

(III) For each year of the determination, withhold not less than 20% and not more than 50% of the school district's or public agency's IDEA Part B funds until WDE determines that the school district or public agency has sufficiently addressed the areas in which it needs intervention.

(IV) Seek to recover funds paid to the school district or public agency under Part B of the IDEA consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.604(b)(2)(iv).

(V) Withhold, in whole or in part, any further payments to the school district or public agency made under Part B of the IDEA.

(VI) Refer the matter for appropriate enforcement action, which may include a referral to the Office of the Wyoming Attorney General or the United States Department of Justice.

(iii) Needs substantial intervention. Notwithstanding paragraphs (i) and (ii) above, at any time WDE determines that a school district or public agency needs substantial intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B of the IDEA or that there is a substantial failure to comply with any condition of the school district's or public agency's eligibility under Part B of the IDEA, WDE shall take one (1) or more of the following actions:

(A) Recover IDEA Part B funds consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.604(c).

(B) Withhold, in whole or in part, any further payments to the school district or public agency under Part B of the IDEA.

(C) Refer the matter for appropriate enforcement action, which may include a referral to the Office of the Wyoming Attorney General or the United States Department of Justice.

(iv) In exercising its monitoring responsibilities under this section, WDE shall ensure that when it identifies noncompliance with the requirements of IDEA by a school district or public agency, the noncompliance is corrected as soon as possible, and in no case later than one (1) year after WDE's identification of the noncompliance in

accordance with 34 C.F.R. §300.600(e) (including the 2008 Amendment and any subsequent amendments).

(v) Findings of noncompliance: For the purpose of this section, a finding of noncompliance is a written notification that includes the citation of the statute, regulation, or rule and a description of the quantitative and/or qualitative data supporting the conclusion that there is noncompliance.

(vi) Correction of noncompliance: WDE must address all noncompliance, whether collected through the on-site monitoring system, other monitoring processes such as self-assessment or desk review of records, Wyoming complaint or due process hearing decisions, or data systems. In an effort to correct noncompliance, WDE may request that the state superintendent take appropriate administrative action with the state board, including but not limited to the changing of accreditation status against any school district or public agency failing to comply with any applicable laws. [See W.S. §§21-2-202(c)]

(vii) Opportunity for hearing. Prior to withholding any funds under Part B of the IDEA, WDE shall provide reasonable notice and an opportunity for hearing in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.155, 300.221 and 300.222.

## APPENDIX A

### Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula

Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.307, a school district or public agency is not required to use the Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula in order to find a child eligible for special services under the category of Specific Learning Disability (SLD). In the event a school district or public agency elects to establish a child's eligibility under the category of SLD through use of a severe discrepancy model, the school district or public agency must use the Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula and document compliance on the eligibility report.

The assessment of intellectual ability and academic functioning level must include individually administered norm-reference tests that are reliable and valid, and administered by an individual specifically trained to administer and interpret the instruments. Criterion-referenced tests, informal measures, work samples, classroom observations, and the child's educational history may be used as needed to corroborate norm-referenced test scores.

A child whose disability is a Specific Learning Disability must demonstrate a severe discrepancy between current achievement level and expected achievement level of 22 points upon initial evaluation. Expected achievement level (obtained from Table A) is based on the correlation between tests of the child's composite intellectual standard score compared to the child's composite achievement score in one (1) or more core achievement areas.

#### Instructions:

In all cases, intellectual and achievement standard scores should be based on age norms rather than grade norms and, when available, on cluster scores rather than on subtest scores. Using the most current editions and norms of any chosen standardized tests is preferable to using older editions with outdated norms.

The table on the following page entitled Correlation Coefficient Between Ability and Achievement Test Scores should be used to determine the child's expected achievement level. This table takes into account the correlation between the intellectual and achievement measures being used as well as regression toward the mean. To use this table, the steps outlined below must be followed:

Step 1: Determine the correlation between the intellectual and achievement measures being used, if available. If the correlation between intellectual and achievement measures is not known, .65 may be used as an adequate median correlation between such measures.

Step 2: Locate the child's intellectual standard score in the side columns of Table A, entitled Correlation Coefficient Between Ability and Achievement Test Scores.

Step 3: Follow the row determined in Step 2 to the column with the correlation value closest to the correlation between the chosen measures of intellectual functioning and achievement or to a correlation of .65 if a specific correlation coefficient is not known.

Ability Score	Table A: Correlation Coefficient Between Ability and Achievement Test Scores											Ability Score
	0.4	0.45	0.5	0.55	0.6	0.65	0.7	0.75	0.8	0.85	0.9	
	Expected Achievement Score with Correction for Regression Toward the Mean											
130	112	114	115	117	118	120	121	123	124	126	127	130
129	112	113	115	116	117	119	120	122	123	125	126	129
128	111	113	114	115	117	118	120	121	122	124	125	128
127	111	112	114	115	116	118	119	120	122	123	124	127
126	110	112	113	114	116	117	118	120	121	122	123	126
125	110	111	113	114	115	116	118	119	120	121	122	125
124	110	111	112	113	114	116	117	118	119	120	122	124
123	109	110	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	120	121	123
122	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	117	118	119	120	122
121	108	109	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	121
120	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	120
119	108	109	110	110	111	112	113	114	114	116	117	119
118	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	114	115	116	118
117	107	108	109	109	110	111	112	113	114	114	115	117
116	106	107	108	109	110	110	111	112	113	114	114	116
115	106	107	108	108	109	110	111	111	112	113	114	115
114	106	106	107	108	108	109	110	111	111	112	113	114
113	105	106	107	107	108	108	109	110	110	111	112	113
112	105	105	106	107	107	108	108	109	110	110	111	112
111	104	105	106	106	107	107	108	108	109	109	110	111
110	104	105	105	106	106	106	107	108	108	109	109	110
109	104	104	105	105	105	106	106	107	107	108	108	109
108	103	104	104	104	105	105	106	106	106	107	107	108
107	103	103	104	104	105	105	105	105	106	106	106	107
106	102	103	103	103	104	104	104	105	105	105	105	106
105	102	102	103	103	103	103	104	104	104	104	104	105
104	102	102	102	102	102	103	103	103	103	103	104	104
103	101	101	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	103	103	103
102	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	102	102	102	102
101	100	100	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
99	100	100	100	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99
98	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	98	98	98	98
97	99	99	99	98	98	98	98	98	98	97	97	97
96	98	98	98	98	98	97	97	97	97	97	96	96
95	98	98	98	97	97	97	97	96	96	96	96	95
94	98	97	97	97	96	96	96	96	95	95	95	94
93	97	97	97	96	96	95	95	95	94	94	94	93

Ability Score	Table A: Correlation Coefficient Between Ability and Achievement Test Scores											Ability Score
	0.4	0.45	0.5	0.55	0.6	0.65	0.7	0.75	0.8	0.85	0.9	
	Expected Achievement Score with Correction for Regression Toward the Mean											
92	97	96	96	96	95	95	94	94	94	93	93	92
91	96	96	96	95	95	94	94	93	93	92	92	91
90	96	96	95	95	94	94	93	93	92	92	91	90
89	96	95	95	94	93	93	92	92	91	91	90	89
88	95	95	94	93	93	92	92	91	90	90	89	88
87	95	94	94	93	92	92	91	90	90	89	88	87
86	94	94	93	92	92	91	90	90	89	88	87	86
85	94	93	93	92	91	90	90	89	88	87	86	85
84	94	93	92	91	90	90	89	88	87	86	86	84
83	93	92	92	91	90	89	88	87	86	86	85	83
82	93	92	91	90	89	88	87	87	86	85	84	82
81	92	91	91	90	89	88	87	86	85	84	83	81
80	92	91	90	89	88	87	86	85	84	83	82	80
79	92	91	90	88	87	86	85	84	83	82	81	79
78	91	90	89	88	87	86	85	84	82	81	80	78
77	91	90	89	87	86	85	84	83	82	80	79	77
76	90	89	88	87	86	84	83	82	81	80	78	76
75	90	89	88	86	85	84	83	81	80	79	78	75
74	90	88	87	86	84	83	82	81	79	78	77	74
73	89	88	87	85	84	82	81	80	78	77	76	73
72	89	87	86	85	83	82	80	79	78	76	75	72
71	88	87	86	84	83	81	80	78	77	75	74	71
70	88	86	85	84	82	80	79	78	76	74	73	70



## CHAPTER 7

### SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

#### PART 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

##### Section 1. ~~Section 1.~~ **Authority.**

(a) ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ (a) ~~The Wyoming~~ These rules are authorized by W.S. § 21-2-202(a)(xviii) and have been adopted by the Wyoming State Superintendent of Public Instruction as authorized by the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act, W.S. §§ 16-3-101 through 16-3-115.

(b) ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ (b) ~~These rules govern the operation of all special education programs and services provided to children with disabilities ages three (3) through the completion of the school year in which the child turns twenty-one, (21), pursuant to State Wyoming law, by any Local Education Agency (LEA), a school district, by State and local juvenile and adult correctional facilities, and by other public agencies within the State of Wyoming.~~

##### Section 2. ~~(e)~~ **Scope.**

(a) ~~All Provisions~~ provisions under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA-04) (20 U.S.C. §1400 et seq.) and all Federal federal regulations pertaining to this legislation the IDEA, including any subsequent amendments or revisions of the law, regulations, and/or rules, apply to each political subdivision of the State, irrespective in Wyoming, regardless of whether the political subdivision received any Federal federal IDEA Part B funds. The IDEA requires the state educational agency, or the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE), ensure the requirements of the IDEA and Wyoming educational standards are met in all education programs administered by the State or any school district or other public agency within Wyoming providing services to children with disabilities.

(b) ~~For purposes of services to children with disabilities between the ages of three (3) through completion of the school year in which the child turns twenty-one (21), unless specifically addressed in these rules, Wyoming WDE hereby adopts Federal legislation all requirements in the IDEA 04 and the supporting Federal federal regulations at 34 CFR C.F.R. Parts 300.1 through 300.818, and 301, including the 2008 Amendments. The public may view the IDEA and federal regulations on WDE's website at [www.k12.wy.us/se.asp](http://www.k12.wy.us/se.asp). All references to a specific rule include, but are not limited to, any applicable provision in the IDEA and the federal regulations. The requirements of the IDEA-04 are binding on each school district or public agency that has direct or~~

delegated authority to provide special education and related services to children with disabilities in Wyoming. This does not limit the responsibility of any school district or public agency for providing or paying appropriate costs for a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) for children with disabilities in Wyoming.

~~(c)~~ ~~(d)~~ The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) shall ensure that ~~Federal~~ federal special education funds are appropriated to and spent by school districts or public agencies in accordance with these rules, the IDEA, including but not limited to 34 CFR-C.F.R. §§300.200 through 300.210230 and that school districts or public agencies submit a plan to provide assurances to the WDE that they provide for the education of children with disabilities within their jurisdiction, having in effect policies, procedures, and programs that are consistent with the ~~State~~ Wyoming policies and procedures established under Part B of the IDEA-04. These funds shall be recovered by ~~the~~ WDE for services to any child determined to be erroneously classified and reported to ~~the State~~ WDE as a child with a disability. ~~The~~ WDE may use whatever State, local, ~~Federal~~ federal or private sources of support that are available to meet the requirements of the IDEA-04.

~~(e)~~ These rules are effective as provided by W.S. § 16-3-104 and govern entitlement and programs for the 2006-07 school year and each year thereafter.

### Section 3. ~~Section 2.~~ **Definitions.**

~~(a)~~ ~~(a)~~ "Act" means the All terms defined in the following federal laws and regulations and any other federally defined terms are incorporated herein by reference for purposes of these rules:

~~(i)~~ The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA) 2004, (L), 20 U.S.C. §1400 et seq-); and,

~~(b)~~ "Assistive technology device" means any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially off the shelf, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of a child with a disability.

~~(i)~~ Exception. The term does not include a medical device that is surgically implanted or the replacement of such a device.

~~(c)~~ "Assistive technology service" means any service that directly assists a child with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device. The term includes:

~~(i)~~ The evaluation of the needs of a child with a disability, including a functional evaluation of the child in the child's customary environment;

~~(ii) Purchasing, leasing, or otherwise providing for the acquisition of assistive technology devices for IDEA regulations at 34 C.F.R. Part 300 (governing Part B programs for school-aged children with disabilities;~~

~~(iii) Selecting, designing, fitting, customizing, adapting, applying, maintaining, repairing, or replacing assistive technology devices;~~

~~(iv) Coordinating, and using other therapies, interventions, or services with assistive technology devices, such as those associated with existing education and rehabilitation plans and 34 C.F.R. Part 301 (governing programs;~~

~~(v) Training or technical assistance for a child with a disability or, if appropriate, that child's family; and training or technical assistance for professionals (including individuals providing education or rehabilitation services), employers, or other individuals who provide services to, employ, or are otherwise substantially involved in the major life functions of that child.~~

~~(d) "Child with a disability" means a child evaluated in accordance with Part 3, Sections 4 and 5, of these rules as having:~~

~~(i) Cognitive disability, a developmental delay, a hearing impairment (including deafness), a speech or language impairment, a visual impairment (including blindness), a serious emotional disturbance (referred to in these rules as "emotional disability"), an orthopedic impairment, autism, traumatic brain injury, an other health impairment, a specific learning disability, deaf blindness, or multiple disabilities; and~~

~~(ii) Who, by reason thereof, needs special education and related services.~~

~~(iii) If it is determined through an appropriate evaluation under Part 3, Sections 4 and 5, of these rules that a child has one of the disabilities identified in subsection (d)(i) of this Section, but only needs a related service and not special education, then the child is not a child with a disability.~~

~~(e) The terms used in the definition of a child with a disability are defined as follows:~~

~~(i) "Autism" means a developmental disability significantly affecting verbal and nonverbal communication and social interaction, generally evident before age three (3) that adversely affects a child's educational performance. Other characteristics often associated with autism are engagement in repetitive activities and stereotyped movements, resistance to environmental change or change in daily routines, and unusual responses to sensory experiences.~~

~~(A) Autism does not apply if a child's performance is affected primarily because the child has an emotional disability as defined in these rules.~~

~~(B) A child who manifests the characteristics of autism after age three (3) could be identified as having autism if the criteria in (i)(A) are satisfied.~~

~~(ii) "Cognitive disability" means significantly sub-average general intellectual functioning, existing concurrently with deficits in adaptive behavior and manifested during the developmental period that adversely affects a child's educational performance.~~

~~(ii) (iii) "Deaf blindness" means concomitant hearing and visual impairments, the combination of which causes such severe communication and other developmental and educational needs that they cannot be accommodated in special education programs solely for preschool children with deafness or children with blindness.~~disabilities).

~~(iv) "Deafness" means a hearing impairment that is so severe that the child is impaired in processing linguistic information through hearing, with or without amplification, that adversely affects a child's educational performance.~~

~~(b) (v) The following definitions are specifically defined by WDE for the purposes of these rules.~~

~~(i) "Developmental delay" is~~Delay ~~means a child with a disability ages three (3) through nine (9) who is determined, through appropriate diagnostic instruments and procedures, to be experiencing delays in the following areas: physical development, cognitive development, communication development, social or emotional development, or adaptive development and who, by reason thereof, needs special education and related services.~~

~~(A) A school district or public agency is not required to adopt or use the term developmental delay for any child within the district's jurisdiction.~~

~~(B) If the school district or public agency uses the term developmental delay as a category of disability for children with disabilities, the school district or public agency shall conform to the definition of that term detailed in these rules and the age range described in subsection (v) of this Section.~~

~~(vi) "Emotional disability" means a condition exhibiting one or more of the following characteristics over a long period of time and to a marked degree that adversely affects a child's educational performance:~~

~~(A) An inability to learn that cannot be explained by intellectual, sensory, or health factors;~~

~~(B) An inability to build or maintain satisfactory interpersonal relationships with peers and teachers;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (C) Inappropriate types of behavior or feelings under normal circumstances;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (D) A general, pervasive mood of unhappiness or depression;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (E) A tendency to develop physical symptoms or fears associated with personal or school problems.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (F) The term includes schizophrenia, but does not apply to children who are socially maladjusted, unless they have an emotional disability as defined in these rules.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (vii) "Hearing impairment" means an impairment in hearing, whether permanent or fluctuating, that adversely affects a child's educational performance but that is not included under the definition of deafness in this subsection.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (viii) "Multiple disabilities" means concomitant impairments (such as cognitive disability-blindness, cognitive disability-orthopedic impairment, and cognitive disability-deafness, etc.), the combination of which causes such severe educational needs that they cannot be accommodated in special education programs solely for one of the impairments, except the term does not include deaf blindness.~~

~~(ii) \_\_\_\_\_ (ix) "Orthopedic impairment" means a severe orthopedic impairment that adversely affects a child's educational performance. "Elementary school" means a school consisting of kindergarten through grade five (5), or any appropriate combination of grades within this range, as determined by the plan of organization for schools authorized by the board of trustees, including a nonprofit institutional day or residential school or a public elementary charter school that provides elementary education as determined by Wyoming law. [See 34 C.F.R. § 300.13 and W.S. 21-13-101(a)(iv)]~~

~~(iii) "High school" means a school consisting of grades nine (9) through twelve (12), or any combination of grades within this range, as determined by the plan of organization for schools authorized by the district board, including a nonprofit institutional day or residential school or a public secondary charter school as determined by Wyoming law, except that it does not include education beyond grade 12. [See 34 C.F.R. § 300.36 and W.S. 21-13-101(a)(vi)]~~

~~"Home based education" means The term includes impairments caused by a congenital anomaly, impairments caused by disease (e.g., poliomyelitis, bone tuberculosis, etc.), and impairments from other causes (e.g., cerebral palsy, amputations, and fractures or burns that cause contractures).~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (x) "Other health impairment (OHI)" means having limited strength, vitality, or alertness, including a heightened alertness to environmental stimuli, that results in limited alertness with respect to the educational environment, that is due to chronic or acute health problems, such as asthma, attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, diabetes, epilepsy, a heart condition, hemophilia, lead~~

poisoning, leukemia, nephritis, rheumatic fever, sickle cell anemia, and Tourette syndrome; and adversely affects a child's educational performance.

\_\_\_\_\_ (xi) ~~“Specific learning disability” (SLD) means a disorder in one or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or using language, spoken or written, that may manifest itself in the imperfect ability to listen, think, speak, read, write, spell, or to do mathematical calculations, including conditions such as perceptual disabilities, brain injury, minimal brain dysfunction, dyslexia, and developmental aphasia. SLD does not include learning problems that are primarily the result of visual, hearing, or motor disabilities; of cognitive disabilities; of emotional disability; or of environmental, cultural or economic disadvantage.~~

\_\_\_\_\_ (xii) ~~“Speech or language impairment” means a communication disorder, such as stuttering, impaired articulation, a language impairment, or a voice impairment that adversely affects a child's educational performance.~~

\_\_\_\_\_ (xiii) ~~“Traumatic brain injury” (TBI) means an acquired injury to the brain caused by an external physical force, resulting in total or partial functional disability or psychosocial impairment, or both, that adversely affects a child's educational performance. TBI applies to open or closed head injuries resulting in impairments in one or more areas, such as cognition; language; memory; attention; reasoning; abstract thinking; judgment; problem solving; sensory, perceptual and motor abilities; psychosocial behavior; physical functions; information processing; and speech. TBI does not apply to brain injuries that are congenital or degenerative, or brain injuries induced by birth trauma.~~

\_\_\_\_\_ (xiv) ~~“Visual impairment,” including blindness means an impairment in vision that, even with correction, adversely affects a child's educational performance. The term includes partial sight and blindness.~~

\_\_\_\_\_ (f) ~~“Consent” means the following:~~

\_\_\_\_\_ (i) ~~The parent has been fully informed, in his or her native language or other mode of communication, of all information relevant to the activity for which consent is sought;~~

\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) ~~The parent understands and agrees in writing to the carrying out of the activity for which his or her consent is sought, and the consent describes that activity and lists the records (if any) that will be released and to whom; and~~

\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) ~~The parent understands that the granting of consent is voluntary on the part of the parent and may be revoked at anytime. If a parent revokes consent, that revocation is not retroactive (i.e., it does not negate an action that has occurred after the consent was given and before the consent was revoked).~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (g) "Core academic subjects" means English, reading or language arts, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history, and geography.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (h) "Controlled substance" means a drug or other substance identified under schedules I, II, III, IV, or V in Section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812(c)(1)).~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) "Day; business day; school day." These terms mean:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) "Day" means calendar day unless otherwise indicated as business day or school day;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) "Business day" means Monday through Friday, except for Federal and State holidays unless holidays are specifically included in the designation of business day as described in Part 7, Section 2(c)(i); and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) "School day" means any day, including a partial day that children are in attendance at school for instructional purposes. The term "school day" has the same meaning for all children in school, including children with and without disabilities.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (j) "Educational Service Agency" (ESA) means a regional, public, multiservice agency authorized by State law to develop, manage, and provide services or programs to school districts or public agencies; and recognized as an administrative agency for purposes of the provision of special education and related services provided within public elementary and secondary schools of the State; includes any other public institution or agency having administrative control and direction over public elementary or secondary schools, including entities that meet the definition of intermediate educational unit in Section 602(23) of the Act as in effect prior to June 4, 1997.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (k) "Equipment" means machinery, utilities, and built in equipment and any necessary enclosures or structures to house the machinery, utilities, or equipment; and all other items necessary for the functioning of a particular facility as a facility for the provision of educational services, including items such as instructional equipment and necessary furniture; printed, published and audio-visual instructional materials; telecommunications, sensory and other technological aids and devices; and books, periodicals, documents and other related materials.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (l) "Evaluation" means procedures used in accordance with Part 3, Sections 4 and 5, of these rules to determine whether a child has a disability and the nature and extent of the special education and related services that the child needs. The term means procedures used selectively with an individual child and does not include basic tests administered to or procedures used with all children in a school, grade, or class.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (m) "Excess costs" means those costs that are in excess of the average annual per student expenditure in a school district or public agency during the preceding year for~~

~~an elementary school or secondary school student, as may be appropriate, and that must be computed after deducting:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ Amounts received~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) \_\_\_\_\_ Under Part B of IDEA 04;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ Under Part A of Title I of the ESEA; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_ Under Parts A and B of Title III of the ESEA.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ Any State or local funds expended for programs that would qualify for assistance under any of the parts described in paragraph (i) of this subsection, but excluding any amounts for capital outlay or debt services.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (n) \_\_\_\_\_ "Extended School Year" (ESY) means special education and related services provided to a child with a disability only if the child's IEP determines on an individual basis that the services are necessary for the provision of FAPE. The term means special education and related services that are provided to a child with a disability beyond the normal school year of the school district or public agency, in accordance with the child's IEP, and at no cost to the parents of the child. With respect to implementing extended school year services, a public agency may not limit extended school year services to particular categories of disability or unilaterally limit the type, amount, or duration of those services.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (o) \_\_\_\_\_ "Free Appropriate Public Education" (FAPE) means special education and related services that are provided at public expense, under public supervision and direction, and without charge; that meet the standards of the State of Wyoming, including the requirements of IDEA; that include preschool, elementary school, or secondary school education in the State; and are provided in conformity with an IEP.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (p) \_\_\_\_\_ "Highly qualified." For any public elementary or secondary school special education teacher teaching core academic subjects, the term highly qualified has the meaning given the term in section 9101 of the ESEA and 34 CFR 200.56, except that the requirements for highly qualified also include the following:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ Requirements for special education teachers in general. When used with respect to any public elementary or secondary school special education teacher teaching in Wyoming, highly qualified requires that:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) \_\_\_\_\_ The teacher has obtained full State certification as a special education teacher (including certification obtained through alternative routes to certification), or passed the State special education teacher certification examination, and holds a certificate to teach in the State of Wyoming as a special education teacher, except that when used with respect to any teacher teaching in a public charter school, highly qualified means that the teacher meets the certification or licensing requirements set forth in the State's public charter school law;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) The teacher has not had special education certification or licensure requirements waived on a temporary, emergency, or provisional basis; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (C) The teacher holds at least a bachelor's degree.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) A teacher will be considered to meet the standard in paragraph (i) of this subsection if that teacher is participating in an alternative route to a special education certification program under which:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) The teacher receives high quality professional development that is sustained, intensive, and classroom focused in order to have a positive and lasting impact on classroom instruction, before and while teaching;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) The teacher participates in a program of intensive supervision that consists of structured guidance and regular ongoing support for teachers or a teacher mentoring program;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (C) The teacher assumes functions as a teacher only for a specified period of time not to exceed three years; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (D) The teacher demonstrates satisfactory progress toward full certification as prescribed by Wyoming certification requirements.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) Any public elementary or secondary school special education teacher in Wyoming who is not teaching a core academic subject is highly qualified if the teacher meets the requirements of paragraph (i) or the requirements of paragraph (ii) of this subsection.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iv) Requirements for special education teachers teaching to alternate achievement standards. When used with respect to a special education teacher who teaches core academic subjects exclusively to children with disabilities who are assessed against alternate achievement standards, highly qualified means the teacher, whether new or not new to the profession, may either:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) Meet the applicable requirements of section 9101 of the ESEA and 34 CFR 200.56 for any elementary, middle, or secondary school teacher who is new or not new to the profession; or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) Meet the requirements of paragraph (B) or (C) of section 9101 (23) of the ESEA as applied to an elementary school teacher, or, in the case of instruction above the elementary level, meet the requirements of subject matter knowledge appropriate to the level of instruction being provided and needed.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (v) Requirements for special education teachers teaching multiple subjects. When used with respect to a special education teacher who teaches two or more core academic subjects exclusively to children with disabilities, highly qualified means that the teacher may either:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) Meet the applicable requirements of 9101 of the ESEA and 34 CFR 200.56(b) or (c);~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) In the case of a teacher who is not new to the profession, demonstrate competence in all the core academic subjects in which the teacher teaches in the same manner as is required for an elementary, middle, or secondary school teacher who is not new to the profession under 34 CFR 200.56(e) which may include a single, High Objective Uniform State Standard of Evaluation (HOUSSE) covering multiple subjects; or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (C) In the case of a new special education teacher who teaches multiple subjects, and who is highly qualified in mathematics, language arts, or science, demonstrates, not later than two years after the date of employment, competence in other core academic subjects in which the teacher teaches in the same manner as is required for an elementary, middle, or secondary teacher under 34 CFR 200.56(e), which may include a single, High Objective State Standard of Evaluation (HOUSSE) covering multiple subjects.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (vi) Notwithstanding any other right of action that a parent of a student may maintain under these rules, nothing in this Part shall be construed to create a right of action on behalf of an individual student or class of students for failure of a particular school district or public agency employee to be highly qualified, or to prevent a parent from filing a complaint to the WDE under 34 CFR 300.151 through 300.153 about staff qualifications.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (vii) Applicability of definition to ESEA and clarification of new special education teacher.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) A fully certified regular education teacher who subsequently becomes fully certified or licensed as a special education teacher is a new special education teacher when first hired as a special education teacher.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (viii) Private school teachers not covered. The requirements of this Section do not apply to teachers hired by private elementary and secondary schools, including private school teachers hired or contracted by the school district or public agency to provide equitable services to parentally placed private school children with disabilities.~~

~~(q) "Homeless children." Homeless children has the meaning given the term homeless children and youths in section 725 (42 U.S. C. 11434(a)) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 11431 *et seq.*~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (r) "Illegal drug." Illegal drug means a controlled substance, but does not include a controlled substance that is legally possessed or used under the supervision of a licensed health care professional or that is legally possessed or used under any other~~

~~authority under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812(c)) or under any other provision of Federal law.~~

~~(s) "Individualized Education Program" (IEP) means a written statement for a child with a disability that is developed, reviewed, and revised in accordance with Chapter 7 rules.~~

~~(t) "Individualized education program team" means a group of individuals described in Chapter 7 rules responsible for developing, reviewing, or revising an IEP for a child with a disability.~~

~~(u) "Individualized Family Service Plan" (IFSP) is the specially designed program for an eligible child under three (3) years of age.~~

~~(v) "Intermediate Educational Unit (IEU)." The Wyoming Department of Health, Division of Developmental Disabilities, is deemed an intermediate educational unit as defined in W.S. § 21-2-702.~~

~~(w) "Local Education Agency" (LEA) means a public board of education or other public authority legally constituted within the State for either administrative control or direction of, or to perform a service or function for, public elementary, or secondary schools in a city, county, township, school district, or other political subdivision of the State, or for a combination of school districts or counties as recognized by the State as an administrative agency for public elementary schools or secondary schools. The term includes:~~

~~(i) An educational service agency (ESA) described in subsection (j) of this Section; and~~

~~(ii) Any other public institution or agency having administrative control and direction of a public elementary school or secondary school.~~

~~(x) "Native language," when used with respect to an individual who is Limited English Proficient (LEP) means the following:~~

~~(i) The language normally used by that individual, or, in case of a child, the language normally used by the parents of the child;~~

~~(ii) In all direct contact with the child (including evaluation of the child) the language normally used by the child in the home or learning environment;~~

~~(iii) For an individual with deafness or blindness, or for an individual with no written language, the mode of communication that is normally used by the individual, such as sign language, Braille, or oral communication.~~

~~(y) "Parent" means:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) A biological, an adoptive, or a foster parent of a child;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) A guardian generally authorized to act as the child's parent, or authorized to make educational decisions for the child, but not the State if the child is a ward of the State;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) A person acting in the place of a biological or adoptive parent (including a grandparent or stepparent or other relative) with whom the child lives, or a person who is legally responsible for the child's welfare; or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iv) A surrogate parent who has been appointed in accordance with these rules.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (v) Except as provided in paragraph (vi) of this subsection, the biological or adoptive parent, when attempting to act as a parent under this subsection and when more than one party is qualified under this subsection to act as a parent, must be presumed to be the parent unless the biological or adoptive parent does not have legal authority to make educational decisions for the child.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (vi) If a judicial decree or order identifies a specific person or persons under paragraphs (i), (ii), (iii) of this subsection to act as a parent of a child or make educational decisions on behalf of a child, then such person or persons shall be determined to be the parent for purposes of this subsection.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (z) "Personally identifiable" means the name of the child, the child's parents or other family member; the address of the child; a personal identifier, such as the child's social security number or student number; or a list of personal characteristics or other information that would make it possible to identify the child with reasonable certainty.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (aa) "Private school" is any nonpublic, elementary or secondary school providing basic academic education programs for children and may include parochial and church or religious schools and home-based educational programs.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) Parochial, church, or religious school is one operated under the auspices or control of a local church or religious congregation or a denomination established to promote and promulgate the commonly held religious doctrines of the group though it may also include basic academic subjects in its curriculum.~~

~~(iv) \_\_\_\_\_ (ii) "Home-based educational program" means under Wyoming law (W.S. § 21-4-101(a)(v)) a program of educational instruction provided to a child by the child's parent or legal guardian or by a person designated by the parent or legal guardian. An instructional program provided to more than one family unit does not constitute a home-based educational program. With respect to the definition of this paragraph the provisions of Part 7, Sections 7 and Section 8, do not apply. [See W.S. §21-4-101(a)(v)]~~

~~(bb) "Public Agency" includes the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE), LEAs, ESAs, IEUs, nonprofit public charter schools that are not otherwise included as LEAs or ESAs and are not a school of an LEA or ESA, and any other political subdivisions of the State that are responsible for providing education to children with disabilities, including Developmental Preschool Centers in Wyoming.~~

~~(cc) "Related services" means transportation and such developmental, corrective, and other supportive services as are required to assist a child with a disability to benefit from special education; and includes speech language pathology and audiology services; interpreting services; psychological services; physical and occupational therapy; recreation, including therapeutic recreation; early identification and assessment of disabilities in children; counseling services, including rehabilitation counseling; orientation and mobility services; and medical services for diagnostic or evaluation purposes. The term also includes school health services, school nurse services, social work services in schools, and parent counseling and training.~~

~~(i) Exception. Services that apply to children with surgically implanted devices, including cochlear implants.~~

~~(A) Related services do not include a medical device that is surgically implanted, the optimization of that device's functioning (e.g., mapping), maintenance of that device, or the replacement of the device.~~

~~(B) Nothing in subsection (cc)(i) of this Section limits the right of a child with a surgically implanted device (e.g., cochlear implant) to receive related services (as listed in subsection (cc) of this Section) that are determined by the IEP team to be necessary for the child to receive FAPE.~~

~~(C) Nothing in subsection (cc)(i) of this Section limits the responsibility of a public agency to appropriately monitor and maintain medical devices that are needed to maintain the health and safety of the child, including breathing, nutrition, or operation of other bodily functions, while the child is transported to and from school or is at school or prevents the routine checking of an external component of a surgically implanted device to make sure it is functioning properly.~~

~~(ii) Individual related services terms defined. The terms used in this definition are defined as follows:~~

~~(A) "Audiology" includes:~~

~~(I) Identification of children with hearing loss;~~

~~(II) Determination of the range, nature, and degree of hearing loss, including referral for medical or other professional attention for the rehabilitation of hearing;~~

~~(III) Provision of habilitative activities, such as language habilitation, auditory training, speech reading (lip reading), hearing evaluation, and speech conservation;~~

~~(IV) Creation and administration of programs for prevention of hearing loss;~~

~~(V) Counseling and guidance of children, parents, and teachers regarding hearing loss; and~~

~~(VI) Determination of children's needs for group and individual amplification, selecting and fitting an appropriate aid, and evaluating the effectiveness of amplification;~~

~~(B) "Counseling services" means services provided by qualified social workers, psychologists, guidance counselors, or other qualified personnel.~~

~~(C) "Early identification and assessment of disabilities in children" means the implementation of a formal plan for identifying a disability as early as possible in a child's life.~~

~~(D) Interpreting services includes:~~

~~(I) The following when used with respect to children who are deaf or hearing impaired: Oral transliteration services, cued language transliteration services, sign language transliteration and interpreting services, and transcription services, such as Communication Access Real Time Translation (CART), C-Print, and Type Well; and~~

~~(II) Special interpreting services for children who are deaf blind.~~

~~(E) "Medical services" means services provided by a licensed physician to determine a child's medically related disability that results in the child's need for special education and related services.~~

~~(F) "Occupational Therapy" (OT) means services provided by a qualified occupational therapist that include:~~

~~(I) Improving, developing, or restoring functions impaired or lost through illness, injury, or deprivation;~~

~~(II) Improving the ability to perform tasks for independent functioning if functions are impaired or lost; and~~

~~(III) Preventing, through early intervention, initial or further impairment or loss of function.~~

~~———— (G) ——"Orientation and Mobility services" (O&M) refer to services provided to blind or visually impaired children by qualified personnel to enable these children to attain systematic orientation to and safe movement within their environments in school, home, and community; and includes teaching children the following, as appropriate:~~

~~———— (I) —"Spatial and environmental concepts and use of information received by the senses (such as sound, temperature and vibrations) to establish, maintain, or regain orientation and line of travel (e.g., using sound at a traffic light to cross the street);"~~

~~———— (II) —"To use the long cane or a service animal to supplement visual travel skills or as a tool for safely negotiating the environment for children with no available travel vision;"~~

~~———— (III) —"To understand and use remaining vision and distance low-vision aids; and"~~

~~———— (IV) —"Other concepts, techniques and tools."~~

~~———— (H) ——"Parent counseling and training" means assisting parents in understanding the special needs of their child, providing parents with information about child development, and helping parents to acquire the necessary skills that will allow them to support the implementation of their child's IEP or IFSP.~~

~~(I) ——"Physical Therapy" (PT) means services provided by a qualified physical therapist.~~

~~(J) ——"Psychological services" includes:~~

~~———— (I) —"Administering psychological and educational tests and other assessment procedures;"~~

~~———— (II) —"Interpreting assessment results; obtaining, integrating, and interpreting information about the child's behavior and conditions related to learning;"~~

~~———— (III) —"Consulting with other staff members in planning school programs to meet the special educational needs of children as indicated by psychological tests, interviews, direct observations, and behavioral evaluations;"~~

~~———— (IV) —"Planning and managing a program of psychological services, including psychological counseling for children and parents; and"~~

~~———— (V) —"Assisting in developing positive behavioral intervention strategies."~~

~~———— (K) ——"Recreation" includes:~~

~~(I) Assessment of leisure function;~~  
~~(II) Therapeutic recreation services;~~  
~~(III) Recreation programs in schools and community agencies; and~~

~~(IV) Leisure education.~~

~~(L) "Rehabilitation counseling services" means services provided by qualified personnel in individual or group sessions that focus specifically on career development, employment preparation, the achievement of independence, and the integration into the workplace and community of a child with a disability. The term also includes vocational rehabilitation services provided to a child with disabilities by vocational rehabilitation programs funded under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.~~

~~(M) "School health services and school nurse services" mean health services that are designed to enable a child with a disability to receive FAPE as described in the child's IEP. School nurse services are services provided by a qualified school nurse. School health services are services that may be provided by either a qualified school nurse or other qualified person.~~

~~(N) "Social work services in schools" includes preparing a social or developmental history on a child with a disability; group and individual counseling with the child and family; working in partnership with parents and others on those problems in a child's living situation (home, school, and community) that affect the child's adjustment in school; mobilizing school and community resources to enable the child to learn as effectively as possible in his or her educational program; and assisting in developing positive behavioral intervention strategies.~~

~~(O) "Speech language pathology services" include:~~

~~(I) Identification of children with speech or language impairments;~~

~~(II) Diagnosis and appraisal of specific speech or language impairments;~~

~~(III) Referral for medical or other professional attention necessary for the habilitation of speech or language impairments;~~

~~(IV) Provision of speech and language services for the habilitation or prevention of communicative impairments; and~~

~~(V) Counseling and guidance of parents, children, and teachers regarding speech and language impairments.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (P) "Transportation" includes:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (I) Travel to and from school and between schools;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (II) Travel in and around school buildings; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (III) Specialized equipment (such as special or adapted buses, lifts, and ramps), if required, to provide special transportation for a child with a disability.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (dd) "School, elementary school, middle school, high school, secondary school."~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) "Elementary school" means a nonprofit institutional day or residential school, including a public charter elementary school, that provides elementary education. Under Wyoming law (W.S. § 21-13-101(a)(iv)) an elementary school means a school consisting of Kindergarten through grade five, or any appropriate combination of grades within this range, as determined by the plan of organization for schools authorized by the district board of trustees.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) "Secondary school" means a nonprofit institutional day or residential school, including a public charter secondary school, that provides secondary education, as determined under State law, except that it does not include any education beyond grade twelve.~~

~~(v) \_\_\_\_\_ (A) "Middle school" as defined in Wyoming law (W.S. § 21-13-101(a)(vii)) means a school, including a public charter middle school, means a school, consisting of grades six (6) through eight (8) or any combination of grades within this range, as determined by the plan of organization for schools authorized by the district board of trustees, including a nonprofit institutional day or residential school or a public charter school. [See 34 C.F.R. §§300.13 and 300.36 and W.S. 21-13-101(a)(vii)]~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) "High school" as defined in Wyoming law (W.S. § 21-13-101(a)(vi)) means a school, including a public charter high school, consisting of grades nine through twelve, or any combination of grades within this range, as determined by the plan of organization for schools authorized by the district board of trustees.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ee) "Scientifically based research" has the meaning given the term in section 9101(37) of the ESEA.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ff) "Serious bodily injury" has the meaning given the term "serious bodily injury" under paragraph (3) of subsection (h) of section 1365 of title 18 U.S. Code and means a substantial risk of death, extreme physical pain, protracted or obvious disfigurement, protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty.~~

~~(gg) "Services plan" means a written statement that describes the special education and related services the school district or public agency will provide to a parentally placed child with a disability enrolled in a private school who has been designated to receive services, including the location of the services and any transportation necessary consistent with the service plan.~~

~~(hh) "Special education" means specially designed instruction, at no cost to the parents, to meet the unique needs of a child with a disability, including instruction conducted in the classroom, in the home, in hospitals and institutions, and in other settings. The term includes instruction in physical education. Special education includes each of the following: speech language pathology, if the service is considered special education rather than a related service; travel training; and vocational education. Individual special education terms are defined as follows:—~~

~~(i) "At no cost" means that all specially designed instruction is provided without charge, but does not preclude incidental fees that are normally charged to nondisabled students or their parents as a part of the regular education program.~~

~~(ii) "Physical education" means the development of physical and motor fitness; fundamental motor skills and patterns; skills in aquatics, dance and individual and group games and sports (including intramural and lifetime sports); and includes special physical education, adapted physical education, movement education, and motor development.~~

~~(iii) "Specially designed instruction" means adapting, as appropriate to the needs of an eligible child under these rules, the content, methodology, or delivery of instruction to address the unique needs of the child that result from the child's disability; and to ensure access of the child to the general curriculum, so that he or she can meet the educational standards within the jurisdiction of the school district or public agency that apply to all children.~~

~~(iv) "Travel training" means providing instruction, as appropriate, to children with significant cognitive disabilities, and any other children with disabilities who require this instruction, to enable them to develop an awareness of the environment in which they live; and to learn the skills necessary to move effectively and safely from place to place within that environment (e.g., in school, in the home, at work, and in the community).~~

~~(v) "Vocational education" means organized educational programs that are directly related to the preparation of individuals for paid or unpaid employment, or for additional preparation for a career requiring other than a baccalaureate or advanced degree and includes vocational and technical education.~~

~~(ii) "Supplementary aids and services" means aids, services, and other supports that are provided in regular education classes or other education-related settings,~~

and in extracurricular and nonacademic settings, to enable children with disabilities to be educated with nondisabled children to the maximum extent appropriate.

~~(jj) "Transition services" means a coordinated set of activities for a child with a disability that:~~

~~(i) Is designed within a results oriented process, that is focused on improving the academic and functional achievement of a child with a disability to facilitate the child's movement from school to post school activities, including post-secondary education, vocational training, integrated employment (including supported employment), continuing and adult education, adult services, independent living or community participation;~~

~~(ii) Is based on the individual child's needs, taking into account the child's strengths, preferences and interests;~~

~~(iii) And includes instruction, related services, community experiences, the development of employment and other post school adult living objectives; and, if appropriate, acquisition of daily living skills and provision of a functional vocational evaluation.~~

~~(iv) Transition services for children with disabilities may be special education, if provided as specially designed instruction, or a related service, if required to assist a child with a disability to benefit from special education.~~

~~(kk) Ward of the State.~~

~~(i) Subject to paragraph (ii) of this subsection, ward of the State means a child who, as determined by the State where the child resides, is a foster child, a ward of the State, or is in custody of a public child welfare agency.~~

~~ii) Exception. Ward of the State does not include a foster child who has a foster parent who meets the definition of a parent in subsection (y) in this Section.~~

~~(ll) "Weapon" means dangerous weapon as described in 18 U.S.C., Section 930.~~

**PART 2**  
**PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS**

~~Section 1. **Prior Written Notice.**~~

~~(a) Written notice must be given to the parents of a child with a disability within a reasonable time before the school district or public agency:~~

~~(i) Proposes to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of the child or the provision of FAPE to the child; or~~

~~(ii) Refuses to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of the child or the provision of FAPE to the child.~~

~~(b) The content of the notice must include:~~

~~(i) A description of the action proposed or refused by the school district or public agency;~~

~~(ii) An explanation of why the school district or public agency proposes or refuses to take the action;~~

~~(iii) A description of other options the IEP team considered and the reasons why those options were rejected;~~

~~(iv) A description of each evaluation procedure, assessment, record, or report the school district or public agency used as a basis for the proposed or refused action;~~

~~(v) A description of other factors that are relevant to the school district's or public agency's proposal or refusal;~~

~~(vi) A statement that the parents of a child with a disability have protection under the procedural safeguards; and if the notice is not an initial referral for evaluation, the means by which a copy of a description of the procedural safeguards can be obtained;~~

~~(vii) Sources for parents to contact to obtain assistance in understanding the rules.~~

~~(c) Notice in understandable language. The written notice must be:~~

~~(i) Written in language understandable to the general public;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) Provided in the native language of the parent or other mode of communication used by the parent, unless it is clearly not feasible to do so; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) If the native language or other mode of communication of the parent is not a written language, the school district or public agency must take steps to ensure that the notice is translated orally or by other means to the parent in his or her native language or other mode of communication, and that the parent understands the content of the notice;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iv) And that there is written evidence that the requirements in subsection (c)(i), (ii), (iii) have been met.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (d) Graduation from high school with a regular diploma constitutes a change in placement, requiring prior written notice.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ Section 2. Notice of Procedural Safeguards.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (a) A copy of the procedural safeguards available to the parents of a child with a disability must be given to the parents only one time a year, except that a copy must also be given to the parents:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) Upon initial referral or parent request for evaluation;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) Upon receipt of the first State complaint filed in that school year under the complaint procedures established through these rules and upon receipt of the first request for a due process hearing in a school year;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) In accordance with the discipline procedures in Part 6;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iv) Upon request by a parent.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (b) A public agency may place a current copy of the procedural safeguards notice on its Internet Web site if a Web site exists.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (c) Contents of the procedural safeguards notice shall be in plain language per the rules of Section 1, subsection (c), of this Part and shall include a full explanation of the procedural safeguards under these rules relating to:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) Independent educational evaluation;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) Prior written notice;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) Parental consent;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iv) Access to education records;~~

~~(v) Opportunity to present and resolve complaints through the due process hearing procedure and the State complaint procedures, including information about the difference between a due process hearing procedure and the State complaint procedure, including information about the jurisdiction of each procedure, what issues may be raised, and filing and decisional timelines and relevant procedures, including the following:~~

~~(A) The time period of which to file a complaint; and~~

~~(B) The opportunity for the agency to resolve the complaint.~~

~~(vi) The availability of mediation and the child's placement during the pendency of any due process hearing proceedings;~~

~~(vii) Procedures for children who are subject to placement in an interim alternative educational setting;~~

~~(viii) Requirements for unilateral placement by parents of children in private schools at public expense;~~

~~(ix) Hearing on due process requests, including requirements for disclosure of evaluation results and recommendations;~~

~~(x) Civil actions, including the time period in which to file those actions; and~~

~~(xi) Attorney's fees.~~

~~(d) The parent of a child with a disability may elect to receive notices required under this Section by electronic mail communication if the public agency makes that option available.~~

~~Section 3. **Parental Consent.**~~

~~(a) Consent for initial evaluation.~~

~~(i) The school district or public agency proposing to conduct an initial evaluation to determine if the child qualifies as a child with a disability must, after providing prior written notice as discussed in Section 1 of this Part and a copy of procedural safeguards as discussed in Section 2 of this Part, obtain informed consent from the parent of the child before conducting the evaluation.~~

~~(ii) For initial evaluations only, if the child is a ward of the State and is not residing with the child's parent, the school district or public agency is not required to obtain informed consent from the parent for an initial evaluation to determine whether the child is a child with a disability if, despite reasonable efforts to do so, the public agency cannot discover the whereabouts of the parent of the child; the rights of the parents have~~

~~been terminated under Wyoming law; or the rights of the parent to make educational decisions have been subrogated by a judge in accordance with Wyoming law and consent for an initial evaluation has been given by an individual appointed by the judge to represent the child.~~

~~———— (b) ——— If a parent of a child enrolled in a school district or public agency or seeking to be enrolled in a school district or public agency does not provide consent for initial evaluation or the parent fails to respond to a request to provide consent, the school district or public agency may, but is not required to, pursue the initial evaluation by utilizing the procedural safeguards, including mediation or due process. The school district or public agency does not violate its obligations relative to Child Find and obligations for evaluation of children or determination of the child as being eligible as a child with a disability if it declines to pursue the evaluation.~~

~~———— (c) ——— If the parent refuses to provide consent for an initial evaluation and the school district or public agency does not obtain agreement or a ruling that the initial evaluation may be conducted per due process or mediation efforts, the school district or public agency will not be considered to have prior knowledge that the child is a child with a disability.~~

~~———— (d) ——— Parental consent for reevaluations.~~

~~———— (i) ——— Each school district or public agency must obtain informed consent prior to conducting any reevaluation of a child with a disability.~~

~~———— (ii) ——— Informed parental consent described in subsection (d)(i) of this Section need not be obtained if the school district or public agency can demonstrate that it made reasonable efforts to obtain such consent and the child's parent has failed to respond.~~

~~———— (iii) ——— If the parent refuses to consent to the reevaluation, the school district or public agency may, but is not required to, pursue the reevaluation by using the consent override procedures described in Section 3(b) of this Part. The public agency does not violate its obligations relative to Child Find and obligations for evaluation and reevaluation of children or determination of the child as being eligible as a child with a disability if it declines to pursue the evaluation.~~

~~———— (e) ——— Informed parental consent for provision of initial services. A public agency that is responsible for making FAPE available to a child with a disability must obtain informed consent from the parent of the child before the initial provision of special education and related services to the child.~~

~~(i) The public agency must make reasonable efforts to obtain informed consent from the parent for the initial provision of special education and related services to the child.~~

~~(ii) If a parent of a child fails to respond or refuses to consent to services or refuses to consent to the initial provision of special education and related services, the school district or public agency may not use due process or mediation in order to obtain agreement or a ruling that services may be provided to the child.~~

~~(iii) If the parent of the child refuses to consent to the initial provision of special education and related services or the parent fails to respond to a request to provide consent for the initial provision of special education and related services the school district or public agency:~~

~~(A) Will not be considered to be in violation of the requirement to provide FAPE to the child for failure to provide the child with the special education and related services for which the school district or public agency requests consent; and~~

~~(B) The school district or public agency is not required to convene an IEP meeting or develop an IEP for the child for the special education and related services for which the school district or public agency requests such consent.~~

~~(iv) The school district or public agency will not be considered to have prior knowledge that the child is a child with a disability.~~

~~(f) Consent for initial evaluation may not be construed as consent for initial provision of special education and related services.~~

~~(g) Parental consent is not required before reviewing existing data as part of an evaluation or a reevaluation; or before administering a test or other evaluation that is administered to all children unless, before administration of that test or evaluation, consent is required of parents of all children.~~

~~(h) A parent's refusal to consent to one service may not be used to deny any other service, benefit, or activity of the school district or public agency.~~

~~(i) If a parent of a child who is home schooled or placed in a private school by the parents at their own expense does not provide consent for the initial evaluation or reevaluation, or the parent fails to respond to requests to provide consent, the school district or public agency may not use consent override procedures described in procedural safeguards; and the school district or public agency is not required to consider the child as eligible for services as a child with a disability.~~

~~(i) To meet the reasonable efforts requirements of this Section the school district or public agency must document its attempts to obtain parental consent, such as~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) Detailed records of phone calls made or attempted and the results of those calls;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) Copies of correspondence sent to the parents and any responses received; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (C) Detailed records of visits made to the parent's home or place of employment and the results of those visits.~~

~~(vi) \_\_\_\_\_ Section 4. **Independent Educational "Preschool children with disabilities"** means children three (3) through five (5) years of age in Wyoming identified as eligible for special education and related services. [See W.S. §21-2-701]~~

~~(vii) **"Private school"** means, for the purpose of these rules, any nonpublic, elementary or secondary school providing basic academic educational programs for children and may include parochial and church or religious schools and home-based educational programs. [See W.S. §21-4-101(a)(iii)]~~

#### Section 4. Identification, Evaluation, and Eligibility Determinations.

~~(a) An independent educational evaluation means an evaluation conducted by a qualified examiner who is not employed by the school district or public agency responsible for the education of the child in question.~~

~~(b) Public expense means that the school district or public agency either pays for the full cost of the evaluation or ensures that the evaluation is otherwise provided at no cost to the parent.~~

~~(c) The parents of a child with a disability have the right to obtain an independent education evaluation of the child subject to subsections (d) through (e) of this Section.~~

~~(i) Each school district or public agency shall provide to parents, upon request for an independent educational evaluation, information about where an independent educational evaluation may be obtained and the school district or public agency criteria applicable for independent education evaluations.~~

~~(d) A parent has the right to an independent educational evaluation at public expense if the parent disagrees with an evaluation obtained by the school district or public agency subject to the conditions in subsection (d)(i)(A) or (B) and subsections (f) and (g) of this Section.~~

~~(i) If a parent requests an independent educational evaluation at public expense, the school district or public agency must, without unnecessary delay, either,~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) File a request for a due process hearing to show that its evaluation is appropriate; or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) Ensure that an independent educational evaluation is provided at public expense, unless the school district or public agency demonstrates in a hearing that the evaluation obtained by the parent did not meet school district or public agency criteria.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) If the school district or public agency requests a hearing and the final decision is that the school district's or public agency's evaluation is appropriate, the parent still has the right to an independent educational evaluation, but not at public expense.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) If a parent requests an independent educational evaluation, the school district or public agency may ask for the parent's reason why he or she objects to the public evaluation. However, the school district or public agency may not require the parent to provide an explanation and may not unreasonably delay either providing the independent educational evaluation at public expense or filing a request for a due process hearing to defend the public evaluation.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iv) A parent is entitled to only one independent educational evaluation at public expense each time the school district or public agency conducts an evaluation with which the parent disagrees.~~

~~(e) Parent initiated evaluations. If the parent obtains an independent educational evaluation at public expense or shares with the public agency an evaluation obtained at private expense, the results of the evaluation:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) Must be considered by the school district or public agency, if it meets school district or public agency criteria, in any decision made with respect to the provision of FAPE to the child; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) May be presented by any party as evidence at a due process hearing regarding the child.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (f) Requests for evaluations by hearing officer. If a hearing officer requests an independent educational evaluation as part of a hearing, the cost of the evaluation must be at public expense.~~

~~(g) Agency criteria for an independent educational evaluation.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) If an independent education evaluation is at public expense, the criteria under which the evaluation is obtained, including the location of the evaluation and the qualifications of the examiner, must be the same as the criteria that the school district or public agency uses when it initiates an evaluation, to the extent those criteria are consistent with the parent's rights to an independent educational evaluation.~~

~~(ii) Except for the criteria described above, a school district or public agency may not impose conditions or timelines related to obtaining an independent educational evaluation at public expense.~~

~~Section 5. Confidentiality of Student Records and Parent Access to Educational Records.~~

~~(a) Each school district and public agency must take steps to ensure that information and educational records for children with disabilities remain confidential and in compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 and implementing regulations 34 CFR part 99.~~

~~(i) Each school district or public agency shall give notice that is adequate to fully inform parents about the requirement of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA).~~

~~(b) Access rights. Each school district or public agency must permit parents to inspect and review any education records relating to their children that are collected, maintained, or used by the school district or the public agency with respect to identification, evaluation, eligibility, IEP, educational placement, and provision of FAPE.~~

~~(i) Each school district or public agency must comply with a request, without unnecessary delay, and before any meeting regarding an IEP or due process hearing or resolution session and in no case more than forty five (45) days after the request has been made.~~

~~(ii) The right to inspect and review educational records includes:~~

~~(A) The right to a response from the school district or public agency to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of the educational records;~~

~~(B) The right to request that the school district or public agency provide copies of the education records containing the information if failure to provide those copies would effectively prevent the parents from exercising the right to inspect and review the educational records;~~

~~(C) The right to have a representative of the parent inspect and review the educational records.~~

~~(iii) Each school district or public agency may presume that the parent has authority to inspect and review records relating to his or her child unless the school district or public agency has been advised that the parent does not have the authority under applicable Wyoming State law governing such matters as guardianship, separation, and divorce.~~

~~(iv) If any education record includes information on more than one child, a parent has the right to inspect and review only the information relating to his or her child or to be informed of that specific information.~~

~~(c) Lists of types and locations of information. Each school district or public agency shall provide the parents, on request, a list of the types and locations of educational records collected, maintained, or used by the school district or public agency.~~

~~(d) Record access. Each school district or public agency shall keep a record of parties obtaining access to education records collected, maintained, or used to provide FAPE (except access by parents and authorized employees of the public agency), including the name of the party, the date access was given, and the purpose for which the party is authorized to use the records.~~

~~(e) With the exception of the IEP, the school district or public agency may charge a fee for copies of records which are made for the parents if the fee does not effectively prevent the parents from exercising their right to inspect and review those records. A school district or public agency may not charge a fee to search or retrieve the records.~~

~~(f) Amendment of record at parent request. A parent who believes that information in the education records collected, maintained, or used under this Part is inaccurate or misleading or violates the privacy or other rights of the child may request the school district or public agency amend the information. Upon receiving written parental request to amend a child's record, the school district or public agency shall decide whether to amend the information as requested within a reasonable period of time.~~

~~(i) If the school district or public agency refuses to amend the information in accordance with the request, the school district or public agency shall inform the parent of the refusal and advise the parent of the right to a hearing in accordance with subsection (g) of this Section.~~

~~(g) Opportunity for hearing. The school district or public agency must, on request, provide an opportunity for a hearing to challenge information in the education record that is not accurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the child.~~

~~(h) Result of hearing.~~

~~(i) If as a result of the hearing the school district or public agency decides that the information in the child's record is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the child, the school district or public agency shall amend the information accordingly and inform the parent in writing.~~

~~(ii) If as a result of the hearing the school district or public agency decides that the information is not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the child, the school district or public agency shall inform the~~

~~parent of the parent's right to place in the child's records a statement commenting on information in the record or setting forth reasons for disagreeing with the decision of the school district or public agency.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) Any statement or explanation placed in the records of the child as a result of this process must be maintained by the school district or public agency as long as the record or contested portion of the record is maintained by the school district or public agency; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) If the records of the child or the contested portion is disclosed by the school district or public agency to any party, the parent statement or explanation must also be disclosed to the party.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) Consent for disclosure of records. Parental consent must be obtained before personally identifiable information is disclosed to parties, other than officials of participating agencies, in accordance with Section 5(i)(ii) unless the information is contained in education records, and the disclosure is authorized without parent consent under 34 CFR part 99.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) Except as provided in subsection (i), paragraph (ii), and subsection (i), paragraph (iii), of this Section, parent consent is not required before personally identifiable information is released to officials of participating agencies for purposes of meeting a requirement of this Part. School districts or public agencies may release information without written parental consent to a receiving school district or public agency per requirements of Part 5, Section 2 (d)(i) and (ii), of these rules.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) Parent consent, or the consent of an eligible child who has reached the age of majority under Wyoming law, must be obtained before personally identifiable information is released to officials of participating agencies providing or paying for transition services in accordance with Part 5, Section 4 (c)(iii), of these rules.~~

~~(a) \_\_\_\_\_ (iii) If a child is enrolled, or is going to enroll, in a private school that is not located in the school district or public agency of the parent's residence, parental consent must be obtained before any personally identifiable information about the child is released between officials inChild find. Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.111, each school district or public agency shall adopt and implement policies and procedures to ensure that all children with disabilities who reside within the school district's or public agency's educational jurisdiction, including children with disabilities attending private schools or facilities such as residential treatment centers, day treatment centers, hospitals, mental health institutions, detention and correctional facilities, children who are highly mobile, and children who are advancing from grade to grade, regardless of the severity of their disability, and who are in need of special education and related services, are located, evaluated and identified in compliance with all applicable requirements of IDEA, including but not limited to 34 C.F.R. §§ 300.111, 300.131, 300.301 through 300.306 and these WDE rules and standards.~~

~~(i) School districts or public agencies must provide parents with public notice of its child find activities pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.612(b).~~

(ii) School districts or public agencies must implement procedures to ensure protection of the confidentiality of any personally identifiable information collected, used, or maintained in child find activities in accordance with the federal regulations, including but not limited to 34 C.F.R. §§300.32, 300.134 and 300.610 through 300.627.

Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.130 through 300.144, if a child is parentally enrolled in a private elementary or secondary school outside the boundaries of the school district or public agency in which the student is living, the school district or public agency where the private school is located and officials in the school district or public agency of the parent's residence.

~~(j) Safeguards. Each school district or public agency shall protect the confidentiality of personally identifiable information at collection, storage, disclosure and destruction stages and designate one person by position to assume responsibility for ensuring the confidentiality of any personally identifiable information.~~

~~(i) All persons collecting or using personally identifiable information shall receive training and instruction regarding policies and procedures set forth in this Section and FERPA.~~

~~(ii) Each school district or public agency shall maintain for public inspection a current list of names and positions of employees who have access to personally identifiable information.~~

~~(k) Destruction of information. Each school district or public agency shall inform the parents when personally identifiable information collected, maintained, or used under this Section is no longer needed to provide educational services to the child.~~

~~(i) The information must be destroyed at the request of the parent. However, the school district or public agency may keep a permanent record of the child's name, address, phone number, grades, attendance record, classes attended, grade level completed, and year completed; and it may be maintained without time limitation.~~

~~(l) The parent represents the child with disabilities in all matters covered by these rules. Any child who has reached the age of majority and has not been declared incompetent by a Wyoming court is afforded the same rights as those of the parent. If the rights under this Section are transferred to the student who reaches the age of majority per procedures described in these rules, the school district or public agency shall provide the student and parent with any copy of the procedural safeguards notice.~~

~~Section 6. **Mediation Procedures.**~~

~~(a) Each school district or public agency must ensure that procedures are established and implemented to allow parties to disputes involving any matter under these rules, including matters arising prior to the filing of a request for a due process hearing, to resolve the disputes through a mediation process.~~

~~(b) The procedures must ensure that the mediation process:~~

- ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ Is voluntary on the part of the parties;~~
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ Is not used to deny or delay a parent's right to a due process hearing, or to deny any other rights afforded by Part B of IDEA 04; and~~
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ Is conducted by a qualified and impartial mediator who is trained in effective mediation techniques.~~
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ A school district or public agency may establish procedures to offer to parents and schools or public agencies that choose not to use the mediation process, an opportunity to meet, at a time and location convenient to the parties, with a disinterested party:~~
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ Who is under contract with an appropriate alternative dispute resolution entity, or a parent training and information center, or community parent resource center in the State; and~~
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ Who would explain the benefits of, and encourage the use of, the mediation process.~~
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_ The WDE maintains a list of individuals who are qualified mediators and knowledgeable in laws and rules relating to the provision of special education and related services. The selection of mediators by the WDE is accomplished on a random, rotational, or other impartial basis. The parties may jointly recommend a mediator to the WDE; however, consistent with 34 CFR 300.506, the selection of the mediator is at the discretion of the WDE.~~
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (e) \_\_\_\_\_ The WDE shall bear the cost of the mediation process. Each session in the mediation process must be scheduled in a timely manner and must be held in a location that is convenient to the parties to the dispute.~~
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (f) \_\_\_\_\_ If the parties resolve a dispute through the mediation process, the parties must execute a legally binding agreement that sets forth the resolution and that:~~
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ States that all discussions that occurred during the mediation process will remain confidential and may not be used as evidence in any subsequent due process hearings or civil proceeding; and~~
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ Is signed by both the parent and a representative of the school district or public agency who has the authority to bind such agency.~~
- ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (g) \_\_\_\_\_ A written, signed mediation agreement under this Section is enforceable in any State district court or in a district court of the United States. Discussions that occur during the mediation process must be confidential and may not be used in any subsequent due process hearing or civil proceeding of any Federal or State court.~~

~~(h) Impartiality of mediator. An individual who serves as an impartial mediator:~~

~~(i) May not be an employee of the Wyoming Department of Education, the school district, or a public agency that is involved with the education or care of the child; and~~

~~(ii) Must not have a personal or professional interest that conflicts with the person's objectivity.~~

~~(iii) A person who otherwise qualifies as a mediator is not an employee of a school district or State agency solely because he or she is paid by the school district or public agency to serve as a mediator.~~

~~Section 7. **State Complaint Procedures.**~~

~~(a) The State of Wyoming adopts the following procedures in reference to the process of filing and responding to complaints alleging a violation of compliance with IDEA 04 and corresponding Federal regulations and State rules. In filing a complaint, an organization or individual may file a signed complaint that must include:~~

~~(i) A statement that a school district or public agency has violated a requirement of these rules;~~

~~(ii) The facts on which the statement is based; and~~

~~(iii) The signature and contact information for the complainant; and if alleging violations with respect to a specific child,~~

~~(A) The name and address of the residence of the child, the name of the school the child is attending, and in the case of a homeless child or youth, available contact information for the child and the name of the school the child is attending.~~

~~(B) A description of the nature of the problem of the child, including facts relating to the problem; and a proposed resolution of the problem to the extent known and available to the party at the time the complaint is filed.~~

~~(iv) The complaint must allege a violation that occurred not more than one year prior to the date the complaint is received.~~

~~(v) The party filing the complaint must forward a copy of the complaint to the school district or public agency serving the child at the same time the party files the complaint with the WDE.~~

~~(b) Complaint procedures and time limit. Within sixty (60) days after the WDE receives a complaint the WDE, shall:~~

~~(i) Determine if it is necessary to conduct an independent investigation of the complaint and determine if it is necessary to conduct an independent, on-site investigation pertaining to the issues alleged in the complaint;~~

~~(ii) Give the complainant the opportunity to submit additional information, either orally or in writing, about the allegations in the complaint;~~

~~(iii) Provide the school district or public agency with the opportunity to respond to the complaint, including, at a minimum:~~

~~(A) At the discretion of the school district or public agency a proposal to resolve the complaint; and~~

~~(B) An opportunity for a parent who has filed a complaint and the school district or public agency to voluntarily engage in mediation consistent with Section 6 of this Part.~~

~~(iv) Review all relevant information and make an independent determination as to whether the school district or public agency is violating a requirement of Part B of IDEA 04 or of these rules;~~

~~(v) Issue a written decision to the complainant that addresses each allegation in the complaint and contains findings of fact and conclusions and the reasons for the WDE's final decision; and~~

~~(vi) Permit an extension of the time limit only if exceptional circumstances exist with respect to a particular complaint or the parent (or individual or organization) and the school district or public agency agree to extend the timeline to engage in mediation or engage in other alternative means of dispute resolution.~~

~~(iii) (c) The WDE will assure effective implementation of the WDE's final decision, if needed, by such means as technical assistance is responsible for child find activities, negotiations, and corrective actions to achieve compliance, evaluations, and provision of services.~~

~~(d) Complaints filed under this Section and due process hearing requests.~~

~~(i) If a written complaint is received that is also the subject of a due process hearing, or contains multiple issues of which one or more are part of that hearing, the WDE must set aside any part of the complaint that is being addressed in the due process hearing, until the conclusion of the hearing. However, any issue in the complaint that is not a part of the due process action must be resolved using the time limit and procedures described.~~

~~(ii) If an issue raised in a complaint filed under this Section has previously been decided in a due process hearing involving the same parties, the hearing decision is binding and the WDE must inform the complainant to that effect.~~

~~(iii) A complaint alleging a school district's or public agency's failure to implement a due process hearing decision must be resolved by the WDE.~~

~~(e) Remedies for denial of appropriate services. In resolving a complaint in which the WDE has found a failure to provide appropriate services, the WDE, pursuant to its general supervisory authority under Part B of IDEA 04, must address:~~

~~(i) The failure to provide appropriate services, including corrective action appropriate to address the needs of the child (such as compensatory services or monetary reimbursement); and~~

~~(ii) Appropriate future provision of services for all children with disabilities.~~

~~Section 8. Impartial Due Process Hearing Procedures.~~

~~(a) A parent or a school district or a public agency may request a due process hearing relating to the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of a child with a disability or the provision of FAPE to the child. The parent of a child with a disability may request a due process hearing when the school district or public agency proposes or refuses to initiate or change the identification, evaluation or educational placement of a child with a disability or the provision of FAPE to the child.~~

~~(i) The request for due process hearing must allege a violation that occurred not more than two years before the date the parent or public agency knew or should have known about the alleged action that forms the basis of the request for a due process hearing.~~

~~(A) This timeline shall not apply to a parent if the parent was prevented from requesting the hearing due to the specific misrepresentation by the school district or public agency that it had resolved the problem forming the basis of the request for a due process hearing; or~~

~~(B) The school district's or public agency's withholding of information from the parent that was required to be provided to the parent.~~

~~(ii) The school district or public agency must inform the parent of any free or low cost legal and other relevant services available in the area if:~~

~~(A) The parent requests the information; or~~

~~(B) The parent or public agency files a request for a due process hearing under this Section.~~

~~(b) Request for due process hearing. The individual, the school district, or the public agency requesting a hearing shall submit a written request for a due process hearing which must remain confidential and which meets the requirements of this section.~~

~~The party filing the request for a due process hearing must provide the document requesting a due process hearing to the other party and forward a copy of the document to the Wyoming State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Wyoming Department of Education, 2300 Capitol Avenue, Hathaway Building 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002-0050, (307) 777-7675. Parents, school districts, public agencies, and other parties may use the appropriate model form described in this subsection, or another form or other document, so long as the form or document that is used meets the content requirements for filing a request for due process hearing described in subsection (b)(i) and (ii) of this Section or the requirements for filing a State complaint as described in Section 7 of this Part.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) The content of the written request for due process hearing must include:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) The name and address of the child or in the case of a homeless child, available contact information for the child;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) The name of the school the child attends;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (C) A description of the nature of the problem of the child relating to the proposed or refused initiation or change, including facts relating to the problem; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (D) A proposed resolution of the problem to the extent known and available to the party at the time.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) A party may not have a due process hearing until the party or the attorney representing the party files a request for due process hearing that meets the requirements of this Part.~~

~~(c) Sufficiency of request for due process hearing. The request for due process hearing required by this Section must be deemed sufficient unless the party receiving the request notifies the WDE appointed hearing officer and the other party in writing, within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the due process hearing request, that the receiving party believes the due process hearing request does not meet the requirements of subsection (b) of this Section.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) Within five (5) days of receipt of notification under subsection (c) of this Section, the WDE appointed hearing officer must make a determination on the face of the request for due process hearing, whether the request meets the requirements of subsection (b) of this Section and immediately notify the parties in writing of that determination.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) A party may amend its request for due process hearing only if the other party consents in writing to the amendment and is given the opportunity to resolve the issues in the due process hearing request through a resolution meeting; or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) The hearing officer grants permission, except that the hearing officer may only grant permission to amend at any time not later than five (5) days before the due process hearing begins.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) If a party files an amended request for due process hearing, the timelines for the resolution meeting and the time period to resolve the issues in dispute begin again with the filing of the amended request for a due process hearing.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (d) School district or public agency response to a request for due process hearing.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) If the school district or public agency has not sent a prior written notice specified in Part 2, Section 1, of these rules regarding the subject matter contained in the parent's complaint, the school district or public agency must within ten (10) days of receiving the request for due process hearing send to the parent a response that includes an explanation of why the public agency proposed or refused to take action raised in the due process hearing notice;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) A description of other options that the IEP team considered and the reasons why those options were rejected;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) A description of each evaluation procedure, assessment, record, or report the school district or public agency used as a basis for the proposed or refused action; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iv) A description of the other factors that are relevant to the school district's or public agency's proposed or refused action.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (v) A response by the school district or public agency to a due process hearing request under subsection (d) of this Section shall not be construed to preclude the school district or public agency from asserting that the parent's due process hearing request was insufficient, where appropriate.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (e) Other party response to a request for due process hearing. Except as provided in subsection (d) of this Section, the party receiving a request for due process hearing must, within ten (10) days of receiving the request for due process hearing, send to the other party a response that specifically addresses the issues raised in the request for due process hearing.~~

~~(f) Resolution meeting and process. Within fifteen (15) days of receiving a parent's request for due process hearing and prior to initiation of a due process hearing, the school district or public agency must convene a meeting with the parent and relevant members of the IEP team, determined by both the parents and the school district or public agency, who have specific knowledge of the facts identified in the request for due process hearing and a representative of the school district or public agency who has decision making authority on behalf of the public agency. The purpose of the meeting is for the~~

~~parent of the child to discuss the due process hearing request and the facts that form the basis of the due process hearing request so that the school district or public agency has the opportunity to resolve the dispute.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ The school district or public agency may not involve an attorney at this meeting unless the parent is accompanied by an attorney.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ The meeting need not be held if the parent and the school district or public agency agree in writing to waive the meeting or agree to use the mediation process described in Section 6 of this Part.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ Resolution time period. If the school district or public agency has not resolved the dispute in the request for due process hearing to the satisfaction of the parent within thirty (30) days of receipt of the request for due process hearing, the due process hearing may occur.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iv) \_\_\_\_\_ Except where the parties have jointly agreed to waive the resolution process or to use mediation, failure of a parent filing a request for due process hearing to participate in a resolution meeting will delay the timelines for the resolution process and the due process hearing until the meeting is held.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (v) \_\_\_\_\_ If the school district or public agency is unable to obtain the participation of the parent in the resolution meeting after reasonable efforts have been made and documented, the school district or public agency may, at the conclusion of the thirty (30) day period, request that the hearing officer dismiss the parent's due process hearing request.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (vi) \_\_\_\_\_ If the school district or public agency fails to hold a resolution meeting specified in this Section within fifteen (15) days of receiving notice of a parent's request for a due process hearing or fails to participate in the resolution meeting, the parent may seek the intervention of the hearing officer to begin the due process hearing timeline.~~

~~(g) \_\_\_\_\_ Adjustment to thirty (30) day resolution period. The forty five (45) day timeline for a due process hearing starts the day after one of the following events:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ Both parties agree in writing to waive the resolution meeting;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ After either the mediation or resolution meeting starts but before the end of the thirty (30) day period, the parties agree in writing that no agreement is possible;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ If both parties agree in writing to continue the mediation at the end of the thirty (30) day resolution period, but later, the parent or public agency withdraws from the mediation process.~~

~~(h) \_\_\_\_\_ Written settlement agreement. If a resolution to the dispute is reached as a result of a resolution meeting described in subsection (f) of this Section, the parties~~

~~must execute a legally binding agreement that is signed by both the parent and a representative of the school district or public agency who has the authority to bind the school district or public agency. The agreement is enforceable in State District Court or district court of the United States.~~

~~(i) Agreement review period. A party signing an agreement pursuant to subsection (h) of this Section may void the agreement within three (3) business days of the agreement's execution.~~

~~(j) Due process hearing conveniences and timeline. The school district or public agency shall ensure that within forty five (45) days after the expiration of the thirty (30) day period for the resolution meeting session described in subsection (f) of this Section or the adjusted time period discussed in subsection (g) of this Section the hearing will be completed and a final decision reached and mailed to each of the parties, unless a continuance has been granted.~~

~~(i) A hearing officer may grant specific extensions of time beyond the periods of time described above at the request of either party.~~

~~(ii) Each hearing involving oral arguments must be conducted at a time and place that is reasonably convenient to the parents and child involved.~~

~~(k) Child's status during due process hearing proceedings. Except as provided for in subsection (l) of this Section pertaining to a request for a due process hearing relative to placement in an interim alternative educational setting or other decisions relating to discipline, during mediation, due process hearings or judicial proceedings, the child involved shall remain in the child's present educational placement unless the school district or public agency and the parents agree otherwise.~~

~~(i) If the hearing involves an application for initial admission to a school district or public agency, the child, with consent of the parents, shall be placed in the school district or public agency until all proceedings are completed. If at the conclusion of a hearing, the hearing officer agrees with the child's parents that a change of placement is appropriate, the placement must be treated as an agreement of all parties for the purposes of this paragraph.~~

~~(ii) If the hearing involves an application for initial services from a child who is transitioning from Part C to Part B of IDEA 04 and is no longer eligible for services because the child has turned three, the school district or public agency is not required to provide Part C services that the child had been receiving. If the child is found eligible for special education and related services under Part B of IDEA 04 and the parent consents to the initial provision of special education and related services, then the school district or public agency must provide those special education and related services that are not in dispute between the parent and the school district or public agency.~~

~~(l) When a request for a due process hearing is made by either the parent or the school district or public agency concerning issues related to placement of the child in~~

~~an interim alternative educational setting or other decisions relating to discipline, the child must remain in the interim alternative setting pending the decision of the hearing officer or until the expiration of the time period provided for with respect to placement in interim alternative educational settings, whichever comes first, unless the parent and the school district or public agency agree otherwise.~~

~~Section 9. **Impartial Due Process Hearing — Agency Responsibility and Hearing Officer Determination, Disclosure and Parent Rights at Hearing.**~~

~~(a) — Agency responsible for conducting the due process hearing. The WDE is responsible for conducting the due process hearing consistent with these rules and shall ensure that the parents or the school district or public agency involved in the dispute have the opportunity for an impartial due process hearing consistent with these procedures.~~

~~(b) — Determination of hearing officer. The independent hearing officer shall conduct hearing activities in conformance with the WDE hearing procedures. The following people are excluded from acting as qualified independent hearing officers:~~

~~(i) — Any person who is an employee of a school district or public agency involved in the education or care of children with disabilities; or~~

~~(ii) — Any person who, with respect to the particular hearing, has any personal or professional interest which might conflict with the person's objectivity in the hearing.~~

~~(iii) — Either party to a hearing may object to the assignment of a hearing officer by submitting a written objection to the WDE within ten (10) days of notification of the appointment of the hearing officer. The written objection must include information supporting a claim of personal or professional bias or interest leading to lack of objectivity. Within ten (10) days of receipt of such a written objection, the WDE shall rule on the objection and:~~

~~(iv) — Appoint another person from the list of qualified independent hearing officers (if another hearing officer is appointed, the procedures for objecting also apply to the newly appointed hearing officer); or~~

~~(A) — Verify that the individual originally proposed is qualified.~~

~~(v) — A hearing officer may at any point withdraw from consideration or from service in any hearing in which the hearing officer believes a personal or professional bias or interest in any of the issues to be decided in the hearing might conflict with the hearing officer's objectivity.~~

~~(c) — Disclosure. At least five (5) business days prior to a hearing, each party shall disclose to all other parties all evaluations completed by that date and recommendations based on the offering party's evaluations that the party intends to use at the hearing.~~

~~(i) A hearing officer may bar any party that fails to comply with subsection (c) of this Section from introducing the relevant evaluation or recommendation at a hearing without the consent of the other party.~~

~~(d) Hearing rights. The hearing officer shall conduct the hearing in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act W.S. § 16-3-107 through 16-3-112.~~

~~(i) Any party to the hearing has the right to:~~

~~(A) Be accompanied and advised by counsel and by individuals with special knowledge or training with respect to the problems of children with disabilities;~~

~~(B) Present evidence and confront, cross-examine, and compel the attendance of witnesses;~~

~~(C) Prohibit the introduction of any evidence at the hearing that has not been disclosed to that party at least five (5) business days before the hearing;~~

~~(D) Obtain a written, or, at the option of the parents, electronic, verbatim record of the hearing; and~~

~~(E) Obtain written, or, at the option of parents, electronic findings of fact and decisions.~~

~~(ii) Parental rights at hearing. Parents involved in the hearing must be given the right to:~~

~~(A) Have the child who is the subject of the hearing present;~~

~~(B) Open the hearing to the public; and~~

~~(C) Have the record of the hearing and the findings of fact and decisions described in Section 9(d)(i)(D)(E) of this Part provided at no cost to parents.~~

~~(e) Decision of hearing officer. The hearing officer's determination of whether the child received FAPE must be made on substantive grounds.~~

~~(i) In matters relating to a procedural violation, the hearing officer may find that a child did not receive FAPE only if the procedural inadequacies:~~

~~(A) Impeded the child's right to FAPE;~~

~~(B) Significantly impeded the parent's opportunity to participate in the decision-making process regarding the provision of FAPE to the parent's child; or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (C) Caused a deprivation of educational benefit.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) Nothing in subsection (e) of this Section precludes a hearing officer from ordering a school district or public agency to comply with procedural requirements of Part B of IDEA 04. The decision of a hearing officer is binding upon both parties unless the decision is appealed through civil action per subparagraph (B) below in this subsection.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) The WDE, after deleting any personally identifiable information, must provide a copy of the findings of fact and the decision to the State Special Education Advisory Panel and to the public upon written request.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) Any party aggrieved by the findings and decisions of a hearing officer has the right to bring a civil action with respect to the request for a due process hearing. The action may be brought in any district court of the State of Wyoming or in a district court of the United States pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA 2004).~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (C) The party bringing the action shall have ninety (90) days from the date of decision of the hearing officer to file a civil action.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ Section 10. Attorney's Fees.~~

~~(a) In any action or proceeding brought under these rules and Section 615 in Part B of IDEA 04, the court, in its discretion, may award reasonable attorneys' fees as part of the costs to:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) The prevailing party who is the parent of a child with a disability;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) To a prevailing party who is the WDE or the school district or public agency against the attorney of a parent who files a request for a due process hearing or subsequent cause of action that is frivolous, unreasonable, or without foundation, or against the attorney of a parent who continued to litigate after the litigation clearly became frivolous, unreasonable, or without foundation, or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) To a prevailing party who is the WDE or school district or public agency against the attorney of a parent, or against the parent, if the parent's request for a due process hearing or a subsequent cause of action was presented for any improper purpose, such as to harass, to cause unnecessary delay, or to needlessly increase the cost of litigation.~~

~~(b) A court awards reasonable attorneys' fees consistent with the following:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) Fees awarded must be based on rates prevailing in the community in which the action or proceeding arose for the kind and quality of services furnished. No bonus or multiplier may be used in calculating the fees awarded under this subsection;~~

~~(ii) Attorneys' fees may not be awarded and related costs may not be reimbursed in any action or proceeding for services performed subsequent to the time of a written offer of settlement to a parent if:~~

~~(A) The offer is made within the time prescribed by Rule 68 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or, in the case of an administrative proceeding, at any time more than ten (10) days before the proceeding begins;~~

~~(B) The offer is not accepted within ten (10) days; and~~

~~(C) The court or administrative hearing officer finds that the relief finally obtained by the parents is not more favorable to the parents than the offer of settlement.~~

~~(e) Attorneys' fees may not be awarded relating to any meeting of the IEP team unless the meeting is convened as a result of an administrative proceeding or judicial action, or for a mediation meeting described in Section 6 of this Part. A resolution meeting shall not be considered a meeting convened as a result of an administrative hearing or judicial action and attorney fees may not be awarded for a resolution meeting.~~

~~(d) An award of attorneys' fees and related costs may be made to a parent who is the prevailing party and who was substantially justified in rejecting the settlement offer.~~

~~(e) Except as provided for in subsection (f) of this Section the court reduces the attorneys' fees awarded if the court finds that:~~

~~(i) The parent or the parent's attorney, during the course of the action or proceeding, unreasonably protracted the final resolution of the controversy;~~

~~(ii) The amount of the attorneys' fees otherwise authorized to be awarded unreasonably exceeds the hourly rate prevailing in the community for similar services by attorneys of reasonably comparable skill, reputation, and experience;~~

~~(iii) The time spent and legal services furnished were excessive considering the nature of the action or proceeding; or~~

~~(iv) The attorney representing the parents did not provide to the school district or public agency the appropriate information in the request for due process hearing notice as specified in Section 8 of this Part.~~

~~(f) The provisions of subsection (e) of this Section do not apply in any action or proceeding if the court finds that the State or school district or public agency unreasonably protracted the final resolution of the action or proceeding or there was a violation of Procedural Safeguards of these rules and Section 615 in Part B of IDEA 04.~~

**PART 3**  
**SPECIAL EDUCATION PROCESS**

**Section 1. Free Appropriate Public Education.**

~~(a) School districts and public agencies shall ensure that Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) is available to all children with disabilities, aged three (3) through the completion of the school year the child turns twenty one (21), residing in Wyoming, including those who have been suspended or expelled from school as provided for in Part 6 of these rules.~~

~~(i) School districts and public agencies are not obligated to provide FAPE to students who have graduated with a regular high school diploma. This exception does not apply to students with disabilities who have graduated from high school, but have not been awarded a regular high school diploma. The term regular high school diploma does not include an alternative degree that is not fully aligned with State academic standards, such as a certificate or a general educational development credential (GED).~~

~~(ii) The obligation to provide FAPE does not apply to children with disabilities ages eighteen (18) through twenty one (21), who in their last educational placement prior to their incarceration in an adult correctional facility:~~

~~(A) Were not identified as being a child with a disability and did not have an IEP.~~

~~(iii) The exception in paragraph (ii)(A) above does not apply to children aged eighteen (18) through twenty one (21) who in their last educational placement prior to their incarceration in an correctional facility:~~

~~(A) Had been identified as a child with a disability and had received services in accordance with an IEP but left school prior to their incarceration; or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) Did not have an IEP in their last educational setting, but had been identified as a child with a disability.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (b) FAPE for children beginning at age three (3) begins no later than the child's third birthday, and an IEP or an IFSP must be in effect by that date. If the child's birthday occurs during the summer, the child's IEP team shall determine when services under the IEP or IFSP will begin.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (c) Children advancing from grade to grade. FAPE must be available to any child with a disability who needs special education and related services, even though the child has not failed or been retained in a course or grade and is advancing from grade to grade.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (d) The determination that a child is eligible as a child with a disability is made on an individual basis by the group responsible within the child's school district or public agency for making eligibility determinations.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (e) Assistive technology.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) Each school district or public agency must ensure that assistive technology devices or services as defined in Part 1 of these rules are made available to a child with a disability if required as part of a child's:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) Special education;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) Related services;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (C) Supplementary aids and services.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) On a case by case basis, the use of school-purchased assistive technology devices in a child's home or in other settings is required if the child's IEP team determines that the child needs access to those devices to receive FAPE.~~

~~(f) Physical education. Physical education services, specially designed if necessary, must be made available to every child with a disability receiving FAPE, unless the school district or public agency enrolls children without disabilities and does not provide physical education to children without disabilities in the same grades.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) Regular physical education. Each child with a disability must be afforded the opportunity to participate in the regular physical education program available to non-disabled children unless the child is enrolled full time in a separate facility or the child needs specially designed physical education as prescribed in the child's IEP.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) Special physical education. If specially designed physical education is prescribed in the child's IEP, the school district or public agency responsible~~

for the education of the child must provide the services directly or make arrangements for those services to be provided through other public or private programs.

~~(iii) Physical education in separate facilities. The school district or public agency responsible for the education of a child with a disability who is enrolled in a separate facility must ensure that the child receives appropriate physical education services in compliance with this subsection.~~

~~(g) Nonacademic services.~~

~~(i) Each school district or public agency must take steps, including the provision of supplementary aids and services determined appropriate and necessary by the child's IEP team, to provide nonacademic and extracurricular services and activities in the manner necessary to afford children with disabilities an equal opportunity for participation in those services and activities.~~

~~(ii) Nonacademic and extracurricular services and activities may include counseling services, athletics, transportation, health services, recreational services, special interest groups or clubs sponsored by the school district or public agency, referrals to agencies that provide assistance to individuals with disabilities, and employment of students, including both employment by the school district or public agency, and assistance in making outside employment available.~~

~~(h) Routine checking of hearing aids and external components of surgically implanted medical devices.~~

~~(i) Hearing aids. Each school district or public agency must ensure that hearing aids worn in school by children with hearing impairments, including deafness, are functioning properly.~~

~~(ii) External components of surgically implanted medical devices. Consistent with subsection (h)(iii) of this Section, each school district or public agency must ensure that external components of surgically implanted medical devices are functioning properly.~~

~~(iii) For a child with a surgically implanted medical device who is receiving special education and related services, a school district or public agency is not responsible for post-surgical maintenance, programming, or replacement of the medical device that has been surgically implanted (or of an external component of the surgically implanted medical device).~~

~~(i) Residential Placement. If placement in a public or private residential program is necessary to provide special education and related services to a child with a disability, the program, including non-medical care and room and board, must be at no cost to the parents of the child.~~

~~Section 2. Educational Surrogate Parents.~~

~~(a) — Each school district or public agency shall ensure that the rights of a child with a disability are protected when:~~

~~(i) — No parent as defined in these rules can be identified;~~

~~(ii) — The school district or public agency, after reasonable efforts, cannot locate a parent;~~

~~(iii) — The child with a disability is a ward of the State under Wyoming State law; or~~

~~(iv) — The child is an unaccompanied homeless youth as defined in section 725(6) of the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act.~~

~~(b) — The duty of a school district or public agency includes the assignment of an individual to act as an educational surrogate for the parents. This must include a method:~~

~~(i) — For determining whether a child with a disability needs an educational surrogate parent; and~~

~~(ii) — For assigning an educational surrogate parent to the child.~~

~~(c) — The school district or public agency shall select an educational surrogate parent based on the following criteria:~~

~~(i) — The individual is not an employee of the WDE, the school district, or any other public agency that is involved in the education or care of the child;~~

~~(A) — A surrogate parent is not considered an employee solely because he or she received compensation as a surrogate.~~

~~(ii) — The individual has no personal or professional interests that conflict with the interest of the child the surrogate parent represents; and~~

~~(iii) — The individual has knowledge and skills that ensure adequate representation of the child with a disability.~~

~~(iv) — A foster parent may serve as an educational surrogate parent if he/she meets the above requirements.~~

~~(d) — In the case of a child who is a ward of the State, the surrogate parent alternatively may be appointed by a judge overseeing the child's case, provided that the surrogate meets the requirements of subsection (c)(i-iv) of this Section.~~

~~(e) — In the case of a homeless child who is an unaccompanied youth, appropriate staff of emergency shelters, transitional shelters, independent living programs~~

~~and street outreach programs may be appointed as temporary surrogates without regard to subsection (c)(i-iv) of this Section, until a surrogate can be appointed that meets all of the requirements of subsection (c) of this Section.~~

~~(f) — The educational surrogate parent may represent the child with a disability in all matters relating to the identification, evaluation, eligibility, programming, and educational placement of the child and to the provision of FAPE.~~

~~Section 3. **Transfer of Rights at the Age of Majority.**~~

~~(a) — Beginning not later than one year before a child reaches the age of majority, the IEP must include a statement that the child has been informed of his or her rights that will transfer to the child on reaching the age of majority.~~

~~(b) — Transfer of parental rights at age of majority. When a child reaches the age of majority that applies to all children except for a child with a disability who has been determined to be incompetent under Wyoming law,~~

~~(i) — The school district or public agency shall provide any notice required under these rules to both the child and the parents;~~

~~(ii) — All rights accorded to the parents under these rules transfer to the child; and~~

~~(iii) — All rights accorded to the parents transfer to children who are incarcerated in an adult or juvenile, State, or local correctional institution.~~

~~(iv) — Whenever the State provides for the transfer of rights, the school district or public agency shall notify the child and the parents of the transfer of rights.~~

~~Section 4. **General Evaluation Procedures.**~~

~~(a) — Initial evaluations. School districts and public agencies shall conduct a full and individual initial evaluation to determine eligibility before the initial provision of special education and related services to a child with a disability.~~

~~(b) — Consistent with consent requirements in these rules, either a parent of a child or a school district or public agency may initiate a request for an initial evaluation to determine if the child is a child with a disability.~~

~~(i) — The screening of a student by a teacher or specialist to determine appropriate instructional strategies for curriculum implementation shall not be considered to be an evaluation for eligibility for special education and related services.~~

~~(c) — The initial evaluation to determine if the child is a child with a disability as defined in these rules and to determine the educational needs of the child pursuant to~~

~~Section 6 of this Part must be conducted within sixty (60) days of receiving parental consent for the evaluation pursuant to Section 6 of this Part.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) The time frame does not apply to a school district or public agency if:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) The parent of a child repeatedly fails or refuses to produce the child for the evaluation; or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) A child enrolls in a school of another school district or public agency after the sixty (60) day time frame in subsection (c) has begun but prior to a determination by the previous school district or public agency as to whether the child is a child with a disability. The exception in this subparagraph applies only if the subsequent school district or public agency is making sufficient progress to ensure a prompt completion of the evaluation, and the subsequent school district or public agency and the parent agree to a specific date when the evaluation will be completed.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) The sixty (60) day time frame specified in (c) may be extended by mutual written consent of the parent and the group of qualified professionals as specified in Section 6 of this Part.~~

~~(d) Prior to the initiation of the evaluation, the school district or public agency must provide prior written notice in accordance with Part 2, Section 1, of these rules to the parent of a child with a disability that describes any evaluation procedure the school district or public agency proposes to conduct.~~

~~(e) In conducting the evaluation, the school district or the public agency must:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) Use a variety of assessment tools and strategies to gather relevant functional, developmental, and academic information about the child, including information provided by the parent, that may assist in determining:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) Whether the child is a child with a disability; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) The content of the child's IEP, including information related to enabling the child to be involved in and progress in the general education curriculum, or for preschool children to participate in appropriate activities.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) Not use any single measure or assessment as the sole criterion for determining whether the child is a child with a disability and for determining the appropriate educational program for the child; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) Use technically sound instruments that may assess the relative contribution of cognitive and behavioral factors, in addition to physical or developmental factors.~~

~~(f) Other evaluation procedures. Each school district or public agency must ensure:~~

~~(i) Assessments and other evaluation materials used to assess a child are selected and administered so as not to be discriminatory on a racial or cultural basis and are provided and administered in the child's native language or other mode of communication, and in the form most likely to yield accurate information on what the child knows and can do academically, developmentally, and functionally unless it is clearly not feasible to provide or administer; and are used for purposes for which the assessments or measurements are valid and reliable;~~

~~(ii) Assessments are administered by trained and knowledgeable personnel; and~~

~~(iii) Assessments are administered in accordance with any instructions provided by the producer of the assessments;~~

~~(iv) Assessments and other evaluation materials include those tailored to assess specific areas of educational need and not merely those that are designed to provide a single intelligence quotient;~~

~~(v) Assessments are selected and administered so as best to ensure that if an assessment is administered to a child with impaired sensory, manual, or speaking skills, the assessment results accurately reflect the child's aptitude or achievement level or whatever other factors the test purports to measure, rather than reflecting the child's impaired sensory, manual, or speaking skills (unless those skills are the factors that the test purports to measure);~~

~~(vi) The child is assessed in all areas of suspected disabilities, including, if appropriate, health, vision, hearing, social and emotional status, general intelligence, academic performance, communicative status, and motor abilities;~~

~~(vii) That assessments of children with disabilities who transfer from one school district or public agency to another in the same school year are coordinated with those child's prior and subsequent school districts or public agencies as necessary and as expeditiously as possible to ensure prompt completion of full evaluations; and~~

~~(viii) In evaluating each child with a disability, the evaluation is sufficiently comprehensive to identify all of the child's special education and related service needs, whether or not commonly linked to the disability category in which the child has been classified.~~

~~(ix) Assessment tools and strategies that provide relevant information that directly assist persons in determining the educational needs of the child are provided.~~

~~Section 5. Additional Requirements for Evaluations and Reevaluations.~~

~~(a) — Review of existing evaluation data. As part of an initial evaluation (if appropriate) and as part of any reevaluation under this Section, the evaluation team, or at the discretion of the school district or public agency, the IEP team, and other qualified professionals, as appropriate, shall:~~

~~(i) — Review existing evaluation data on the child, including evaluations and information provided by the parents of the child;~~

~~(ii) — Review current classroom based, local or State assessments and classroom based observations; and~~

~~(iii) — Review observations by teachers and related services providers;~~

~~(iv) — Permit the review of evaluation information without a meeting; and~~

~~(v) — On the basis of that review, and input from the child's parents, identify what additional data, if any, are needed to determine:~~

~~(A) — Whether the child has a disability as defined in these rules and the educational needs of the child, or, in case of reevaluation of a child, whether the child continues to have such a disability, and the educational needs of the child;~~

~~(B) — The present levels of academic achievement and related developmental needs of the child;~~

~~(C) — Whether the child needs special education and related services, or in the case of a reevaluation of a child, whether the child continues to need special education and related services; and~~

~~(D) — Whether any additions or modifications to the special education and related services are needed to enable the child to meet the measurable annual goals set out in the IEP of the child and to participate, as appropriate, in the general education curriculum.~~

~~(b) — Source of data. The school district or public agency must administer such assessments and other evaluation measures as may be needed to produce the data identified under subsection (a) of this Section.~~

~~(i) — Consistent with Section 6 of this Part, in the event the school district or public agency conducts assessments and other evaluation measures to determine if a child is or continues to be a child with a disability, they shall document that determination and provide a copy of the report to the parent as specified in Section 6, subsection (a), of this Part.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (c) Requirements if additional data are not needed. If the determination is that no additional evaluation data are needed to determine whether the child continues to be a child with a disability and to determine the child's educational needs, the school district or public agency shall notify the child's parents of that determination, the reasons for that determination, and the right of the parents to request an assessment to determine whether the child continues to be a child with a disability and to determine the child's educational needs.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) The school district or public agency is not required to conduct the additional assessment unless requested to do so by the child's parents.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (d) Evaluations before a change in eligibility. A school district or public agency must evaluate a child in accordance with this Section before determining that the child is no longer a child with a disability:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) Except that an evaluation is not required before the termination of a child's eligibility due to graduation from a secondary school with a regular diploma; or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) Due to exceeding age eligibility for FAPE.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (e) For a child whose eligibility terminates under the circumstances in subsection (d)(i) or (d)(ii), the school district or public agency must provide the child with a summary of the child's academic and functional performance, including recommendations on how to assist the child in meeting the child's post secondary goals.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (f) Reevaluation.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) The school district or public agency must ensure that a reevaluation of each child with a disability is conducted if the school district or public agency determines that the educational or related service needs, including improved academic achievement and functional performance of the child, warrant a reevaluation; or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) If the child's parent or teacher requests a reevaluation.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) A reevaluation must occur at least once every three (3) years, unless the parent and the public agency agree that a reevaluation is unnecessary.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iv) A reevaluation may not occur more than once per year, unless the parent and public agency agree otherwise.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ Section 6. Determination of Eligibility.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (a) Upon completion of the administration of assessments and other evaluation measures, a group of qualified professionals and the parent of the child determines whether the child is a child with a disability as defined in Part 1, Section 2(d) and the educational needs of the child. The school district or public agency must provide~~

a copy of the evaluation report and the documentation of determination of eligibility at no cost to the parent.

~~(b) A child must not be determined to be a child with a disability under this Section, if the determinant factor for that determination is:~~

~~(i) Lack of appropriate instruction in reading, including the essential components of reading instruction (as defined in section 1208(3) of the ESEA), lack of appropriate instruction in math; or Limited English Proficiency; and~~

~~(ii) If the child does not otherwise meet the School districts and public agencies shall coordinate child find responsibilities for children ages birth through two (2) with early intervention providers or agencies.~~

(b) Initial evaluation.

(i) In accordance with 34 C.F.R. §300.301, either a parent, school district, or public agency may initiate a request for a full and individual initial evaluation.

(A) A school district or public agency shall establish procedures for requesting an initial evaluation.

(B) If a comprehensive initial evaluation is determined warranted, consent must be obtained consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.300, and the evaluation must be conducted consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.301 through 300.311.

(C) A comprehensive evaluation shall include, as needed, evaluative services provided by a licensed physician to determine a child's medically related disability that results in the child's need for special education and related services. [See 34 C.F.R. §300.34(c)(5)]

(D) If the school district or public agency does not suspect that the child has a disability and refuses a parent's request for an initial evaluation, the school district or public agency must provide written notice to the parent consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.503. The parent may challenge the refusal by utilizing the dispute resolution procedures in these rules.

(c) Eligibility under the IDEA.

(i) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.8, to be eligible for special education and related services under the IDEA a child must meet the criteria for one (1) or more of the disability categories listed in this section, and the disability must adversely affect the student's educational performance such that the student needs special education, as defined in 34 C.F.R. §300.39, and related services, as defined in 34 C.F.R. §300.34.

(ii) Limitation. Speech Language Impairment is the only disability category that would be considered either:

(A) A special education service if eligibility criteria- is met, or

~~(e) Procedures for determining eligibility and educational need. In interpreting evaluation data for the purpose of determining if a child has a disability and establishing the educational needs, each school district or public agency must:~~

~~(i) Draw upon information from a variety of sources, including aptitude and achievement tests, parental input, and teacher recommendations, as well as information about the child's physical condition, social or cultural background, and adaptive behavior; and~~

~~(ii) Ensure that information obtained from all of these sources is documented and carefully considered.~~

~~(iii) If a determination is made that a child has a disability and needs special education and related services, an IEP must be developed for the child.~~

**PART 4**

## DISABILITY CATEGORIES

(B) — Section 1. A related service if the eligibility criteria for one (1) of the other disability categories is satisfied.

(d) Disability categories and eligibility criteria.

### Autism:

(i) — (a) — " Spectrum Disorder. Autism" Spectrum Disorder means a developmental disability significantly affecting verbal and nonverbal communications and social interaction, generally evident before age three (3) that adversely affects a child's educational performance. Other characteristics often associated with Autism Spectrum Disorder are engagement in repetitive activities and stereotyped movements, resistance to environmental change or change in daily routines, and unusual responses to sensory experiences. Autism Spectrum Disorder does not apply if a child's educational performance is adversely affected primarily because the child has an emotional disability Emotional Disability as defined in Section 5 of this Part. A child who manifests the characteristics of autism after age three (3) could be identified as having autism if the criteria in this paragraph of this Section are satisfied. section.

(A) — (i) — Autism Spectrum Disorder eligibility criteria: Criteria are Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of Part 3, Sections 4 and 5, of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall also include recommendations for instruction from a qualified diagnostician, such as a licensed clinical psychologist, school psychologist, psychiatrist or other qualified professional. The initial evaluation process shall include assessments in academic/pre-academic, adaptive behavior, communication/language development, parent interview/input, teacher interview/input, social/emotional, functional behavior and classroom based assessments and qualitative data comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from at least two observations or other assessments and/or qualitative data as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements in Part 3, Section 6, of these rules, a child is identified as a child with autism Autism Spectrum Disorder if the four (4) out of five (5) following criteria under (A) through (E) are satisfied.:

(I) — (A) — Impaired communication: The child is unable to use expressive and receptive language for social communication in a developmentally appropriate manner; lacks nonverbal communication skills; or uses abnormal nonverbal communication; uses abnormal form or content when speaking and/ or is unable to initiate or sustain conversation with others.;

(II) — (B) — Inappropriate relationships: The child exhibits deficits relating to people; marked lack of awareness of other's others' feelings; abnormal seeking of comfort at times of distress; absent or abnormal social play and/ or

inability to make friends. ~~The child does not relate to or use objects in an age-appropriate or functional manner;~~

~~(III) — (C) —~~ Abnormal sensory processing: ~~The child exhibits unusual, repetitive, or non-meaningful responses to auditory, visual, olfactory, taste, tactile and/or kinesthetic stimuli;~~

~~(IV) — (D) —~~ Impaired cognitive development: ~~The child has difficulty with concrete versus abstract thinking, awareness, judgment and/or the ability to generalize. The child may exhibit perseverative thinking or impaired ability to process symbolic information; or~~

~~(V) — (E) —~~ Abnormal range of activities: ~~The child shows/demonstrates a restricted repertoire of activities, interests, and imaginative development evident through stereotyped body movements, persistent preoccupation with parts of objects, distress over trivial changes in the environment, unreasonable insistence on routines, restricted range of interests, or preoccupations with one (1) narrow interest.~~

~~Section 2. Cognitive Disability.~~

~~(ii) — (a) — “Cognitive disability”~~ Disability means significantly sub-average general intellectual functioning, existing concurrently with deficits in adaptive behavior and manifested during the developmental period that adversely affects a ~~child's~~ child's educational performance.

~~(A) — (i) —~~ Disability eligibility criteria: ~~Criteria are~~ Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of Part 3, Sections 4 and 5, of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall include assessments in academic/pre-academic, adaptive behavior, parent interview/input, teacher interview/input, cognitive/intellectual, and classroom-based assessments and qualitative data comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from at least one observation or other assessments and/or qualitative data as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements in Part 3, Section 6, of these rules, a child is identified as a child with a ~~cognitive disability~~ Cognitive Disability if all of the following criteria ~~under (A) through (C) are satisfied. are met:~~

~~(I) — (A) —~~ Documentation on an individual test of intelligence that the ~~child's~~ child's intellectual functioning is two (2) or more standard deviations below the mean, taking into consideration the standard error of measurement. In the event that an individual test of intelligence is not able to be administered to the child, the evaluation team shall document how they determined that the ~~child's~~ child's profile of intellectual functioning indicates sub-average performance in a majority of areas;

~~(II) (B)~~ Documentation on an individually administered test or assessment that the child's academic or pre-academic skills are coexistent with the child's deficits in intellectual functioning. ~~Behavioral~~ Behavior observations, criterion-referenced tests, or documentation of classroom performance may be used when a ~~child's~~ child's level of functioning cannot be appropriately be measured by standardized tests; and

~~(III) (C)~~ Documentation on standardized adaptive behavior measurements, that includes information gathered from parents and school staff, that the ~~child's~~ child's deficits in adaptive behavior isare coexistent with the child's deficits in intellectual functioning.

~~Section 3. Deaf-Blindness.~~

~~(iii) (a)~~ "Deaf-blindness"Blindness means concomitant hearing and visual impairments, the combination of which causes such severe communication and other developmental and educational needs that they cannot be accommodated in special education programs solely for a child with deafness or a child with blindness.

~~(A) (i)~~ Deaf-blindnessBlindness eligibility criteria: ~~Criteria are~~ Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of Part 3, Sections 4 and 5, of these rules. The initial evaluation process shall include a licensed audiologist, certified teacher of the visually impaired, and other qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall ~~include assessments in academic/pre-academic, adaptive behavior, communication/language development, gross/fine motor, parent interview/input, teacher interview/input, social/emotional, audiological, vision, mobility,~~ be comprehensive and classroom based assessments and qualitative data address all areas of need resulting from at least one observation or other assessments and/or qualitative data as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements in Part 3, Section 6, of these rules, a child is identified as a child with ~~deaf-blindness~~Deaf-Blindness if all of the following criteria under (A) through (C) are satisfied.met:

~~(I) (A)~~ Eligibility criteria for ~~hearing impairment (including deafness)~~Hearing Impairment, Including Deafness, are satisfiedmet;

~~(II) (B)~~ Eligibility criteria for ~~visual impairment (including blindness)~~Visual Impairment, Including Blindness, are satisfiedmet; and

~~(III) (C)~~ The ~~child's~~ child's current level of performance indicates significant problems with motor functioning, communication, self-help/adaptive skills, social skills, and/or pre-academic or academic skills.

~~Section 4. Developmental Delay.~~

(iv) ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (a) \_\_\_\_\_~~ " Developmental Delay means a child with a disability ages three (3) through nine (9) who is determined through appropriate diagnostic instruments and procedures to be experiencing developmental delays in the following areas: physical development, cognitive development, communication development, social or emotional development, or adaptive development, that adversely affects educational performance and who, by reason thereof, needs special education and related services. Developmental Delay is a category available to children ages three (3) through nine (9) who do not qualify in other categories under ~~this Part, but meet the developmental delay criteria.~~ these rules, but meet the Developmental Delay criteria. School districts or public agencies are free to utilize Developmental Delay as a disability category if adopted by the local governing board and annual assurances are provided to WDE that the criteria is implemented consistent with these rules.

(A) ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_~~ Developmental Delay eligibility criteria: Criteria are Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of Part 3, Sections 4 and 5, of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall include academic/pre-academic, adaptive behavior, communication/language development, cognitive/intellectual, gross/fine motor, parent interview/input, teacher/caregiver, interview/input, social/emotional, classroom/daycare/pre school based assessments, and qualitative data comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from at least one observation or other assessments and/or qualitative data as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency the suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements in Part 3, Section 6, of these rules, a child is identified as a child with a developmental delay/Developmental Delay if the following criteria under (A) or (B) and (C) are satisfied: are met:

(I) ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) \_\_\_\_\_~~ The child's/child's performance is significantly below the mean of expected performance, measured at 1.75 standard deviations below the expected ~~of~~ performance for children of comparable chronological age in one (1) area (physical, cognitive, social/emotional, communication, or adaptive functioning. ~~In determining the); or~~

The child's performance as ~~being~~ is markedly below the expected level for children of comparable age the team must be allowed to establish eligibility based on a preponderance of the information presented and that other measures may be used to determine eligibility such as observations, criterion referenced measures, clinical judgment and other clinically accepted practices.

(II) ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_~~ The child's performance is ~~markedly~~ mean of expected performance, measure at 1.5 standard deviations below the mean-expected performance ~~expected of~~ for children of comparable chronological age in two (2) or more areas (physical, cognitive, social/emotional, communication, or adaptive functioning. ~~In determining the child's performance as being markedly below the expected level for children of comparable age the team must be allowed to establish eligibility based on a preponderance of the information presented and that other measures may be used to~~

determine eligibility such as observations, criterion-referenced measures, clinical judgment and other clinically accepted practices.); and

(III) (C) Results of hearing and vision screening that provide evidence that the child's performance is not at the result of a hearing or vision impairment, impairments.

(B) Section 5. Exceeding the age of eligibility: Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.305(e)(1), the school district or public agency must evaluate the child before determining the child is no longer a child with a Developmental Delay.

### **Emotional Disability**

(v) (a) "Emotional disability" Disability means a condition exhibiting one (1) or more of the following characteristics over a long period of time and to a marked degree that adversely affects a child's educational performance: an inability to learn that cannot be explained by intellectual, sensory, or health factors; an inability to build or maintain satisfactory interpersonal relationships with peers and/or teachers; inappropriate types of behavior or feelings under normal circumstances; a general pervasive mood of unhappiness or depression; or a tendency to develop physical symptoms or fears associated with personal or school problems. The term includes schizophrenia. The term does not apply to children who are socially maladjusted, unless they have an emotional disability Emotional Disability as defined in these rules.

(A) (i) Emotional disability Disability eligibility criteria: Criteria are Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of Part 3, Sections 4 and 5, of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall include recommendations for social, emotional, or behavioral instruction from a qualified diagnostician, such as a licensed clinical psychologist, school psychologist, psychiatrist, or other qualified professional. The initial evaluation process shall include assessments in academic/pre-academic, parent interview/input, teacher interview/input, social/emotional, functional behavior, be comprehensive and classroom-based assessments, and qualitative data address all areas of need resulting from at least two observations or other assessments and/or qualitative data as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements in Part 3, Section 6, of these rules, a child is identified as a child with emotional disability an Emotional Disability if the following criteria under A through C are satisfied. met:

(I) (A) Despite implementation of one or more positive Documentation from regular education positive behavioral interventions, the evidences that the behavior adversely affects the child's educational performance.

(II) The child continues to exhibit behavioral or emotional responses in school that are so different from appropriate age, cultural, or ethnic norms characteristics over a long period of time and to a marked degree that the responses adversely affect

affects the child's academic, social, or vocational educational performance in as evidence by one (1) or more of the following areas:

(1.) (I) An inability to develop learn that cannot be explained by intellectual, sensory, or health factors;

(2.) An inability to build or maintain satisfactory interpersonal relationships with peers and teachers; and/or

(3.) (II) Inappropriate types of behavior or feelings or behavioral response to a under normal situation; and/or circumstances;

(4.) (III) A general pervasive mood of unhappiness or depression; and/or

(5.) (IV) A tendency to develop physical symptoms, pain, or fears associated with personal or school problems.

(B) Demonstrates severe, chronic, and frequent inappropriate behavior or emotional responses that are not a result of situational anxiety, stress, or conflict. Demonstrates these behaviors or emotional responses in two or more settings of which one includes the school setting.

(C) Demonstrates patterns of behavior which cannot be attributed primarily to physical, sensory, or intellectual deficits.

(III) Section 6. The term does not apply to children who are socially maladjusted, unless it is determined that they have an Emotional Disability consistent with the criteria above.

### **Hearing Impairment, Including Deafness.**

(vi) (a) "Hearing impairment including deafness" Impairment, Including Deafness means a hearing impairment including deafness that, with or without amplification, adversely affects educational performance; may be permanent or fluctuating; and may be so severe that the child is impaired in processing linguistic information through hearing, with or without amplification.

(A) (i) Hearing impairment including deafness Impairment, Including Deafness eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of Part 3, Sections 4 and 5, of these rules. The initial evaluation process shall include a licensed audiologist and other qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall include assessments in academic/pre-academic, communication/language development, parent interview/input, teacher interview/input, audiological, be comprehensive and classroom based assessments and qualitative data address all areas of need resulting from at least one observation or other assessments and/or qualitative data as determined appropriate by the school district or

~~public agency suspected disability.~~ In accordance with the requirements in Part 3, Section 6, of these rules, a child is identified as a child with a hearing impairment including deafness Hearing Impairment, Including Deafness, if the following criteria under (A)(I), or (A)(II), or (A)(III), or (A)(IV) and (B) are satisfied met:

(I) ~~(A)~~ Documentation of the child's potential requirement for amplification and one (1) of the following hearing losses:

~~(1.)~~ (1.) Sensorineural hearing loss; or

~~(2.)~~ (2.) Conductive hearing loss;

~~(III)~~ (III) Mixed hearing loss combination of conductive and sensorineural hearing losses; or

~~(IV)~~ (IV) Central hearing loss (impaired understanding and processing).

(II) ~~(B)~~ Documentation that the hearing loss interferes with the ~~student's~~ student's ability to function in an educational program using traditional materials and techniques due to the child's ~~delay~~ difficulty in the ~~use~~ using or understanding of spoken language.

#### ~~Section 7. Multiple Disabilities.~~

~~(a)~~ "Multiple disabilities" Disabilities means concomitant impairments (such as ~~cognitive disability blindness; cognitive disability orthopedic impairment~~ Cognitive Disability-Blindness; Traumatic Brain Injury-Orthopedic Impairment), the combination of which causes such severe educational needs that they cannot be accommodated in special education programs solely for one (1) of the impairments. The term does not include ~~deaf blindness~~.

~~(vii)~~ (i) ~~Multiple disabilities~~ Deaf-Blindness unless eligibility criteria: Criteria are in an additional disability category are satisfied.

(A) Multiple Disabilities eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of Part 3, Sections 4 and 5, of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall include ~~academic/pre-academic, adaptive behavior, parent interview/input, teacher interview/input, cognitive/intellectual, and classroom-based assessments and qualitative data~~ comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from at least one observation or other assessments and/or qualitative data as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. In accordance with the requirements in Part 3,

Section 6, of these rules, a child is identified as a child with multiple disabilities if the criteria under (A) and (B) are satisfied. suspected disability.

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) Eligibility criteria for cognitive disability are established.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) Eligibility criteria for one of the following disability categories are established: deaf blindness, other health impaired, hearing impairment including deafness, orthopedic impairment, or visual impairment including blindness.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ Section 8. Orthopedic Impairment.~~

~~(viii) \_\_\_\_\_ (a) "Orthopedic Impairment". Orthopedic Impairment means a severe orthopedic impairment that adversely affects a child's educational performance. The term includes impairments caused by a congenital anomaly, impairments caused by disease (e.g., poliomyelitis, bone tuberculosis) ~~The term includes impairments caused by a congenital anomaly, impairments caused by disease (e.g., poliomyelitis, bone tuberculosis), and impairments from other causes (e.g., cerebral palsy, amputations and fractures or burns that cause contractures).~~~~

~~(A) \_\_\_\_\_ (i) Orthopedic ~~impairment~~ impairment eligibility criteria: ~~Criteria are~~ Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of Part 3, Sections 4 and 5, of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall include ~~academic/pre-academic, gross/fine motor, parent interview/input, teacher interview/input, physical/health/medical, and classroom based assessments and qualitative data~~ comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from at least one observation or other assessments and/or qualitative data as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. ~~suspected disability.~~ In accordance with the requirements in Part 3, Section 6, of these rules, a child is identified as a child with an ~~orthopedic impairment~~ Orthopedic Impairment if the following criteria under (A) and (B) plus (C) or (D) are satisfied. ~~met:~~~~

~~(I) \_\_\_\_\_ (A) Documentation of an orthopedic ~~impairment~~ Orthopedic Impairment from a physician within the previous twelve (12) months for an initial evaluation ~~and as deemed appropriate for determining continuing eligibility for reevaluation;~~ and~~

~~(II) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) Documentation that the ~~child's~~ child's impaired motor functioning significantly interferes with educational performance; and either~~

~~(III) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) Documentation that the child exhibits deficits in muscular or neuromuscular functioning that significantly ~~limits~~ limit the ~~child's~~ child's ability to move about, sit, or manipulate materials required for learning; or~~

~~(IV) \_\_\_\_\_ (D) Documentation that the ~~child's~~ child's bone, joint, or muscle problems affect ambulation, posture, or gross and fine motor skills.~~

~~Section 9. Other Health Impaired.~~

~~(ix) (a) "Impairment. Other health impaired"~~ Health Impairment means having limited strength, vitality, or alertness, including a heightened alertness to environmental stimuli, that results in limited alertness with respect to the educational environment, that is due to chronic or acute health problems, such as asthma, attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, diabetes, epilepsy, a heart condition, hemophilia, lead poisoning, leukemia, nephritis, rheumatic fever, sickle cell anemia, and Tourette Syndrome, and adversely affects a ~~child's~~ child's educational performance.

~~(A) (i) Other health impaired~~ Health Impairment eligibility criteria: ~~Criteria are~~ Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of Part 3, Sections 4 and 5, of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall include ~~academic/pre-academic, parent interview/input, teacher interview/input, physical/health/medical, and classroom-based assessments and qualitative data~~ comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from at least one observation or other assessments and/or qualitative data as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. ~~suspected disability.~~ In accordance with the requirements in Part 3, Section 6, of these rules, a child is identified as ~~other health impaired~~ a child with an Other Health Impairment if the criteria under (A) and (B) below are satisfied. ~~met:~~

~~(I) (A) Subject to the provisions of~~ subdivision (I) of this subparagraph with respect to provision below regarding attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, documentation of an acute or chronic health problem from a licensed physician within the previous twelve (12) months for an initial evaluation ~~and as deemed appropriate for continuing eligibility for a reevaluation.~~

~~(1.) (I) In concert with the~~ provisions of paragraph (i) of this Section above provision, as determined appropriate by a school district or public agency, a licensed psychologist or certified psychologist, in lieu of a physician may document the child meets eligibility requirements for an ~~other health impairment~~ Other Health Impairment with respect to attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder for an initial evaluation; ~~and as deemed appropriate for continuing eligibility for a reevaluation.~~

~~(II) (B) Documentation that educational performance is~~ adversely affected due to acute or chronic limited strength, vitality, or alertness.

~~Section 10. Specific Learning Disability.~~

(x) \_\_\_\_\_ (a) \_\_\_\_\_ “ (SLD). Specific learning disability” Learning Disability means a disorder in one (1) or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or in using language, spoken or written, that may manifest itself in an imperfect ability to listen, think, speak, read, write, spell, or to do mathematical calculations, including conditions such as perceptual disabilities, brain injury, minimal brain dysfunction, dyslexia and developmental aphasia. A specific learning disability Specific Learning Disability does not include learning problems that are primarily the result of visual, hearing, or motor disabilities, of cognitive disabilities, of disability, emotional disability, or of environmental, cultural or economic disadvantage.

(A) \_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ Specific learning disability Learning Disability eligibility criteria: Criteria are Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of Part 3, Sections 4 and 5, of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by a group of qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall include academic/pre-academic, parent interview/input, teacher interview/input, cognitive/intellectual (only if the Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Model is used per subsection (c)(i)(B) of this Section), and classroom-based assessments and qualitative data comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from at least one observation or other assessments and/or qualitative data as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency, the suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements in Part 3, Section 6, of these rules, a child is identified as a child with a specific learning disability Specific Learning Disability if the criteria underin this Section section are satisfied.

\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ With respect to the observation described in paragraph (i) above, the school district or public agency must ensure that the child is observed in the child’s learning environment (including the regular classroom setting) to document the child’s academic performance and behavior in the areas of difficulty. Consistent in the case of a child of less than school age or out of school, a group member must observe the child in an environment appropriate for a child of that age. The group described in subsection (b) of this Section, must decide to either:

\_\_\_\_\_ (A) \_\_\_\_\_ Use information from an observation in routine classroom instruction and monitoring of the child’s performance that was done before the child was referred for an evaluation; or

\_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ Have at least one member of the group described in subsection (b) of this Section conduct an observation of the child’s academic performance in the regular classroom after the child has been referred for an evaluation and parental consent, consistent with Part 2, Section 3, is obtained.

(B) \_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_ Additional group members required for 34 C.F.R. §300.308, the determination of whether a child suspected of having a specific learning disability Specific Learning Disability is a child with a disability as defined in 34 C.F.R.

§300.8, must be made by a group, which includes the child's parents and a team of qualified professionals, ~~which must include:~~ including:

~~(i)~~ The child's regular education teacher; or

~~(i)~~ ~~(ii)~~ If ~~if~~ the child does not have a regular teacher, a regular classroom teacher qualified to teach a child of his or her age; or

~~(ii)~~ ~~(iii)~~ For a child of less than school age, an individual qualified by a ~~State agency~~ Wyoming to teach a child of his or her age; and

~~(iii)~~ ~~(iv)~~ At least one (1) person qualified to conduct individual diagnostic examinations of children, such as a school psychologist, speech-language pathologist, or remedial reading teacher.

With respect to the evaluation described in paragraph (A) above, and consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.310, the school district or public agency must ensure that the child is observed in the child's learning environment, including the regular classroom setting, to document the child's academic performance and behavior in the areas of difficulty. In the case of a child of less than school age or out of school, a group member must observe the child in an environment appropriate for a child of that age.

~~(e)~~ Determining the existence of a specific learning disability. When determining whether a child has a specific learning disability as defined in these rules, the group as defined in subsection (b) of this Section shall:

~~(C)~~ ~~(i)~~ Determine and document that the child The group, in determining whether a child has a Specific Learning Disability, must decide to:

(I) Use information from an observation in a routine classroom instruction and monitoring of the child's performance that was done before the child was referred for evaluation; or

(II) Have at least one (1) member of the group conduct an observation of the child's academic performance in the regular classroom after the child has been referred for an evaluation and parental consent, consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.300(a), is obtained.

(D) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.309(a), the group determines that a child has a Specific Learning Disability if:

(I) The child does not achieve adequately for the child's age or meet Wyoming grade-level standards in one (1) or more of the following areas, when provided with learning experiences and instruction appropriate for the child's age or State-approved grade-level standards, does not achieve adequately for the child's age or to meet State-approved Wyoming grade-level standards in one or more of the following areas: oral;

- (1.) ~~Oral expression, listening;~~
- (2.) ~~Listening comprehension, written;~~
- (3.) ~~Written expression, basic;~~
- (4.) ~~Basic reading skill, reading;~~
- (5.) ~~Reading fluency skills, reading;~~
- (6.) ~~Reading comprehension, mathematics;~~
- (7.) ~~Mathematics calculation, or mathematics;~~
- (8.) ~~Mathematics problem solving. The group can make this~~

~~determination through the procedures described in subparagraphs (A) or (B) under this subsection; and~~

~~(II) \_\_\_\_\_ (A) Response to scientific research-based intervention. The group may determine that the child The child does not make sufficient progress to meet age or State-approved Wyoming grade-level standards in one (1) or more of the areas identified in subsection (c)(i) of this Section above areas when using a process based on the child's response to scientific, research-based intervention. Consistent with evaluation requirements in these rules, the group must document the determination that the child has a specific learning disability that complies with a scientific, research-based intervention; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (I) In addition, the school district or public agency must adhere to the timeframes described in Part 3, Section 4, subsection (c), of these rules unless extended by mutual written agreement of the child's parents and a team of qualified professionals, as described in subsection (b) of this Section; or~~

~~(E) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) Wyoming severe discrepancy. The group shall use either the Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula or a response to intervention process when determining whether a child is not making sufficient progress to meet age or Wyoming grade-level standards.~~

~~(I) Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula: The group may determine that the child exhibits a pattern of strengths and weaknesses in performance, achievement, or both, relative to age, State-approved grade level standards, or demonstrates a severe discrepancy between current achievement level and expected achievement level of at least 22 points upon an initial evaluation, utilizing Appendix A of these rules. Expected achievement is based on the correlation between tests of the child's composite intellectual development, that is determined by the group to be relevant to the identification of a specific learning disability using appropriate assessments. Consistent with evaluation requirements in standard score compared to the child's composite achievement score in one (1) or more core achievement areas.~~

~~(1.) The Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula in Appendix A of these rules and subparagraph (B)(I)(1.), (2.), and (3.) of this subsection the group shall document that the child evidences a specific learning disability using themust be utilized when making an eligibility determination based on a severe discrepancy between intellectual ability and achievement.~~

~~(I) In the event the school district or public agency chooses to establish a child's eligibility for a specific learning disability with respect to the determination that a child exhibits a pattern of strengths and weaknesses in performance, achievement, or both, relative to age, State-approved grade level standards, or intellectual development, and chooses to use a severe discrepancy between intellectual ability and achievement as per subsection (c)(i)(B) of this Section:~~

~~(1.) The school district or public agency must use the Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula in Appendix A of these rules.~~

~~(2.) (2.) In the event the school district or public agency determines the child exhibits a pattern of strengths and weaknesses in performance, achievement, or both, relative to age, State-approved grade level standards, or intellectual development, aA severe discrepancy exists when application of the WDE formulaWyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula results in a difference between expected and actual achievement greater than or equal to 1.5 standard deviations and a 1.0 standard deviation for continuing eligibility (See Appendix A).~~

~~(II) (3.) With respectResponse to the school district's or public agency's determination to establish a child's eligibility for a specific learning disability using the severe discrepancy formula rather than throughintervention process: The group may determine that the child does not make sufficient progress to meet age or Wyoming grade-level standards in one (1) or more of the areas in paragraph (D)(I) of this section when using a process based on the child's response to scientific, research-based intervention outlined in subsection (c)(i)(A) of this Section, the group described in subsection (b) of this Part will document the determination that the child has a specific learning disability that complies. Consistent with Wyoming's Severe Discrepancy Formula in Appendix A.~~

~~(ii) Determine and document that the findings under subsection (c)(i)(A) or (B) of this Section are not primarily the result of:~~

~~(A) A visual, hearing or motor disability, cognitive disability, or emotional disability; or~~

~~(B) Cultural factors, environmental or economic disadvantage, or Limited English Proficiency.~~

~~(F) (d) Documentation of prior appropriate instruction. To 34 C.F.R. §300.309, to ensure that underachievement in a child suspected of having a specific learning disability as referenced in subsection (e) of this Section Specific Learning Disability is not due to lack of appropriate instruction in reading or math, the group defined in subsection (b) of this Section must, as part of the evaluation process, the group must consider data that demonstrates:~~

~~(I) (i) Prior Data that demonstrate that prior to, or as a part of, the referral process, the child was provided appropriate instruction in the regular education settings, delivered by qualified personnel; and~~

~~(II) (ii) Data-based documentation of repeated assessments of achievement at reasonable intervals, reflecting formal assessment of student progress during instruction, which was provided to the child's parents.~~

~~(G) (e) Criteria for prompt school district or public agency initiated referral. The Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.309, the group must determine that underachievement of a child suspected of having a Specific Learning Disability is not primarily the result of:~~

~~(I) A visual, hearing, or motor disability;~~

~~(II) Cognitive disability;~~

~~(III) Emotional disability;~~

~~(IV) Cultural factors;~~

~~(V) Environmental or economic disadvantage; or~~

~~(VI) Limited English proficiency.~~

~~(H) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.309(c), a school district or public agency must promptly request parental consent to evaluate the child to determine if the child needs special education and related services and adhere to the time frames in Part 3, Section 4, if, prior to a referral, a child has not made adequate progress after an appropriate period of time when provided instruction, as described in subsection (d)(i) and (d)(ii) of this Section and whenever a child is referred for an evaluation, and must adhere to the timeframes in 34 C.F.R. §§300.301 through 300.303, unless extended by mutual written agreement of the child's parents and the group of qualified professionals under the following circumstances:~~

~~(I) (f) If, prior to a referral, a child has not made adequate progress after an appropriate period of time when provided instruction described in (F) above, and~~

(II) Whenever a child is referred for an evaluation.

(I) Specific documentation required for the eligibility determination. Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.311, for a child suspected of having a specific learning disability, as required in Part 3, Section 6, of these rules. Specific Learning Disability, the documentation of the determination of eligibility must also contain a statement of: each of the following:

(I) (i) Whether the child has a specific learning disability. Specific Learning Disability;

(II) (ii) The basis for making the determination, including an assurance that the determination has been made in accordance with Part 3, Section 6, of these rules; 34 C.F.R. §300.306(c)(1);

(III) (iii) Relevant. The relevant behavior, if any, noted, during the observation of the child and the relationship of that behavior to the child's academic functioning;

(IV) (iv) Educationally. The educationally relevant medical findings, if any;

(V) (v) Whether the:

(1.) The child does not achieve adequately for the child's age or to meet State-approved Wyoming grade-level standards consistent with subsection (c)(i) of this Section; 34 C.F.R. §300.309(a)(1); and

(2.) (A) The child does not make sufficient progress to meet age or State-approved Wyoming grade-level standards consistent with subsection (c)(i)(A); or 34 C.F.R. §300.309(a)(2)(i).

(B) The child exhibits a pattern of strengths and weaknesses in performance, achievement, or both, relative to age, State-approved grade level standards or intellectual development consistent with subsection (c)(i)(B) of this Section.

(VI) (vi) The determination of the group concerning the effects of a visual, hearing, or motor disability; cognitive disability; emotional disability; cultural factors; environmental or economic disadvantage; or limited English Proficiency proficiency on the child's achievement level; and.

~~(VII) (vii) If the child has participated in a process that assesses the child's response to scientific, research-based intervention; and;~~

~~(1.) (A) The instructional strategies used and the student-centered data collected; and~~

~~(2.) (B) The documentation that the child's parents were notified about the State's;~~

~~a. Wyoming's policies regarding the amount and nature of student performance data that would be collected and the general education services that would be provided that include strategies for increasing the child's rate of learning, and the parents' right to request an evaluation;~~

~~b. Strategies for increasing the child's rate of learning; and~~

~~c. The parents' right to request an evaluation.~~

~~(VIII) Each group member must certify in writing whether the report reflects the member's conclusion. If it does not reflect the member's conclusion, the group member must submit a separate statement presenting the member's conclusions.~~

#### ~~Section 11. Speech or Language Impairment.~~

~~(xi) (a) Speech or language impairment~~Language Impairment means a communication disorder, such as ~~stuttering~~Stuttering, ~~impaired articulation,~~ Articulation, a Language Impairment or a ~~voice impairment~~Voice Impairment, that adversely affects a ~~child's~~child's educational performance.

~~(A) (i) Speech or language impairment~~Language Impairment eligibility criteria: ~~Criteria are~~ Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of ~~Part 3, Sections 4 and 5,~~ of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by a Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) and other qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. ~~The initial evaluation process shall include academic/pre-academic, communication/language development, parent interview/input, teacher interview/input, be comprehensive and classroom-based assessments and qualitative data~~address all areas of need resulting from at least one observation or other assessments and/or qualitative data as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency ~~suspected disability.~~ In accordance with the requirements in ~~Part 3, Section 6,~~ of these rules, a child is identified as a child with a ~~speech~~Speech or language impairmentLanguage Impairment in the qualifying area ~~(s of articulation, language, stuttering, or voice.)~~ of

Articulation, Stuttering, Language Impairment, or Voice Impairment if the following specific criteria designated under a qualifying area are satisfied met.

(I) ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_~~ Qualifying area: Articulation eligibility criteria.

Articulation means speech sound production or phonological errors atypical of a child of comparable age and development.

(1.) ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_~~ Eligibility criteria—articulation: Criteria under (A) or (B) or (C) or (D) are required. One (1) of the following criteria must be met:

a. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) \_\_\_\_\_~~ Documentation that the child exhibits errors of speech sound production beyond the age at which 85% of typically developing children have achieved mastery (based on current developmental norms) or clinical judgment that evidences the child is in need of intervention;

b. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_~~ Documentation that the child's performance on a standardized evaluation instrument is 1.5 standard deviations or greater below the mean for the child's chronological age based on a norm-referenced test of articulation or phonology;

c. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_~~ Documentation that one (1) or more phonological patterns of sound are significantly disordered and evidence that the child's conversational intelligibility is affected; or

d. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (D) \_\_\_\_\_~~ Documentation that the child's scores are at a moderate, severe, or profound rating on appropriate evaluation instruments. In determining that the child's speech is unintelligible the use of clinical judgment and other measures may be used to document severity.

(II) ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (e) \_\_\_\_\_~~ Qualifying area: Stuttering eligibility criteria.

Stuttering means abnormal flow of speech evident in interruptions by hesitations, repetitious or prolongation of sounds, syllables, words or phrases or articulatory positions or by avoidance and struggle behaviors.

(1.) ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_~~ Eligibility criteria—stuttering: Criteria under (A) and (C): Either criteria a. or (B) and (C) are required. b. must be met in addition to criteria c.

a. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) \_\_\_\_\_~~ Documentation that the child demonstrates at least a moderate rating or its equivalent on a formal fluency rating scale. In determining that the child's fluency is at least moderately impaired clinical judgment and other measures may be used to document how the child's fluency is impaired; or

b. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_~~ Documentation that the child exhibits stuttering on 5% or more of words spoken in a representative language sample or demonstrates stuttering in varied speaking situations; and

c. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_~~ An observation documenting that the child's stuttering interferes with communication and calls attention to itself.

~~(III) \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_ Qualifying area. Language impairment. Impairment eligibility criteria. Language Impairment means a deficiency in language comprehension or production evident in the content, form or use of oral communication or its equivalent.~~

~~(1.) \_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility criteria — language: Criteria under (A) or (B) and (C) are required.: Both of the following criteria must be met:~~

~~a. \_\_\_\_\_ (A) \_\_\_\_\_ The child demonstrates on standardized measures an understanding and use of morphologic, syntactic, semantic, or pragmatic patterns at 1.5 standard deviations below the mean for the child's chronological age; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ If the standardized measures do not accurately or sufficiently reflect that the child's language is impaired in the use of morphologic, syntactic, semantic, or pragmatic patterns the team must be allowed to establish eligibility based on a preponderance of the information presented and that other measures may be used to determine eligibility such as observations, criterion referenced measures, clinical judgment and other clinically accepted practices.~~

~~b. \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_ Documentation that receptive or expressive language interferes with the child's oral communication or primary mode of communication.~~

~~(IV) \_\_\_\_\_ (e) \_\_\_\_\_ Qualifying area. Voice Impairment. Voice Impairment means a significant deviation in pitch, intensity, or quality, which consistently significantly interferes with communication, draws unfavorable attention, adversely affects the speaker or listener(s), or is inappropriate for the age, sex, or culture an extended period of the time and is atypical for a child: of comparable age and development.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility criteria — voice: Criteria under (A) through (C) are required.~~

~~(1.) \_\_\_\_\_ (A) \_\_\_\_\_ Voice Impairment eligibility criteria: Voice Impairment must be evidenced by:~~

~~a. \_\_\_\_\_ Documentation that the child exhibits significantly abnormal voice quality, pitch, resonance, loudness, or duration; and~~

~~b. \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ Documentation that the condition is evident on two separate occasions, two weeks apart, at different times of the day; present for an extended period of time.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_ A physician's statement documenting that voice therapy is not contraindicated.~~

~~(B) \_\_\_\_\_ (f) \_\_\_\_\_ The evaluation process must take into account that the child does not exhibit any one (1) of the following exclusionary variables (i) through (v): factors:~~

(I) \_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ Mild, transitory, or developmentally appropriate speech or language difficulties that children experience at various times to various degrees; or

(II) \_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ Speech or language difficulties resulting from dialectical difference or from learning English as a second language, unless the child has a ~~language impairment~~ Language Impairment in his or her native language; or

(III) \_\_\_\_\_ (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ Difficulties with auditory processing without a concomitant impairment in speech sound production; or

(IV) \_\_\_\_\_ (iv) \_\_\_\_\_ A tongue thrust which exists in the absence of a concomitant impairment in speech sound production; or

(V) \_\_\_\_\_ (v) \_\_\_\_\_ Elective or selective mutism or school phobia without a documented oral ~~speech~~ Speech or ~~language impairment~~. Language Impairment.

#### **Section 12. ~~Traumatic Brain Injury.~~**

(xii) \_\_\_\_\_ (a) \_\_\_\_\_ "Traumatic brain injury" Brain Injury means an acquired injury to the brain caused by an external physical force, resulting in total or partial functional disability or psychosocial impairment, or both, that adversely affects a ~~child's~~ child's educational performance. Traumatic brain injury Brain Injury applies to open or closed head injuries resulting in impairments in one (1) or more areas, such as cognition; language; memory; attention; reasoning; abstract thinking; judgment; problem-solving; sensory; perceptual and motor abilities; psychosocial behavior; physical functions; information processing; and speech. Traumatic brain injury Brain Injury does not apply to brain injuries that are congenital or degenerative, or to brain injuries induced by birth trauma.

(A) \_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ Traumatic brain injury Brain Injury eligibility criteria: ~~Criteria are~~ Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of Part 3, Sections 4 and 5, of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall ~~include academic/pre-academic, adaptive behavior, communication/language development, gross/fine motor, parent interview/input, teacher interview/input, cognitive/intellectual, physical/health/medical, social/emotional, and classroom-based assessments and qualitative data~~ be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from at least one observation or other assessments and/or qualitative data as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. suspected disability. In accordance with ~~the these~~ requirements in Part 3, Section 6, of these rules, a child is identified as a child with traumatic brain injury Traumatic Brain Injury if the following criteria under (A) and (B) are satisfied.:

~~(I) (A)~~ Documentation from a physician, within the previous twelve (12) months ~~for an initial evaluation, and as deemed appropriate for a reevaluation,~~ that the child has sustained a brain trauma (e.g., skull fracture, contusions, and/or bullet wound, etc.) resulting in the onset of an impairment; and

~~(II) (B)~~ Documentation that the ~~traumatic brain injury~~ Traumatic Brain Injury adversely affects the ~~child's~~ child's educational performance in one (1) or more of the following areas: cognitive ability, social behavior, use of adaptive skills, physical ability, vision, hearing, and/or ability to communicate.

~~Section 13. Visual Impairment, Including Blindness.~~

~~(xiii) (a)~~ Visual impairment including blindness ~~Impairment, Including Blindness~~ means an impairment in vision ~~that, even with correction, that~~ adversely affects a ~~child's~~ child's educational performance. The term includes both partial sight and blindness.

~~(A) (i)~~ Visual impairment including blindness ~~Impairment~~ eligibility criteria: ~~Criteria are~~ Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of Part 3, Sections 4 and 5, of these rules. The initial evaluation team shall consist of a certified teacher of the visually impaired and other qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall include academic/pre-academic, parent interview/input, teacher interview/input, vision, mobility, be comprehensive and classroom based assessments and qualitative data address all areas of need resulting from at least one observation or other assessments and/or qualitative data as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements in Part 3, Section 6, of these rules, a child is identified as a child with a ~~visual impairment including blindness~~ Visual Impairment, Including Blindness if the criteria under (A) and one of the following, ~~(B) in paragraph (I) is met in addition to one (1) additional criteria in paragraphs (II) through (F), are satisfied. V).~~

~~(I) (A)~~ Documentation of loss of vision which adversely affects the ~~child's~~ child's educational performance and requires the use of specialized ~~text~~ tests, techniques, materials, or assistive technology devices; and

~~(II) (B)~~ Documentation of visual acuity in the better eye with the best possible correction of:

~~(1.) (I)~~ 20/200 or less (blind); or

~~(2.) (II)~~ 20/50 or less (partially sighted); ~~or~~

~~(C)~~ Documentation of field loss, in which the peripheral field is so contracted that the widest diameter of the field covers an angular distance no greater than 20 degrees and that the reduced peripheral field affects the child's ability to learn; or

~~(III) \_\_\_\_\_ (D) \_\_\_\_\_ Documentation of reduced visual field to 20 degrees or less in the better eye;~~

~~(IV) \_\_\_\_\_ Documentation of a progressive loss of vision which may, in the future, affect the ~~child's~~ child's ability to learn; or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (E) \_\_\_\_\_ Documentation of blindness resulting from an active disease process; or~~

~~(V) \_\_\_\_\_ (F) \_\_\_\_\_ Visual acuity, which cannot be measured, but in which the child is functionally blind has a functional loss of vision as determined through a functional vision assessment.~~

## **PART 5 THE IEP PROCESS**

### ~~Section 5. \_\_\_\_\_ Section 1. \_\_\_\_\_ General Provisions \_\_\_\_\_ Individualized Special Education Programs (IEP) Process.~~

~~(a) \_\_\_\_\_ General. The term Individualized Education Program (IEP) means a written statement for each child with a disability that is developed, reviewed, and revised in a meeting in accordance with these rules.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ Initial IEPs; provision of services. Each school district or public agency is responsible for initiating and conducting meetings for the purpose of developing, reviewing, and revising the IEP of a child with a disability and must ensure that a meeting to develop an IEP for the child is conducted within thirty (30) days of a determination that a child is a child with a disability and needs special education and related services; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ As soon as possible following the development of the IEP, special education and related services are made available to the child in accordance with the child's IEP.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ A meeting does not include informal, unscheduled conversations regarding teaching methodology, lesson plans, service coordination, or preparatory activities to develop proposals for a later meeting.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iv) \_\_\_\_\_ Parent access to the IEP. The school district or public agency shall give the parent a copy of the child's IEP at no cost to the parent.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (v) \_\_\_\_\_ Accessibility of the child's IEP to teachers and others. The school district or public agency must ensure that:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) The child's IEP is accessible to each regular education teacher, special education teacher, related services provider, and any other service provider who is responsible for its implementation; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) Each teacher and provider described in paragraph (a)(v)(A) of this Section must be informed of his or her specific responsibilities related to implementing the child's IEP; and of the specific accommodations, modifications, and supports that must be provided for the child in accordance with the IEP.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (b) Notwithstanding subsection (c) in this Section, at the beginning of each school year, or by the child's third birthday, each school district or public agency shall have an IEP in effect for each child with a disability within its jurisdiction.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (c) For a child with a disability who is age two (2) and who will turn age three (3) during the school year, the IEP team must consider an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) that contains the IFSP content (including the natural environments statement and including components for promoting school readiness, pre literacy, language and numeracy skills). The IFSP may, if agreed to by the school district or public agency and the child's parent, serve as the IEP for the child until the end of the school year in which the child turns three (3).~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) If the school district or public agency uses an IFSP instead of an IEP, the school district or public agency must provide to the parent a detailed explanation of the difference between an IFSP and an IEP; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) If the parents choose an IFSP, obtain written, informed consent from the parents.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ Section 2. IEPs for Children Who Transfer School Districts or Public Agencies.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (a) IEPs for children who transfer school district or public agencies in the State of Wyoming. If a child with a disability (who had an IEP that was in effect in a previous school district or public agency in the State) transfers to a new school district or public agency in the State of Wyoming, and enrolls in a new school district or public agency within the same school year, the new school district or public agency (in consultation with the parents) must provide FAPE to the child (including services comparable to those described in the child's IEP from the previous school district or public agency) until the new school district or public agency either adopts the child's IEP from the previous school district or public agency or develops, adopts, and implements a new IEP that meets the applicable requirements of Section 1 of this Part.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (b) Children with disabilities transitioning from developmental preschool centers in the State of Wyoming to school districts or other public agencies. Consistent with prior written notice requirements discussed in Part 2 of these rules, and subject to the requirements in subsection (a) of this Section, the developmental preschool center~~

shall invite a representative of the school district or public agency in which the child with a disability is anticipated to enroll, to participate in the last IEP meeting conducted by a developmental preschool center prior to the child's scheduled enrollment in the school district or public agency.

~~(i) When a child with a disability transfers from a developmental preschool center to a school district or public agency in the State of Wyoming, the new school district or public agency (in consultation with the parents) must provide FAPE to the child (including services comparable to those described in the child's IEP from the previous public agency) until the new school district or public agency either adopts the child's IEP from the previous public agency or develops, adopts, and implements a new IEP.~~

~~(ii) If the school district or public agency chooses not to use a developmental delay category as authorized per Part 1, Section 2 (e)(v), of these rules, the school district or public agency, consistent with consent requirements, shall:~~

~~(A) Conduct an evaluation per the requirements established in Part 3, Section 4 through Section 6, of these rules; and~~

~~(B) Meet the requirements identified in subsection (a) and (b)(i) above with respect to continuing to provide FAPE to the child, including services comparable to those described in the child's IEP from the previous public agency until the completion of the evaluation per rules in Part 3, Section 4 through Section 6, of these rules.~~

~~(c) IEPs for children who transfer from another State. If a child with a disability (who had an IEP that was in effect in a previous school district or public agency in another State) transfers to a school district or public agency in Wyoming and enrolls in a new school district or public agency in Wyoming within the same school year, the new school district or public agency (in consultation with the parents) must provide FAPE to the child (including services comparable to those described in the child's IEP from the previous school district or public agency) until the new school district or public agency:~~

~~(i) Conducts an evaluation pursuant to Part 3, Section 4 through Section 6, of these rules if the new school district or public agency determines an evaluation is necessary; and~~

~~(ii) Develops, adopts, and implements a new IEP, if appropriate.~~

~~(d) Timeline for transmittal of records. To facilitate the transition for a child transferring within the State of Wyoming from one school district or public agency to another school district or public agency described in subsection (a) and (b) of this Section:~~

~~(i) The new school district or public agency in which the child enrolls must take reasonable steps to promptly obtain the child's records, including the IEP and supporting documents and any other records relating to the provision of special education and related services to the child, from the previous public agency in which the child was enrolled, pursuant to regulations pertaining to FERPA.~~

~~(ii) The previous school district or public agency in which the child was enrolled must take reasonable efforts to respond to the request from the new school district or public agency. Within five (5) business days of receipt of a request for records from the new school district or public agency, the previous school district or public agency must forward the requested records to the school district or public agency requesting the records.~~

~~Section 3. IEP Team Membership.~~

~~(a) Participants in general. The school district or public agency shall ensure that the IEP team for each child with a disability includes:~~

~~(i) The parents of the child;~~

~~(ii) Not less than one regular education teacher of the child (if the child is, or may be, participating in the regular education environment);~~

~~(iii) Not less than one special education teacher of the child, or if appropriate not less than one special education provider of the child;~~

~~(iv) A representative of the school district or public agency who is qualified to provide or supervise the provision of specially designed instruction to meet the unique needs of children with disabilities, is knowledgeable about the general education curriculum, and is knowledgeable about the availability of resources of the school district or public agency;~~

~~(v) An individual who can interpret the instructional implications of evaluation results;~~

~~(vi) At the discretion of the parent or the school district or the public agency, other individuals who have knowledge or special expertise regarding the child, including related services personnel as appropriate; and~~

~~(vii) Whenever appropriate, the child.~~

~~(b) The determination of the knowledge or special expertise of any individual described in (a)(vi) shall be made by the party (parents or school district or public agency) who invited the individual to be a member of the IEP team.~~

~~(c) — A school district or public agency may designate a member of the IEP team to serve also as the school district or public agency representative if the criteria in (a)(iv) are satisfied.~~

~~(d) — IEP team attendance.~~

~~(i) — A member of the IEP team described in subsections (a)(ii) through (a)(v) of this Section is not required to attend an IEP meeting, in whole or in part, if the parent of a child with a disability and the school district or public agency agree in writing that the attendance of the member is not necessary because the member's area of the curriculum or related service is not being modified or discussed in the meeting.~~

~~(ii) — A member of the IEP team described in subsection (d)(i) of this Section may be excused from attending the IEP meeting, in whole or in part, when the meeting involves a modification to or a discussion of the member's area of the curriculum or related services if the parent, in writing, and the school district or public agency consent to the excusal; and~~

~~(iii) — The member submits, in writing to the parent and the IEP team, input into the development of the IEP prior to the meeting.~~

~~(e) — IEP requirement with respect to regular education teacher. A regular education teacher of a child with a disability, as a member of the IEP team, must, to the extent appropriate, participate in the development, the review, and the revision of the IEP of the child, including the determination of:~~

~~(i) — Appropriate, positive behavioral interventions and supports and other strategies for the child; and~~

~~(ii) — Supplementary aids and services, program modifications, and support for school personnel.~~

~~**Section 4. Parent Participation in IEP Meetings and Child and Other Agency Participation in Transition IEP Meetings.**~~

~~(a) — Public agency responsibility. Each school district or public agency shall take steps to ensure that one or both of the parents of a child with a disability are present at each IEP meeting or are afforded the opportunity to participate, including:~~

~~(i) — Notifying parents of the meeting early enough to ensure that they will have an opportunity to attend;~~

~~(ii) — Scheduling the meeting at a mutually agreed time and place.~~

~~(b) — Information to parents about the meeting. The notice required under (a) (i) of this Section must:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ Indicate the purpose, time, and location of the meeting and who will be in attendance and inform the parents of the provisions relating to the participation of other individuals on the IEP team who have knowledge or special expertise about the child.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ For a child with a disability beginning not later than the first IEP to be in effect when the child turns sixteen (16), or younger if determined appropriate by the IEP team, the notice discussed in (a)(i) of this Section also must indicate that a purpose of the meeting will be the consideration of the post secondary goals and transition services for the child; indicate that the school district or public agency will invite the child; and identify any other agency that will be invited to send a representative.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ Transition service participants at IEP meetings.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ In accordance with subsection (b)(ii) of this Section, the school district or public agency must invite the child with a disability to attend the child's IEP meeting if a purpose of the meeting will be the consideration of post secondary goals for the child and the transition services needed to assist the child in reaching those goals.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ If the child does not attend the IEP meeting, the school district or public agency must take other steps to ensure that the child's preferences and interests are considered.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ To the extent appropriate, with the consent of the parents or a child who has reached the age of majority, the school district or public agency must invite a representative of any participating agency that is likely to be responsible for providing or paying for transition services.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_ Other methods to ensure parent participation. If neither parent can attend an IEP meeting, the school district or public agency shall use other methods to ensure parent participation, including individual or conference telephone calls or video conferences.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (e) \_\_\_\_\_ Conducting an IEP meeting without a parent in attendance. A meeting may be conducted without a parent in attendance if the school district or public agency is unable to convince the parents that they should attend. In this case the school district or public agency must have a record of its attempts to arrange a mutually agreed on time and place, such as detailed records of telephone calls made or attempted and the results of those calls; copies of correspondence sent to the parents and any responses received; and detailed records of visits made to the parent's home or place of employment and the results of those visits.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (f) \_\_\_\_\_ Ensuring parent understanding of IEP proceedings. The school district or public agency must take whatever action is necessary to ensure that the parent understands the proceedings of the IEP meeting, including arranging for an interpreter for the parents with deafness or whose native language is other than English.~~

~~Section 5. IEP Definition and Required Content.~~

~~(a) The term Individualized Education Program or IEP has the meaning defined in Part 1, Section 2, subsection (s), of these rules. Each IEP shall include a statement of the child's present levels of academic achievement and functional performance, including:~~

~~(i) How the child's disability affects the child's involvement and progress in the general education curriculum (*i.e.*, the same curriculum as for nondisabled children); or~~

~~(a) (ii) For Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).~~

~~(i) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.101 and 300.102 and W.S. §21-2-501, school districts and public agencies shall ensure that a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) is available to all children with disabilities residing in Wyoming no later than the child's third (3<sup>rd</sup>) birthday through the completion of the school year the child turns twenty-one (21), including those children who have been suspended or expelled from school.~~

~~(ii) Preschool children with disabilities means children age three (3) through five (5) in Wyoming who are identified as eligible for special education and related services under the IDEA, federal regulations and these rules.~~

~~Any preschool children, as appropriate, how the disability affects the child's participation in appropriate activities;~~

~~(iii) A statement of measurable annual goals, including academic and functional goals designed to:~~

~~(A) Meet the child's needs that result from the child's disability to enable the child to be involved in and make progress in the general education curriculum; and~~

~~(B) Meet each of the child's other educational needs that result from the child's disability.~~

~~(b) Children who take alternate assessments. For children who take alternative assessments aligned to alternate achievement standards, the IEP must include a description of benchmarks or short term objectives.~~

~~(c) Measuring and reporting progress. The IEP must include a statement on how the child's progress toward meeting the annual goals described in (a)(iii) of this Section will be measured and when periodic reports on the progress the child is making toward meeting the annual goals (such as the use of quarterly or other reports, concurrent with the issuance of report cards) will be provided.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_ Special education and related services. The IEP must include a statement of special education and related services and supplementary aids and services, based on peer-reviewed research to the extent practicable, to be provided to the child, or on the behalf of the child, and a statement of the program modifications or supports for school personnel that will be provided to enable the child:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ To advance appropriately toward attaining the annual goals;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ To be involved in and make progress in the general education curriculum in accordance with the child's present level of academic achievement and functional performance, and to participate in extracurricular and other nonacademic activities; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ To be educated and participate with other children with disabilities and nondisabled children in the activities described in this Section.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (e) \_\_\_\_\_ Participation with nondisabled children. The IEP must include a statement regarding an explanation of the extent, if any, to which the child will not participate with nondisabled children in the regular class and in activities described in subsection (d) of this Section.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (f) \_\_\_\_\_ Assessment accommodations. The IEP must include a statement of any individual, appropriate accommodations that are necessary to measure the academic achievement and functional performance of the child on State and district wide assessments; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ If the IEP team determines that the child must take an alternate assessment instead of a particular regular State or district wide assessment of student achievement, a statement of why the child cannot participate in the regular assessment; and why, \_\_\_\_\_~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ The particular alternate assessment selected is appropriate for the child.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (g) \_\_\_\_\_ Projected date for services. The IEP must include the projected date for the beginning of the services and modifications discussed in this Section and the anticipated frequency, location, and duration of those services and modifications.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (h) \_\_\_\_\_ Transition services. Beginning not later than the first IEP to be in effect when the child turns sixteen (16) (or younger, if determined appropriate by the IEP team), and updated annually thereafter, the IEP must include:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ A statement of appropriate measurable post secondary goals based on age appropriate transition assessments related to training, education, employment, and, where appropriate, independent living skills; and~~

~~(ii) The transition services (including courses of study) needed to assist the child in reaching these goals; and,~~

~~(iii) Beginning not later than one (1) year who are five (5) years of age on or before the child reaches the age of majority, a statement that the child has been informed of the child's rights under these rules, if any, that will transfer to the child on reaching the age of majority. September 15<sup>th</sup> and who are receiving services from a school district shall be the responsibility of that school district for the purpose of ensuring the provision of FAPE. [See W.S. §21-2-704.]~~

~~(i) Construction. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to require that additional information be included in a child's IEP beyond what is explicitly required in this Section of the rules or to require the IEP team to include information under one component of a child's IEP that is already contained under another component of the child's IEP.~~

**Section 6. Development, Review, and Revision of the IEP.**

~~(a) Development of IEP. In developing each child's IEP, the IEP team must consider:~~

~~(i) The strengths of the child;~~

~~(ii) The concerns of the parent for enhancing the education of their child;~~

~~(iii) The results of the initial or most recent evaluation of the child; and~~

~~(iv) The academic, developmental, and functional needs of the child.~~

~~(b) Consideration of special factors:~~

~~(i) The IEP team must in the case of a child whose behavior impedes the child's learning or that of others consider the use of positive behavioral interventions and supports and other strategies, to address that behavior.~~

~~(ii) The IEP team must in the case of a child with limited English proficiency consider the language needs of the child as those needs relate to the child's IEP.~~

~~(iii) The IEP team must in the case of a child who is blind or visually impaired, provide for instruction in Braille and the use of Braille, unless the IEP team determines, after an evaluation of the child's reading and writing skills, needs, and appropriate reading and writing media (including an evaluation of the child's future needs for instruction in Braille or the use of Braille), that instruction in Braille or the use of Braille is not appropriate for the child.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iv) \_\_\_\_\_ The IEP team must consider the communication needs of the child, and in the case of a child who is deaf or hard of hearing, consider the child's language and communication needs, opportunities for direct communications with peers and professional personnel in the child's language and communication mode, academic level and full range of needs, including opportunities for direct instruction in the child's language and communication mode; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (v) \_\_\_\_\_ The IEP team must consider whether the child needs assistive technology devices and services.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (vi) \_\_\_\_\_ A regular education teacher of a child with a disability, as a member of the IEP Team, must, to the extent appropriate, participate in the development of the IEP of the child, including the determination of appropriate positive behavioral interventions and supports and other strategies for the child; and supplementary aids and services, program modifications, and support for school personnel consistent with Section 5 of this Part.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ Review and revision of IEP. Each school district or public agency shall ensure that the IEP team:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ Reviews the child's IEP periodically, but not less than annually, to determine whether the annual goals for the child are being achieved, and revises the IEP as appropriate to address:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) \_\_\_\_\_ Any lack of expected progress toward the annual goals and in the general education curriculum, and also, if appropriate;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ The results of any reevaluation conducted;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_ Information about the child provided to or by the parents;  
and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (D) \_\_\_\_\_ The child's anticipated needs or other matters.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (E) \_\_\_\_\_ Consideration of special factors. In conducting a review of the child's IEP, the IEP team must consider the special factors described in subsection (b) of this Section.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_ Failure to meet transition objectives. If a participating agency, other than the school district or public agency, fails to provide the transition services described in the IEP, the school district or public agency must reconvene the IEP team to identify alternative strategies to meet the transition objectives for the child set out in the IEP.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (e) \_\_\_\_\_ IEP amendment. Changes to the IEP may be made by either the entire IEP team at an IEP team meeting, or, subject to the participation of or approval by the LEA representative as defined in Section 3 (a)(iv) of this Part and as provided in subsection (f) of this Section, by amending the IEP rather than redrafting the entire IEP. Upon request, a~~

~~parent must be provided with a revised copy of the IEP with the amendments incorporated.~~

~~(f) Amendment agreement.~~

~~(i) In making changes to a child's IEP after the annual IEP team meeting for a school year, the parent of a child with a disability and the school district or public agency may agree not to convene an IEP team meeting for the purposes of making those changes; and instead may, with participation of or approval by the school district or public agency representative as defined in Section 3 (a)(iv) of this Part, develop a written document to amend or modify the child's current IEP.~~

~~(ii) If changes are made to a child's IEP in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, the public agency must ensure that the child's IEP team is informed of those changes.~~

~~(g) Consolidation of the IEP meetings. To the extent possible, the school district or public agency must encourage the consolidation of reevaluation meetings for the child and other IEP team meetings for the child.~~

~~Section 7. Children with Disabilities in Adult Prisons.~~

~~(a) The following requirements do not apply to children with disabilities who are convicted as adults under Wyoming State law and incarcerated in adult prisons:~~

~~(i) Requirements pertaining to participation of children with disabilities in general assessments;~~

~~(ii) Requirements relating to transition planning and transition services do not apply with respect to the children whose eligibility will end because of their age before they will be released from prison based on consideration of their sentence and eligibility for early release.~~

~~(b) Modifications of IEP or placement for incarcerated students.~~

~~(i) The IEP Team of a child with a disability who is convicted as an adult under Wyoming State law and incarcerated in an adult prison may modify the child's IEP or placement if the State has demonstrated a *bona fide* security-compelling penological interest that cannot otherwise be accommodated.~~

~~(ii) The requirements relating to least restrictive environment, transition services, and planning and participation in general assessments do not apply with respect to children with disabilities incarcerated in adult prisons.~~

~~(b) Section 8. Placement and Least Restrictive Environment (LRE).~~

~~(a) Least Restrictive Environment (LRE). Each school district or public agency shall ensure:~~

~~(i) That~~ Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.114 through 300.120 and any Wyoming LRE policy or procedure adopted pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.165, except as provided in §300.324(d)(2) (regarding children with disabilities in adult prisons), WDE must ensure that school districts and public agencies have policies and procedures in place to ensure that:

(A) To the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities, including children in public or private institutions or other care facilities, are educated with children who are nondisabled; and

~~(B) That special~~ Special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of children with disabilities from the general regular educational environment occurs only if the nature or severity of the disability is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily.

~~(ii) Continuum of alternative placements. Each school district or public agency shall~~ must ensure that a continuum of alternative placements is available to meet the needs of children with disabilities for special education and related services. The continuum required must:

~~(i) Include~~ The continuum of alternative placements must include the alternative placements, including instruction listed in regular classes, special classes, special schools, home instruction, 34 C.F.R. §300.39 and instruction in hospitals and institutions; and

~~(iii) Make provision~~ make provisions for supplementary services (such as resource room or itinerant instruction), defined in 34 C.F.R. §300.42, to be provided in conjunction with regular class placement.

~~(iv) Placements.~~ The placement decision: In determining the educational placement of a child with a disability, including a preschool child with a disability, ~~each~~ the school district or public agency must ensure that:

~~(A) (i) The placement decision is:~~

~~(l) Is made by a group of persons, including the parents, and other persons knowledgeable about the child. The decision must also consider, the meaning of the evaluation data, and the placement options; and~~

~~(ll) Must be~~ made in conformity with the LRE provisions in Section 7 (a)(i)(ii) above and 34 C.F.R. §§300.114 through 300.118.

~~(B) (ii) — The child's placement:~~

~~(I) (A) — Is determined at least annually;~~

~~(II) (B) — Is based on the child's IEP; and~~

~~(III) (C) — Is as close as possible to the child's home.~~

~~(v) (iii) — Unless the IEP of a child with a disability requires some other arrangement, the child is shall be educated in the school that he or she would attend if nondisabled;~~

~~(vi) (iv) — In selecting the LRE, consideration is shall be given to any potential potentially harmful effect on the child or on the quality of services that he or she needs; and~~

~~(vii) (v) — A child with a disability is shall not be removed from education in age-appropriate regular classrooms solely because of needed modifications in the general education curriculum.~~

~~(vi) — If neither parent can participate in a meeting in which a decision is to be made relating to the educational placement of their child, the school district or public agency shall use other methods to ensure their participation, including individual or conference telephone calls or video conferencing.~~

~~(vii) — A placement decision may be made by a group without the involvement of a parent if the school district or public agency is unable to obtain the parent's participation in the decision. In this case, the school district or public agency must have a record of its attempt to ensure their involvement.~~

~~(c) (d) — Nonacademic settings. In providing or arranging for the provision of nonacademic and extracurricular services and activities, including meals, recess periods, and the services and activities set forth in Part 3, Section 1, subsection (g), of these rules Extended School Year (ESY).~~

Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.106 and any Wyoming ESY policy or procedure adopted pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.165, each school district or public agency must ensure that each child with a disability participates with nondisabled children in the extracurricular services and activities to the maximum extent appropriate to the needs of that child. The school district or public agency must ensure that each child with a disability has the supplementary aids and services determined by the child's IEP team to be appropriate and necessary for the child to participate in nonacademic settings.

**Section 9. Extended School Year (ESY):**

~~(i) (a) — Each school district or public agency shall ensure that extended school year services are available as necessary to provide a FAPE.~~

~~(b) — Extended school year services must be provided only if a child's IEP team determines, on an individual basis, that the services are necessary for the provision of a FAPE to the child.~~

~~(c) — In implementing these requirements, a school district or public agency may not:~~

~~(i) — Limit extended school year services to particular categories of disability; or~~

~~(ii) — Unilaterally limit the type, amount, or duration of those services.~~

~~(A) — (d) — Extended school year services mean ESY services means special education and related services that:~~

~~(I) — (i) — Are provided to a child with a disability beyond:~~

~~(1.) — Beyond the normal school year of the school district or public agency;~~

~~(2.) — (A) — In accordance with the child's IEP; and~~

~~(3.) — (B) — At no cost to the parent of the child; and~~

~~(II) — (C) — Meet the standards of the WDE, Wyoming.~~

**PART 6**

**DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES**

~~Section 1. Change of Placement for Disciplinary Removals.~~

~~(a) For purposes of removals of a child with a disability from the child's current educational placement, a change of placement occurs if:~~

~~(i) The removal is for more than ten (10) consecutive school days; or~~

~~(ii) The child has been subjected to a series of removals that constitute a pattern;~~

~~(A) Because the series of removals total more than ten (10) school days in a school year;~~

~~(B) Because the child's behavior is substantially similar to the child's behavior in previous incidents that resulted in the series of removals;  
and~~

~~(C) Because of such additional factors as the length of each removal, the total amount of time the child has been removed, and the proximity of the removals to one another.~~

~~(b) The school district or public agency determines on a case-by-case basis whether a pattern of removals constitutes a change of placement. This determination is subject to review through due process and judicial proceedings.~~

~~(c) Disciplinary information. A school district or public agency shall include in the records of a child with a disability a statement of any current or previous disciplinary action that has been taken against the child and transmit the statement to the same extent that the disciplinary information is included in, and transmitted with, the student records of nondisabled children.~~

~~(i) The statement may include a description of any behavior engaged in by the child that required disciplinary action, a description of the disciplinary action taken, and any other information that is relevant to the safety of the child and other individuals involved with the child.~~

~~(ii) If the child transfers from one school to another, the transmission of any of the child's records must include both the child's IEP and any statement of current or previous disciplinary action that has been taken against the child.~~

~~Section 2. Authority of School Personnel.~~

~~(a) Case by case determination. School district or public agency personnel may consider any unique circumstances on a case-by-case basis when determining whether a change in placement, consistent with the other requirements of this Section, is appropriate for a child with a disability who violates a code of student conduct.~~

~~(b) General.~~

~~(i) School personnel under this Section may remove a child with a disability who violates a code of student conduct from his or her current placement to an appropriate interim alternative educational setting, another setting, or suspension, for not more than ten (10) consecutive school days (to the extent those alternatives are applied to children without disabilities), and for additional removals of not more than ten (10) consecutive school days in that same school year for separate incidents of misconduct (as long as those removals do not constitute a change of placement).~~

~~(ii) After a child with a disability has been removed from his or her current placement for ten (10) school days in the same school year, during any subsequent days of removal the school district or public agency must provide ESY services to the extent required under subsection (d) of this Section.~~

~~(iii) Determination of Setting. There must be provided only if a child's IEP team determines, on an individual basis, that the interim alternative educational setting for services.~~

~~(c) Additional authority. For disciplinary changes in placement that would exceed ten (10) consecutive school days, if are necessary for the behavior that gave rise provision of FAPE to the violation of the school code is determined not to be a manifestation of the child's disability pursuant to child. In implementing the requirements of this section, school personnel may apply the relevant disciplinary procedures to children with disabilities in the same manner and for the same duration as the procedures would be applied to children without disabilities except as provided in subsection (d) of this Section.~~

~~(d) Services for children when behavior is not a manifestation of the disability.~~

~~(i) A child with a disability who is removed from the child's current placement pursuant to subsections (c) of this Section, or pursuant to Section 3, subsection (e) of this Part, must:~~

~~(A) Continue to be provided educational the school district or public agency must consider a multi-factor approach in determining whether ESY services so as to enable the child to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting, and to progress toward meeting the goals set out in the child's IEP; and~~

~~(B) — (B) — Receive, as appropriate, a Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) and behavioral intervention services and modifications that are designed to address the behavior violation so that it does not recur. necessary, and may not.~~

~~(ii) — The services required under (d)(i), (d)(iii), (d)(iv), and (d)(v) of this Section may be provided in an interim alternative educational setting.~~

~~(iii) — A school district or public agency is only required to provide services during periods of removal to a child with a disability who has been removed from his or her current placement for ten (10) school days or less in that school year, if it provided services to a child without disabilities who is similarly removed.~~

~~(iv) — After a child with a disability who has been removed from his or her current placement for ten (10) school days in the same school year (if the current removal is not more than ten (10) consecutive school days and not a change of placement), school personnel, in consultation with at least one of the child's teachers, determine the extent to which services are needed so as to enable the child to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting, and to progress toward meeting the goals set out in the child's IEP.~~

~~(v) — If the removal is a change of placement, the child's IEP team determines appropriate services under (d)(i).~~

### ~~Section 3. Manifestation Determination.~~

~~(a) — Within ten (10) school days of any decision to change the placement of a child with a disability because of a violation of a code of student conduct, the school district or public agency, the parent, and relevant members of the child's IEP team (as determined by the parent and the school district or public agency) must review all relevant information in the student's file, including the child's IEP, any teacher observations, and any relevant information provided by the parents to determine:~~

~~(i) — If the conduct in question was caused by, or had a direct and substantial relationship to, the child's disability; or~~

~~(ii) — If the conduct in question was the direct result of the school district's or public agency's failure to implement the IEP.~~

~~(b) — The conduct must be determined to be a manifestation of the child's disability if the school district or public agency, the parent, and relevant members of the IEP team determine that a condition in either subsection (a)(i) or (a)(ii) of this Section was met.~~

~~(c) — If the school district or public agency, parent, and relevant members of the child's IEP team determine the conduct in question was the direct result of the school~~

~~district's or public agency's failure to implement the IEP, the school district or public agency must take immediate steps to remedy those deficiencies.~~

~~(d) — Determination that behavior was a manifestation. If the school district or public agency, the parent, and relevant members of the IEP team make the determination that the conduct was a manifestation of the child's disability, the IEP team must:~~

~~————— (i) — Either conduct a Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA), unless the school district or public agency conducted a FBA before the behavior that resulted in the change of placement occurred, and implement a behavioral intervention plan for the child; or~~

~~————— (ii) — If a behavioral intervention plan already has been developed, review the behavioral intervention plan, and modify it, as necessary, to address the behavior; and~~

~~————— (iii) — Except as provided in subsection (e) of this Section, return the child to the placement from which the child was removed, unless the parent and the school district or public agency agree to a change in placement as part of the modification of the behavioral intervention plan.~~

~~(e) — Special circumstances. School personnel may remove a student to an interim alternative educational setting for not more than forty five (45) school days without regard to whether the behavior is determined to be a manifestation of the child's disability, if the child:~~

~~————— (i) — Carries a weapon to or possesses a weapon at school, on school premises, or to or at a school function under the jurisdiction of a school district or public agency; or~~

~~————— (ii) — Knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance while at school, on school premises, or at a school function under the jurisdiction of a school district or public agency; or~~

~~————— (iii) — Has inflicted serious bodily injury upon another person while at school, on school premises, or at a school function under the jurisdiction of a school district or public agency.~~

~~(f) — Notification. On the date on which the decision is made to make a removal that constitutes a change of placement of a child with a disability because of a violation of a code of student conduct, the school district or public agency must notify the parents of that decision and provide the parents the procedural safeguards notice.~~

~~————— (i) — Definitions. For purposes of this Section, the following definitions apply:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) Controlled substance means a drug or other substance identified under schedules I, II, III, IV, or V in section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812(c)).~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) Illegal drug means a controlled substance, but does not include a controlled substance that is legally possessed or used under the supervision of a licensed health care professional or that is legally possessed or used under any other authority under that Act or under any other provision of Federal law.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (C) Serious bodily injury has the meaning given the term "serious bodily injury" under paragraph (3) of subsection (h) of section 1365 of Title 18 U.S. Code and means a substantial risk of death, extreme physical pain, protracted or obvious disfigurement, protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (D) Weapon has the meaning given the term "dangerous weapon" under paragraph (2) of the first subsection (g) of section 930 of Title 18 U.S. Code.~~

~~Section 4. Appeals Regarding Disagreements Pertaining to Disciplinary Decisions.~~

~~(a) The parent of a child with a disability who disagrees with any decision regarding placement under Section 1, Section 2, or Section 3, of this Part or a school district or public agency that believes that maintaining the current placement of the child is substantially likely to result in injury to the child or others, may request a due process hearing pursuant to the rules in Part 2, Sections 8 and Section 9, of these rules.~~

~~(b) Authority of the Hearing Officer.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) A hearing officer pursuant to Part 2, Section 9, of these rules hears and makes a determination regarding an appeal under subsection (a) of this Section.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) In making the determination under subsection (b)(i) of this Section, the hearing officer may:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (A) Return the child with a disability to the placement from which the child was removed if the hearing officer determines that the removal was a violation of Sections 1 or 2 of this Part or that the child's behavior was a manifestation of the child's disability; or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (B) Order a change in the placement of a child with a disability to an appropriate interim alternative educational setting for not more than forty-five (45) school days if the hearing officer determines that maintaining the current placement of the child is substantially likely to result in injury to the child or to others.~~

~~(c) The procedures under subsections (a) and (b) of this Section may be repeated if the school district or public agency believes that returning the child to the original placement is substantially likely to result in injury to the child or to others.~~

~~(d) Expedited due process hearing.~~

~~(i) Whenever a hearing is requested under this Part, the parents or the school district or public agency involved in the dispute must have the opportunity for an impartial due process hearing as described in Part 2, Sections 8 and 9, of these rules, except as provided in this subsection.~~

~~(A) The WDE and school district or public agency must arrange for an expedited due process hearing, which must occur within twenty (20) school days of the date the hearing is filed. The hearing officer must make a determination within ten (10) school days after the hearing.~~

~~(B) Unless the parents and school district or public agency agree in writing to waive the resolution meeting or agree to use the mediation process discussed in Part 2 of these rules:~~

~~(I) A resolution meeting must occur within seven (7) days of receiving notice of the request for a due process hearing; and~~

~~(II) The due process hearing may proceed unless the matter has been resolved to the satisfaction of both parties within fifteen (15) days of the receipt of the request for a due process hearing.~~

~~(c) Placement during appeals. When an appeal has been made under this Part by either the parent or the school district or public agency, the child must remain in the interim alternative educational setting pending the decision of the hearing officer, or until the expiration of the time period for placement in an interim alternative educational setting, or until the time period for the disciplinary action specified in Section 2 (c) of this Part expires, whichever occurs first, unless the parent and the school district or public agency agree otherwise.~~

~~Section 5. **Protections for Children not yet Eligible for Special Education and Related Services.**~~

~~(a) A child who has not been determined to be eligible for special education and related services and who has engaged in behavior that violated a code of student conduct of the school district or public agency may assert any of the protections provided for if the school district or public agency had knowledge (in accordance with subsection (b) of this Section) that the child was a child with a disability before the behavior that precipitated the disciplinary action occurred.~~

~~(b) Basis of knowledge. A school district or public agency must be deemed to have knowledge that a child is a child with a disability if before the behavior that precipitated the disciplinary action occurred:~~

~~(i) The parent of the child expressed concern in writing to supervisory or administrative personnel of the appropriate educational agency, or a teacher of the child, that the child is in need of special education and related services;~~

~~(ii) The parent of the child requested an evaluation of the child to determine if the child is a child with a disability consistent with these rules; or~~

~~(iii) The teacher of the child, or other personnel of the school district or public agency, expressed specific concerns about a pattern of behavior demonstrated by the child directly to the director of special education of the school district or public agency or to other supervisory personnel of the public agency.~~

~~(c) A school district or public agency would not be deemed to have knowledge if:~~

~~(i) The parent of the child refused to allow an evaluation of the child to determine if the child is a child with a disability; or if the child was determined to be a child with a disability, the parent refused to provide consent to allow special education or related services to be provided to the child;~~

~~(ii) The school district or public agency conducted an evaluation and determined that the child was not a child with a disability under this Part.~~

~~(d) If a school district or public agency does not have knowledge that a child is a child with a disability prior to taking disciplinary measures against the child, the child may be subjected to the same disciplinary measures as applied to children without disabilities who engage in comparable behaviors.~~

~~(e) Request for evaluation during disciplinary procedures. If a request is made for an evaluation of a child during the time period in which the child is subjected to disciplinary measures, the evaluation must be conducted in an expedited manner.~~

~~(i) Until the evaluation is completed, the child remains in the educational placement determined by school authorities, which can include suspension or expulsion without educational services;~~

~~(ii) If the child is determined to be a child with a disability, taking into consideration information from the evaluation conducted by the school district or public agency and information provided by the parents, the school district or public agency shall provide special education and related services.~~

Section 6. Referral to and Action by Law Enforcement and Judicial Authorities.

~~(a) — Nothing in these rules prohibits a school district or public agency from reporting a crime committed by a child with a disability to appropriate authorities or to prevent State law enforcement and judicial authorities from exercising their responsibilities with regard to the application of Federal and State law to crimes committed by a child with a disability.~~

~~(b) — Transmittal of records. A school district or public agency reporting a crime committed by a child with a disability shall ensure that copies of the special education and disciplinary records of the child are transmitted for consideration by the appropriate authorities to whom it reports the crime.~~

~~(c) — A school district or public agency reporting a crime may transmit copies of the child's special education and disciplinary records only to the extent that the transmission is permitted by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974.~~

**PART 7**  
**CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS**

~~Section 1. Private School Placements by Public Agencies.~~

~~(a) — Developing IEPs. Before a school district or public agency places a child with a disability in, or refers a child to, a private school or facility, the school district or public agency shall initiate and conduct a meeting to develop an IEP for the child.~~

~~(b) — The school district or public agency shall ensure that a representative of the private school or facility attends the meeting. If the representative cannot attend, the school district or public agency shall use other methods to ensure participation by the private school or facility, including individual or conference telephone calls or video conferencing.~~

~~(c) — Reviewing and revising IEPs. After a child with a disability enters a private school or facility, any meetings to review and to revise the child's IEP may be initiated and conducted by the private school or facility at the discretion of the school district or public agency:~~

~~(i) — If the private school or facility initiates and conducts these meetings, the school district or public agency shall ensure that the parents and a school district or public agency representative:~~

~~(A) — Are involved in any decision about the child's IEP and agree to any proposed changes in the IEP before those changes are implemented.~~

~~(d) — Responsibility. Even if a private school or facility implements a child's IEP, responsibility for compliance with this Part remains with the school district or public agency and the WDE.~~

~~Section 2. Placement of Children by Parents if FAPE is at Issue.~~

~~(a) — General.~~

~~(i) — The school district or public agency is not required to pay for the cost of education, including special education and related services, of a child with a disability at a private school or facility if the school district or public agency made FAPE available to the child and the parents elected to place the child in a private school or facility. However, the school district or public agency must include that child in the population whose needs are addressed consistent with these rules in this Part.~~

~~(ii) — Disagreements about FAPE. Disagreements between the parents and a school district or public agency regarding the availability of a program appropriate~~

~~for a child and the question of financial reimbursement are subject to due process procedures pursuant to Part 2 of these rules.~~

~~(b) — Reimbursement for private school placement. If the parents of a child with a disability, who previously received special education and related services under the authority of a school district or public agency, enroll the child in a private preschool, elementary or secondary school without the consent of or referral by the school district or public agency, a court or a hearing officer may require the school district or public agency to reimburse the parents for the cost of that enrollment if the court or hearing officer finds that the school district or public agency had not made FAPE available to the child in a timely manner prior to that enrollment and that the private placement is appropriate. A parental placement may be found to be appropriate by a hearing officer or a court even if it does not meet the State standards that apply to education provided by the school districts or public agencies.~~

~~(c) — Limitation on reimbursement. The cost of reimbursement may be reduced or denied if at the most recent IEP meeting that the parents attended prior to removal of the child from the school district or public agency, the parents did not inform the IEP team that they were rejecting the placement proposed by the school district or public agency to provide FAPE to their child, including stating their concerns and intent to enroll their child in a private school at public expense; or~~

~~(i) — At least ten (10) business days (including any holidays that occur on a business day) prior to the removal of the child from the school district or public agency, the parents did not give written notice to the school district or public agency of their intent to reject the placement proposed by the school district or public agency and their intent to enroll their child in a private school; or~~

~~(ii) — If, prior to the parents' removal of the child from the school district or public agency, the school district or public agency informed the parents, through the notice requirements of its intent to evaluate the child (including a statement of the purpose of the evaluation that was appropriate and reasonable), but the parents did not make the child available for the evaluation; or upon a judicial finding of unreasonableness with respect to actions taken by the parents.~~

~~(iii) — Notwithstanding this notice requirement of subsection (c)(i) of this Section, the cost of reimbursement must not be reduced or denied for failure to provide the notice if:~~

~~(A) — The school prevented the parents from providing notice; or~~

~~(B) — The parents had not received the procedural safeguards explaining the written notice requirement included in subsection (c)(i) of this Section;~~

~~(C) Compliance with subsection (c) of this Section would likely result in physical harm to the child.~~

~~(iv) Upon judicial review, the cost of reimbursement may, in the discretion of the court or a hearing officer, not be reduced or denied for failure to provide this notice if:~~

~~(A) The parent is not literate or cannot write in English; or~~

~~(B) Compliance would likely result in serious emotional harm to the child.~~

~~Section 3. **Child Find for Parentally Placed Private School Children with Disabilities.**~~

~~(a) Definition of parentally placed private school children with disabilities. Parentally placed private school children with disabilities means children with disabilities enrolled by their parents in private, including religious, schools or facilities that meet the definition of an elementary school or a secondary school per Wyoming law.~~

~~(b) General. Each school district or public agency must locate, identify, and evaluate all children with disabilities who are enrolled by their parents in private schools, including religious, elementary and secondary schools located in the school district served by the school district or public agency.~~

~~(c) Child find design. The child find process must be designed to ensure the equitable participation of parentally placed private school children and an accurate count of those children.~~

~~(d) Activities. The activities undertaken to carry out this responsibility for private school children with disabilities must be comparable to activities undertaken for the school district's or the public agency's children.~~

~~(e) Cost and completion period. The cost of carrying out the child find requirements in this section, including any individual evaluations, may not be considered in determining if the school district or public agency has met financial obligations under Section 5 of this Part. The child find process must be completed in a time period comparable to that for other students attending public schools in the school district or public agency.~~

~~(f) Out of state children. Each school district or public agency in which private, including religious, elementary and secondary schools are located must, in carrying out the child find requirements in this Section, include parentally placed private school children who reside in a State other than Wyoming.~~

~~Section 4. Provision of Services for Parentally Placed Private School Children with Disabilities — Basic Requirements.~~

~~(a) To the extent consistent with the number and location of children with disabilities who are enrolled by their parents in private, including religious, elementary and secondary schools located in the school district served by the school district or public agency, provisions must be made for the participation of those children with disabilities in the program assisted or carried out under Part B of IDEA 04, by providing them with special education and related services, including direct services determined in accordance with Sections 9 and 10 of this Part.~~

~~(b) Services plan for parentally placed private school children with disabilities. A services plan consistent with the requirements of this Part must be developed and implemented for each private school child with a disability who has been designated by the school district or public agency in which the private school is located to receive special education and related services under this Part.~~

~~(c) Record keeping. The school district or public agency must maintain records, and provide to the WDE the following information related to parentally placed private school children with disabilities: the number of children evaluated, the number of children determined to be children with disabilities, and the number of children served.~~

~~Section 5. Expenditures.~~

~~(a) Formula. To meet the requirements of this Part, each school district or public agency must spend the following on providing special education and related services (including direct services) to parentally placed private school children with disabilities:~~

~~(i) For children aged three (3) through the completion of the school year the child turns twenty one (21), an amount that is the same proportion of the school district's or public agency's total subgrant under Section 611(f) of Part B of IDEA 04 as the number of private school children with disabilities aged three (3) through the completion of the school year the child turns twenty one (21) who are enrolled by their parents in private, including religious, elementary schools and secondary schools located in the school district served by the school district or public agency, is to the total number of children with disabilities in its jurisdiction aged three (3) through the completion of the school year the child turns twenty one (21).~~

~~(ii) For children aged three (3) through five (5), an amount that is the same proportion of the school district's or public agency's total subgrant under Section 619(g) of Part B of IDEA 04 as the number of parentally placed private school children with disabilities aged three (3) through five (5) who are enrolled by their parents in a private, including religious, elementary school located in the school district served by the~~

school district or public agency, is to the total number of children with disabilities in its jurisdiction aged three (3) through five (5).

~~(iii) As described in subsection (a)(ii) of this Section, children aged three (3) through five (5) are considered to be parentally placed private school children with disabilities enrolled by their parents in private, including religious, elementary schools, if they are enrolled in a private school that meets the definition of an elementary school in Part 1 of these rules.~~

~~(iv) If a school district or public agency has not expended for equitable services all funds described in subsections (a)(i) and (a)(ii) of this Section by the end of the fiscal year, the school district or public agency must obligate the remaining funds for special education and related services (including direct services) to parentally placed private school children with disabilities during a carry-over period of one additional year.~~

~~(b) Calculating proportionate amount. In calculating the proportionate amount of Federal funds to be provided for parentally placed private school children with disabilities, the school district or public agency after timely and meaningful consultation with representatives of private schools must conduct a thorough and complete child find process to determine the number of parentally placed children with disabilities attending private schools located in the school district or public agency.~~

~~**Section 6. Annual Count of the Number of Parentally Placed Private School Children with Disabilities.**~~

~~(a) Each school district or public agency must, consistent with the consultation process discussed in Section 7 of this Part, determine the number of parentally placed private school children with disabilities attending private schools located in the school district or public agency, and ensure that the count is conducted on any date between October 1 and December 1, inclusive, of each year.~~

~~(b) The child count must be used to determine the amount that the school district or public agency must spend on providing special education and related services to parentally placed private school children with disabilities in the next subsequent fiscal year.~~

~~(c) Supplement, not supplant. State and local funds may supplement and in no way supplant the proportionate amount of Federal funds required to be expended for parentally placed private school children with disabilities under this Part.~~

~~**Section 7. Consultation in Determining Services.**~~

~~(a) Each school district or public agency shall consult, in a timely and meaningful way, with private school representatives and representatives of parents of parentally placed private school children with disabilities during the design and~~

~~development of special education and related services for the children regarding the following:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ The child find process and how parentally placed private school children suspected of having a disability can participate equitably and how parents, teachers, and private school officials will be informed of the process.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ The determination of the proportionate share of Federal funds available to serve parentally placed private school children with disabilities, including the determination of how the proportionate share of funds was calculated.~~

~~(b) \_\_\_\_\_ The consultation process — general. The consultation process includes discussions among the school district or public agency, private school officials, and representatives of parents of parentally placed private school children with disabilities, relative to how the process will operate throughout the school year to ensure that parentally placed children with disabilities identified through the child find process can meaningfully participate in special education and related services.~~

~~(c) \_\_\_\_\_ Provision of special education and related services. The consultation process includes a discussion relative to how, where, and by whom special education and related services will be provided for parentally placed private school children with disabilities, including a discussion of:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ The types of services, including direct services and alternate service delivery mechanisms; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ How special education and related services will be apportioned if funds are insufficient to serve all parentally placed private school children; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ How and when those decisions will be made.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_ Written explanation by school district or public agency regarding services. If the school district or public agency disagrees with the views of private school officials on the provision of services or the types of services (whether provided directly or through contract), the school district or public agency will provide to the private school officials a written explanation of the reasons why the school district or public agency chose not to provide services directly or through contract.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (e) \_\_\_\_\_ Written affirmation. When timely and meaningful consultation has occurred, the school district or public agency must obtain a written affirmation signed by the representatives of participating private schools. If the representatives do not provide the affirmation within a reasonable period of time, the school district or public agency must forward the documentation of the consultation to the WDE.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ Section 8. Compliance.~~

~~(a) General. A private school official has the right to submit a complaint to the WDE that the school district or public agency:~~

~~(i) Did not engage in consultation that was meaningful and timely; or~~

~~(ii) Did not give due consideration to the views of the private school official.~~

~~(b) Procedure.~~

~~(i) If the private school official wishes to submit a complaint, the official must provide the WDE the basis of the noncompliance by the school district or public agency with the applicable private school provisions in this Part; and~~

~~(ii) The school district or public agency must forward the appropriate documentation to the WDE.~~

~~(iii) If the private school official is dissatisfied with the decision of the WDE, the official may submit a complaint to the Secretary of Education by providing the information on noncompliance described in (b)(i) of this Section, and the WDE must forward the appropriate documentation to the Secretary of Education.~~

~~Section 9. Equitable Services Determined.~~

~~(a) No individual right to special education and related services. No parentally placed private school child with a disability has an individual right to receive some or all of the special education and related services that the child would receive if enrolled in a public school.~~

~~(i) Decisions about the services that will be provided to parentally placed private school children with disabilities must be made in accordance with the service plan discussed in subsection (b) of this Section.~~

~~(ii) Decisions. The school district or public agency shall make the final decisions with respect to the services to be provided to eligible parentally placed private school children with disabilities.~~

~~(b) Services Plan. If a child with a disability is enrolled in a religious or other private school by the child's parents and will receive special education or related services from a school district or public agency, the school district or public agency must:~~

~~(i) Initiate and conduct meetings to develop, review, and revise a services plan for the child; and~~

~~(ii) — Ensure that a representative of the religious or other private school attends each meeting. If the representative cannot attend, the school district or public agency shall use other methods to ensure participation by the private school, including individual or conference calls or video conferencing.~~

~~Section 10. Equitable Services Provided.~~

~~(a) — The services provided to parentally placed private school children with disabilities must be provided by personnel meeting the same standards as personnel providing services in the public schools except that private elementary school and secondary school teachers who are providing equitable services to parentally placed private school children with disabilities do not have to meet the highly qualified teacher requirements discussed in Part 1 of these rules.~~

~~(b) — Parentally placed private school children with disabilities may receive a different amount of services than children with disabilities in public schools.~~

~~(c) — Services provided in accordance with service plan. Each parentally placed private school child with a disability who has been designated to receive services must have a services plan that describes the specific special education and related services that the school district or public agency will provide to the child in light of the services that the school district or public agency has determined it will make available to parentally placed private school children with disabilities.~~

~~(d) — The services plan must, to the extent appropriate:~~

~~(i) — Meet the IEP content requirements as described in Part 5, Section 5, of these rules; or for preschool children aged three (3), meet the IEP or IFSP requirements discussed in Part 5, Section 1, subsection (c), of these rules with respect to the services provided; and~~

~~(ii) — Be developed, reviewed, and revised consistent with IEP requirements described in Part 5, Section 6, of these rules.~~

~~(e) — Provision of equitable services. The provision of services pursuant to this Section must be provided by employees of a school district or public agency or through contract by a school district or public agency with an individual, association, organization, agency, or other entity.~~

~~(f) — Special education and related services provided to parentally placed private school children with disabilities, including materials and equipment, must be secular, neutral, and non-ideological.~~

~~Section 11. Location of Services and Transportation.~~

~~(a) Services on private school premises. Services provided to parentally placed private school children with disabilities may be provided on the premises of private, including religious schools, to the extent consistent with law.~~

~~(b) Transportation. If necessary for the child to benefit from or participate in the services, a parentally placed private school child with a disability must be provided transportation:~~

~~(i) From the child's school or the child's home to a site other than the private school; and from the service site to the private school, or to the child's home, depending on the timing of the services.~~

~~(l) (ii) School Limit extended school year services to particular categories of disability; or~~

~~(II) Unilaterally limit the type, amount, or duration of those services.~~

~~(d) Individualized Education Program (IEP) and placement decisions.~~

~~(i) School districts and public agencies shall develop, implement, review and revise IEPs consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.320 through 300.328.~~

~~(ii) IEP teams shall make placement decisions in accordance with the rules herein and with the least restrictive environment provision at 34 C.F.R. §§300.114 through 300.118.~~

~~(e) Reevaluations. A school district or public agency must ensure that a reevaluation of each child with a disability is conducted in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.303 through 300.311.~~

~~(f) IEPs for transfer students.~~

~~(i) Procedures for children with disabilities who transfer between school districts or public agencies are not required to provide transportation from the child's home to the private school; and in Wyoming in the same school year shall be consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.323(e).~~

~~(ii) (iii) The cost of the transportation may be included in calculating whether the Procedures for children with disabilities who transfer to Wyoming school district/districts or public agency has met the private agencies from another state shall be consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.323(f).~~

~~(iii) Procedures for preschool children with disabilities transitioning from developmental preschool centers in the state of Wyoming to school funding requirements. districts or other public agencies shall be consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.323(e).~~

(iv) ——— (e) ——— Separate classes prohibited. A Procedures for children identified as Developmentally Delayed who transfer to a school district or public agency may not use funds available that has not adopted the Developmentally Delayed criteria shall be consistent with the procedures in 34 C.F.R. §300.323(f) for students who transfer from another state.

(A) The school district or public agency, consistent with the consent requirements, shall:

(I) Conduct an evaluation and eligibility determination consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.301 through 300.311; and

(B) Meet the requirements above with respect to continuing to provide FAPE to the child, including services comparable to those described in the child's IEP from the previous public agency until completion of the evaluation and eligibility determination consistent with these rules and IDEA.

(g) Inter-district placements. Each school district or public agency shall provide FAPE to children with disabilities residing within its boundaries. If the school district or public agency is unable to provide the programs and services necessary for the child with a disability to receive FAPE, the school district or public agency shall contract with another school district or public agency to provide those programs and/or services. [See W.S. §21-2-502.]

(h) Residential placement by another entity.

(i) If a child with a disability has been placed in a residential treatment facility or psychiatric hospital by another public agency or court, the residential treatment facility or hospital shall initiate action to develop, review, or revise the child's IEP consistent with IDEA and these rules, or if necessary, evaluate and identify the child as a child with a disability according to IDEA and these rules.

(ii) The facility or hospital shall notify the child's resident school district or public agency of the child's placement at the facility or hospital. The resident school district or public agency shall participate in planning and implementing FAPE for the child.

(iii) In the event that the residential treatment facility is unable or unwilling to provide FAPE to the child as required under the IDEA, the resident school district or public agency is responsible for ensuring that the child receives FAPE. (See W.S. §21-2-502.)

(i) Court-ordered placements.

(i) The Department of Family Services (DFS) shall pay residential and treatment costs excluding educational and medical costs of court ordered placements of children in private residential treatment facilities and group homes located in Wyoming.

(ii) Programs providing education services including programs for children with disabilities provided by a Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), shall bill WDE directly for educational costs of court ordered placements.

(iii) All costs billed to WDE under this section shall be in the manner and form required by WDE, and consistent with W.S. §21-13-315 and Chapter 14 of WDE Rules and Regulations.

**Section 6. Procedural Safeguards.** Each school district or public agency shall implement procedural safeguards consistent with the requirements of 34 C.F.R. §§300.500 through 300.536, including dissemination of a procedural safeguards notice that meets the requirements of 34 C.F.R. §300.504.

(a) Parent participation and involvement. The parents of a child with a disability must be afforded an opportunity to participate in the special education process and examine educational records pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.501.

(b) Parental consent. The school district or public agency shall implement parental consent and the revocation of parental consent procedures consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.9 and 300.300 (including the 2008 Amendment and any subsequent amendments).

(c) Independent educational evaluation (IEE). Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.502, the parents of a child with a disability shall have the right to obtain an independent educational evaluation of the child.

(d) Prior written notice. Prior written notice shall be given to the parents of a child with a disability a reasonable time before the school district or public agency proposes to, or refuses to, initiate or change the identification, evaluation, educational placement of the child, or the provision of FAPE to the child consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.503.

(e) Discipline procedures. Discipline of a child with a disability shall be implemented consistent with the requirements of 34 C.F.R. §§300.530 through 300.536 and any Wyoming discipline policy or procedure adopted pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.165.

(f) Surrogate parents. The procedures for appointment of a surrogate parent shall comply with 34 C.F.R. §§300.30 and 300.519.

(g) Transfer of parental rights at age of majority. When a student reaches the age of 18, parental rights under the IDEA shall transfer to the student in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.320(c) and 300.520. [See W.S. §14-1-101.]

(h) Unilateral private placements. Requirements for unilateral placement by parents of children with disabilities in private schools shall be consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.129 through 300.144 and §300.148.

(i) Special education records. The school district or public agency must protect the confidentiality of student education records consistent with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and its implementing regulations at 34 C.F.R. §99, and consistent with the IDEA and 34 C.F.R. §§300.610 through 300.627.

Section 7. **Dispute Resolution.** In compliance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.151, 300.506, and 300.508, WDE shall ensure the adoption of dispute resolution policies and/or procedures pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.165.

(a) Mediation. In accordance with the procedures specified in 34 C.F.R. §300.506 WDE shall offer parties to disputes involving any matter arising under Part B of IDEA 04 for classes that the IDEA, including disputes arising prior to a due process hearing request, an opportunity to resolve the dispute through mediation.

(b) Wyoming state complaint procedures. In compliance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.151 through 300.153, WDE shall resolve any state complaint, including a complaint filed by an organization or individual from another state, that alleges a violation of Wyoming or Federal laws, and meets the requirements of the above referenced complaint provisions.

(i) In resolving a state complaint in which a failure to provide appropriate services has been found, WDE, pursuant to its general supervisory authority under Part B of the IDEA, shall address:

(A) The failure to provide appropriate services, including corrective action appropriate to address the needs of the child; and

(B) The appropriate future provision of services for all children with disabilities.

(c) Due process hearing procedures. A parent or public agency may file a due process complaint on any of the matters relating to the identification, evaluation, educational placement, or provision of FAPE to the child consistent with procedures outlined in 34 C.F.R. §§300.507 through 300.518 and 300.532.

(d) Child's status during proceedings. Except as provided in 34 C.F.R. §300.533 (regarding disciplinary removals), during the pendency of any administrative or judicial proceeding regarding a due process hearing, unless the Wyoming school district, or public agency and the parents of the child agree otherwise, the child that is the subject of the dispute must remain in his or her current educational placement consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.518.

Section 8. **Special Education Funding.**

(a) School district or public agency eligibility. School district or public agency Part B funding shall be implemented in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.200 through 300.230 and any other applicable provisions.

(b) Compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Each school district or public agency shall adopt and implement appropriate policies, procedures, programs and services to ensure that children with disabilities who reside within the agency's educational jurisdiction, including children who are organized separately on the basis of school enrollment or religion of the children if the classes are at the same site, and the classes include children enrolled in public schools and children enrolled in private schools or facilities such as residential treatment centers, day treatment centers,

hospitals, mental health institutions are identified and evaluated, and have access to FAPE in compliance with all applicable requirements of Wyoming laws and any applicable federal laws and regulations.

**Section 12. Due Process Hearings and State Complaint Rights.**

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (a) Due process hearing not applicable except for child find. Except as provided in subsection (b) of this Section, the procedures in Part 2, Sections 2, 6, 8, 9 and 10, do not apply to complaints that a school district or public agency has failed to meet the requirements of Part 7, Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11, including the provision of services indicated on the child's services plan.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (b) Child find complaints to be filed with the school district or public agency in which the private school is located.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) The procedures in Part 2, Sections 2, 6, 8, 9, and 10, do apply to complaints that a school district or public agency has failed to meet the child find requirements of Part 7, Section 3, including the requirements of Part 2, Section 3, relative to parental consent, Part 3, Sections 4, 5, and 6, relative to evaluations and determination of eligibility including eligibility determinations for specific learning disabilities described in Part 4, Section 10, subsections (b) through (f).~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) Any request for due process hearing regarding the child find requirements as described in (b)(i) of this Section must be filed with the school district or public agency in which the private school is located, and a copy must be forwarded to the WDE.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (c) State Complaints. Complaints filed by a private school official that the WDE or the school district or public agency has failed to meet the requirements of this Part must be filed under the State Complaint Procedures discussed in Part 2, Section 7, of these rules.~~

**Section 13. Property, Equipment, and Supplies.**

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (a) A school district or public agency must control and administer the funds used to provide special education and related services discussed in this Part and hold title to and administer materials, equipment, and property purchased with funds for the purposes provided in Part B of IDEA 04.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (b) The school district or public agency may place equipment and supplies in a private school for the time needed for the services to be provided to the child and may remove the materials or equipment when no longer needed.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (c) No funds may be used for repairs, minor remodeling, or construction of private school facilities.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (d) Use of public school personnel. The school district or public agency may use Federal funds under Part B of IDEA 04 to make public school personnel available in other than public facilities to serve parentally placed private school children with disabilities if those services are not provided by the private school.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (e) Use of private school personnel. A school district or public agency may use federal funds under Part B of IDEA 04 to pay for services of an employee of a private school to provide services to a parentally placed private school child with a disability if the employee performs the services outside of his or her regular hours of employment and the employee performs the services under public supervision and control.~~

**PART 8**  
**SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC AGENCY USE OF PART B FEDERAL FUNDS AND STATE ENFORCEMENT**

~~Section 1. School District or Public Agency Eligibility for Federal Part B Funds.~~

~~(c) (a) Condition of assistance. A school district or public agency per procedures authorized in State law is eligible for Federal federal funding under Part B of the IDEA-04 for a fiscal year if the school district or public agency submits a plan that provides assurances to the WDE that the school district or public agency meets each of the conditions set forth in this Part: section and these rules.~~

~~(i) Consistency with WDE policy. The school district or public agency, in providing for the education of children with disabilities within its jurisdiction, must have in effect policies, procedures, and programs that are consistent with WDE policies and procedures established to address these rules.~~

~~(ii) Use of funds. Funds provided to the school district or public agency under Part B of IDEA 04 must be used to pay only the excess cost of providing special education and related services to children with disabilities and must be used to supplement and not supplant State and local funds consistent with subsection (b) of this Section.~~

~~(b) Excess cost requirement. The excess cost requirement prevents a school district or public agency from using funds provided under Part B of IDEA 04 to pay all the costs directly attributable to the education of a child with a disability. A school district or public agency meets the excess cost requirement if it has spent at least the minimum average amount for the education of its children with disabilities before Part B funds are used.~~

~~(c) Maintenance of effort. Except as provided for in sub paragraphs (d) and (e) of this section, Federal funds provided to a school district or public agency under Part B of IDEA 04 must not be used to reduce the level of expenditures for the education of children with disabilities made by the school district or public agency from local funds below the level of those expenditures for the preceding year.~~

~~Section 9. (i) A school district or public agency that relies on local funds only for any fiscal year must **General Supervision.**~~

~~Pursuant to its general supervisory responsibility, WDE shall ensure that the amount of local funds it budgets for the education of children with disabilities in that year is at least the same, either in total or per capita, as the amount it spent for that purpose in the most recent fiscal year for which information is available.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (d) Exception to maintenance of effort. A school district or public agency may reduce the level of expenditures by the school district or public agency under Part B of IDEA 04 below the level of those expenditures for the preceding fiscal year if the reduction is attributable to any of the following:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) The voluntary departure, by retirement or otherwise, or departure for just cause, of special education or related services personnel;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) A decrease in the enrollment of children with disabilities or the termination of the obligation of the school district or public agency to provide a program of special education to a particular child that is an exceptionally costly program because the child has left the jurisdiction of the school district or public agency or has reached the age at which the obligation of the school district or public agency to provide FAPE to the child has terminated or the child no longer needs the special education program;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) The termination of costly expenditures for long term purchases, such as the acquisition of equipment or construction of school facilities.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (e) Adjustments to local fiscal efforts in certain fiscal years. For any fiscal year for which the Federal funds Part B allocation received by the school district or public agency exceeds the amount the school district or public agency received for the previous fiscal year, the school district or public agency may reduce the level of maintenance of effort expenditures discussed in subsection (c) of this Section by not more than 50% of the amount of that excess.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (f) Use of amounts to carry out activities under ESEA. If a school district or public agency exercises the authority under this provision, the school district or public agency must use an amount of local funds equal to the reduction in expenditures discussed in paragraph (e) to carry out any activities that could be supported with funds under the ESEA regardless of whether the school district or public agency is using funds under the ESEA for those activities.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (g) State prohibition. Notwithstanding subsection (e) of this Section, if the WDE determines the school district or public agency is unable to establish and maintain programs of FAPE that meet the requirements of IDEA 04 or that the WDE has taken action against the school district or public agency relative to section 616 of IDEA 04 and the rules in this Part, the WDE must prohibit the school district or public agency from reducing the level of expenditures under subsection (e) of this Section for that fiscal year.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (h) Special rule, application of early intervening services to reduction in maintenance of effort. The amount of funds expended by a school district or public agency for early intervening services discussed in Section 3 of this Part shall count toward the maximum amount of expenditures that the school district or public agency~~

may reduce under subsection (e) of this Section. Appendix B of these rules provides guidance in determining these calculations.

~~(i) Joint establishment of eligibility.~~

~~(i) General. The WDE may require a school district or public agency to establish its eligibility jointly with another school district or public agency if the WDE determines that the school district or public agency will be ineligible because the school district or public agency will not be able to establish or maintain programs of sufficient size and scope to effectively meet the needs of children with disabilities.~~

~~(a) (ii) Amount of payments. If the WDE requires joint establishment of eligibility under paragraph (i) above, the total amount of funds available to the affected school district or public agency must be equal to the sum of the payments the IDEA and federal regulations are carried out and that each school district or public agency would have received under this Part if the agencies were implements programs that meet the standards of Wyoming, consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.149 and any formally adopted Wyoming policy or procedure. eligible for those payments.~~

~~Section In accordance with W.S. §§21-2. **Permissive Use of Part B Funds.**~~

~~701(a) School wide programs under Title (1-ef) and 21-2-703 the ESEA.~~

~~(i) A school district or public agency may use funds received under Part B of IDEA 04 for any fiscal year Department of Health, Developmental Disabilities Division (Division), is assigned responsibility for ensuring the provision of FAPE to carry out a school wide program under section 1114 of the ESEA except that the amount used in any school wide program may not exceed the amount received by the school district or public agency under Part B for that fiscal year divided by the number of children with disabilities in the jurisdiction of the school district or public agency and multiplied by the number of preschool children with disabilities participating in the school wide program.~~

~~(ii) Funding conditions. The funds described in subsection (a)(i) of this Section are to be considered as Federal Part B funds for purposes of the calculations required relative to excess cost discussed in Section 1(e) of this Part.~~

~~(b) Meeting Part B requirements. Except as provided in subsection (a)(i) and (a)(ii) of this section, all other requirements of Part B of IDEA 04 must be met by the school district or public agency using Part B funds, including ensuring that children with disabilities receive services in accordance with a properly developed IEP and are afforded all the rights and services guaranteed to children with disabilities.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ Personnel development. The school district or public agency must ensure that all personnel necessary to carry out the requirements of these rules are appropriately and adequately prepared and may use Part B funds to address these matters.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_ Use of funds that also benefit nondisabled children. A school district or public agency may use Part B funds for the costs of special education and related services, and supplementary aids and services provided in a regular class or other education related setting, to a child with a disability in accordance with the IEP of the child, even if one or more nondisabled children also benefit from these aids and services.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (e) \_\_\_\_\_ Administrative case management. A school district or public agency may use funds received under Part B of IDEA 04 to purchase appropriate technology for recordkeeping, data collection, and related case management activities of teachers and related service personnel providing services to children with disabilities that is needed for the implementation of those case management activities.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (f) \_\_\_\_\_ Early intervening. Pursuant to W.S. §21-2-702, the Division shall be deemed an intermediate educational services. A school district or public agency may use Part B funds received under IDEA 04 to implement coordinated early intervening unit, and as such, shall function as an educational services in accordance with Section 3 of this Part.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (g) \_\_\_\_\_ Other WDE approved costs. Consistent with these rules, the WDE may determine other costs to be appropriate for Part B funding.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ Section 3. Early Intervening Services.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (a) \_\_\_\_\_ General. A school district or public agency may not use more than 15% of the amount the school district or public agency receives under Part B of IDEA 04 for any fiscal year, less any amount reduced by the school district or public agency pursuant to Section 1, subsection (e), of this Part, if any, in combination with other amounts (which may include amounts from other sources), to develop and implement coordinated, early intervening services, which may include interagency financing structures, for students in Kindergarten through grade 12 (with a particular emphasis on students in Kindergarten through grade 3) who are not currently identified as needing special education or related services, but who need additional academic and behavioral support to succeed in a general education environment. Appendix B of these rules provides technical assistance for examples of how maintenance of effort reductions relative to Section 1, subsection (e), of this Part, and funds for early intervention services affect one another.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_ Activities. In implementing coordinated, early intervening services under this Section, a school district or public agency may carry out activities that include:~~

~~(i) Professional development (which may be provided by entities other than school districts or public agencies) for teachers and other school staff to enable such personnel to deliver scientifically based academic and behavioral interventions, including scientifically based literacy instruction, and, where appropriate, instruction in the use of adaptive and instructional software; and~~

~~(ii) Providing educational and behavioral evaluations, services, and supports, including scientifically based literacy instruction to children who are not currently identified as children with disabilities.~~

~~(c) Reporting. Each school district or public agency that develops and maintains coordinated, early intervening services under this Section and uses Part B funds for this purpose, must annually report to the WDE on:~~

~~(i) The number of children served under this Section who received early intervening services; and~~

~~(ii) The number of children served under this Section who received early intervening services and subsequently received special education services as having been identified as children with disabilities per these rules during the preceding two year period.~~

~~(d) Coordination with ESEA. Funds made available to carry out this Section may be used to carry out coordinated, early intervening services aligned with activities funded by and carried out under the ESEA if those funds are used to supplement, and not supplant, funds made available under the ESEA for activities and services assisted under this Section.~~

~~(e) Disproportionality. In the case of a determination by the WDE of a significant disproportionality with respect to the identification of children as children with disabilities, or the placement in particular educational settings of these children, the WDE must:~~

~~(i) Provide for the review and, if appropriate, revision of policies, procedures, and practices used by the school district or public agency in the identification or placement to ensure that policies, procedures, and practices comply with IDEA 04 and these rules; and~~

~~(ii) Require any school district or public agency identified as having the determination of disproportionality per subsection (e) of this Section to reserve the maximum amount of Part B Federal funds to provide comprehensive, coordinated early intervening services to serve children in the school district or public agency, particularly, but not exclusively, children in those groups that were significantly over identified under this Section; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ Require the school district or public agency to publicly report on the revisions of policies, practices, and procedures described in this Section.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (f) \_\_\_\_\_ Construction. Nothing in this Section relating to the provision of early intervening services to children not currently identified as children with disabilities or the use of Part B Federal funds for this purpose shall be construed to either limit or create a right to FAPE or to delay appropriate evaluation of a child suspected of having a disability.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ Section 4. **Charter Schools and Part B Funds.**~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (a) \_\_\_\_\_ Charter schools that are public schools to the school district or public agency.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ The school district or public agency must serve children with disabilities attending those charter schools in the same manner the school district or public agency serves children with disabilities in its other schools, including providing supplementary and related services on site at the charter school to the same extent to which the school district or public agency has a policy or practice of providing such services on the site to its other public schools; and~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ Provide Part B funds to those charter schools on the same basis the school district or public agency provides funds to the school district's or public agency's other schools, including a proportional distribution based on relative enrollment of children with disabilities; and~~

~~(b) \_\_\_\_\_ (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ At the same time as the school district or public agency distributes other Federal funds to the school district's or public agency's other public schools service agency consistent with the Wyoming charter school laws 34 C.F.R. §300.12(c). [See 34 C.F.R. §300.12 and W.S. §21-3-301 to W.S. §2-701 through 21-3-314.2-703.]~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_ Public Charter schools that are school districts or public agencies. If the public charter school is a school district or public agency that receives funding under IDEA 04 directly from the WDE, that charter school is responsible for ensuring that the requirements of these rules are met consistent with Wyoming charter school laws referenced in subsection (a)(iii) above.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ Section 5. **WDE Enforcement - General.**~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ (a) \_\_\_\_\_ Information required by WDE. The school district or public agency must provide the WDE with information to enable the WDE to carry out its duties under Part B of IDEA 04, including information relating to performance goals and indicators as specified in CRF 300.157, and the performance of children with disabilities participating in special education and related services.~~

~~(i) The school district or public agency must make available to parents of children with disabilities and to the general public all documents relating to the eligibility of the agency under Part B of IDEA 04.~~

~~(ii) The school district or public agency must cooperate with the Office of Special Education Programs under section 1308 of the ESEA to ensure the linkage of records pertaining to migratory children with disabilities for the purpose of electronically exchanging, among the States, health and educational information regarding those children.~~

~~(b) Modifications of school district or public agency policies or procedures. The WDE may require a school district, a public agency, or a State agency to modify its policies or procedures relative to how the school district, a public agency, or State agency demonstrates it meets the requirements of these rules, but only to the extent necessary to ensure compliance with these rules. The WDE may require these modifications if:~~

~~(i) There is a new interpretation of an applicable provision of IDEA 04 by Federal or State courts; or~~

~~(ii) There is an official finding of noncompliance of the school district, public agency, or State agency with Federal or State rules or regulations.~~

~~(c) School district or public agency compliance. If the WDE, after reasonable notice and an opportunity for a hearing, determines that a school district, public agency, or State agency fails to comply with any requirement of this Part, the WDE must reduce or must not provide any further Part B payments to the school district, public agency, or State agency until the WDE is satisfied that the school district, public agency, or State agency is complying with the requirement.~~

~~(i) Notice Requirement. If a school district, public agency, or State agency receives notice discussed in (c) above, the school district, public agency, or State agency must, by means of public notice, take measures necessary to bring the pendency of an action pursuant to this Section to the attention of the public within the jurisdiction of the agency.~~

~~(ii) In carrying out the responsibilities of this paragraph the WDE must consider the decision resulting from any due process hearing that is adverse to the school district, public agency, or State agency involved in the decision.~~

~~(d) Direct services by the WDE. The WDE must use Part B payments that would otherwise have been available to a school district or public agency to provide special education and related services directly to children with disabilities residing in the~~

area served by the school district or public agency, or for whom that public agency is responsible, if the WDE determines that the school district or public agency:

~~(i) Has not provided the information needed to establish the eligibility of the school district or public agency, or elected not to apply for its Part B allotment under the IDEA 04;~~

~~(ii) Is unable or unwilling to establish and maintain programs of FAPE that meet the requirements of these rules;~~

~~(iii) Is unable or unwilling to be consolidated and coordinate with one or more school districts or public agencies in order to establish and maintain programs;~~  
~~or~~

~~(iv) Has one or more children with disabilities who can be best served by a regional or State program or service delivery system designed to meet the needs of these children.~~

~~Section 6. WDE Monitoring Focus and Targets.~~

~~(c) (a) Monitoring focus—general. The WDE must. WDE shall enforce the requirements of the IDEA and monitor the implementation of these rules and enforce the requirements of IDEA 04 by school districts or and public agencies in accordance with applicable Federal regulations 34 CFR C.F.R. §§300.604-600 through 300.608 (including the 2008 Amendment and any subsequent amendments). The primary focus of the WDE monitoring activities mustshall be on:—~~

~~(i) (i) Improving the educational results and functional outcomes for all children with disabilities; and~~

~~(ii) (ii) Ensuring that the school districts or public agencies meet the program requirements of these rules and under Part B of the IDEA 04, with a particular emphasis on those requirements that are most closely related to improving educational results orfor children with disabilities.~~

~~(d) (b) Monitoring focus, targets. The WDE mustPriority areas. Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.600(d), WDE shall monitor school districts and public agencies using quantifiable indicators in each of the following priority areas, and using such qualitative indicators as are needed to adequately measure the performance in those areas:~~

~~(i) \_\_\_\_\_ (i) Provision of FAPE in the least restrictive environment;~~

~~(ii) \_\_\_\_\_ (ii) The WDE Wyoming exercise of general supervision, including child find, effective monitoring, the use of resolution meetings, mediation, and a system of transition services defined in 34 C.F.R. §§300.43 and 300.124.~~

~~(iii) \_\_\_\_\_ (iii) Disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services, to the extent the representation is the result of involves inappropriate identification, pursuant to data collected in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §300.646.~~

~~(e) \_\_\_\_\_ (e) Wyoming use of targets. WDE shall use the targets established in Wyoming's performance plan under 34 C.F.R. §300.601 and the priority areas described in 34 C.F.R. §300.600(d) to analyze the performance of each school district or public agency.~~

~~(f) \_\_\_\_\_ Public reporting and privacy. Subject to paragraph (iii) of this subsection, the WDE must Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.602 (including the 2008 Amendment and any subsequent amendments) WDE shall:~~

~~(i) Make Wyoming's performance plan, under 34 C.F.R. §300.601(a) available through public means.~~

~~(ii) Make Wyoming's annual performance report under 34 C.F.R. §300.602(b)(2) available through public means.~~

~~(iii) Report annually report to the public on the performance of each school district or public agency in Wyoming under 34 C.F.R. §300.602(b)(1)(i)(A). Determinations. Based on the targets in the State's performance plan; and~~

~~(i) Make the State's performance plan available through public means, including posting on the WDE website, distribution to the media, and distribution through public information provided by school district or public agencies.~~

~~(ii) The WDE must not report to the public or to the Secretary of Education any information that would result in the disclosure of personally identifiable information about individual children, or where available data are insufficient to yield statistically reliable information.~~

~~(iii) If the WDE, in meeting the requirements of this subsection, collects performance data obtained through State monitoring or sampling, the WDE must include in its report the most recently available performance data on each school district or public agency, and the date the data were obtained.~~

Section 7. WDE Determinations.

~~(g) (a) Determinations. Based on information provided to the WDE obtained from monitoring visits, and any other public information made available, the WDE determines shall determine if the school district or public agency:~~

~~(i) (i) Meets the requirements and purposes of Part B of the IDEA-04 and these rules;~~

~~(ii) (ii) Needs assistance in implementing the requirements of Part B of the IDEA-04 and these rules;~~

~~(iii) (iii) Needs intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B of the IDEA-04 and these rules; or~~

~~(iv) (iv) Needs substantial intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B of the IDEA-04 and these rules.~~

~~(h) (b) Enforcement. WDE shall enforce the requirements of the IDEA using appropriate enforcement mechanisms consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.600 through 300.606 (including the 2008 Amendment and any subsequent amendments):~~

~~(i) Needs assistance. If the WDE determines, for two (2) consecutive years, that a school district or public agency needs assistance based on information obtained through monitoring visits, review of complaints filed pursuant to Part 2 of these rules, or due process hearing determinations that are adverse to the school district or public agency or any other public information made available. Then implementing the requirements of Part B of the IDEA, WDE shall take one (1) or more of the following actions:~~

~~(A) (i) Advise the school district or public agency of available sources of technical assistance that may help to address the areas in which the WDE determines the school district or public agency address the areas in which it needs assistance. This Such technical assistance may include:~~

~~(l) (A) The provision of advice by experts to address the areas in which the WDE determines the school district or public agency needs assistance, including explicit plans for addressing the area for concern within a specified period of time;~~

(II) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) Assistance in identifying and implementing professional development, instructional strategies, and methods of instruction that are based on scientifically-based research;

(III) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) Designating and using distinguished superintendents, principals, special education administrators, special education teachers, and other teachers to provide advice, technical assistance, and support; and

(IV) \_\_\_\_\_ (D) Devising additional approaches to providing technical assistance, such as ~~collaboration~~collaborating with institutions of higher education, educational service agencies, national centers of technical assistance, and private providers of scientifically-based technical assistance.

(B) \_\_\_\_\_ (ii) Direct the use of ~~State-level~~school district or public agency Part B funds under section 611(e) of Part B of IDEA 04 on the area or areas in which the school district or public agency it needs assistance.

(C) \_\_\_\_\_ (iii) Identify the school district or public agency as a high-risk grantee, and impose special conditions on the use of Part B funds by the school district'sdistrict or public agency's grant under Part B of IDEA 04. agency.

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_ (c) Needs ~~Intervention~~intervention. If the WDE determines, for three (3) or more consecutive years, based on ~~information obtained through monitoring visits, review of complaints filed pursuant to Part 2 of these rules or due process hearing determinations that are adverse to the school district or public agency or any other public information made available,~~ that a school district or public agency needs intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B of the IDEA 04 and these rules, the following shall apply:

(A) \_\_\_\_\_ (i) The WDE may take any of the actions described in ~~Section 7(b) of this Part~~paragraph (i) above.

(B) \_\_\_\_\_ (ii) WDE shall take one (1) or more of the following actions:

(I) \_\_\_\_\_ Require the school district or public agency to prepare a corrective action plan or improvement plan if ~~the~~WDE determines that the school district or public agency should be able to correct the problem within one (1) year;.

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_ (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ Require the school district or public agency to enter into a compliance agreement if WDE has reason to believe that the school district or public agency cannot correct the problem within one (1) year.

(III) For each year of the determination, withhold not less than 20% and not more than 50% of the school district's or public agency's IDEA Part B funds until WDE determines that the school district or public agency has sufficiently addressed the areas in which it needs intervention.

(IV) Seek to recover funds paid to the school district or public agency under Part B of the IDEA consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.604(b)(2)(iv).

(V) Withhold, in whole or in part, any further payments to the school district or public agency made under Part B of the IDEA-04.

(VI) \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_ Refer the matter for appropriate enforcement action, which may include a referral to the Office of the Wyoming Attorney General or the United States Department of Justice.

(iii) Needs substantial intervention. Notwithstanding subsections (b) paragraphs (i) and (c) of this section (j) above, at any time the WDE determines, based on information obtained through monitoring visits, review of complaints filed pursuant to Part 2 of these rules or due process hearing determinations that are adverse to the school district or public agency or any other public information made available, WDE determines that a school district or public agency needs substantial intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B of the IDEA-04 and these rules, or that there is a substantial failure to comply with any condition of the school district's or public agency's eligibility under Part B of the IDEA-04, the WDE shall ~~withhold~~ take one (1) or more of the following actions:

(A) Recover IDEA Part B funds consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.604(c).

(B) Withhold, in whole or in part, any further payments to the school district or public agency under Part B of the IDEA-04.

(C) \_\_\_\_\_ (e) \_\_\_\_\_ Notice and opportunity Refer the matter for appropriate enforcement action, which may include a referral to the Office of the Wyoming Attorney General or the United States Department of Justice.

(iv) In exercising its monitoring responsibilities under this section, WDE shall ensure that when it identifies noncompliance with the requirements of IDEA by a school district or public agency, the noncompliance is corrected as soon as possible, and in no case later than one (1) year after WDE's identification of the noncompliance in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §300.600(e) (including the 2008 Amendment and any subsequent amendments).

(v) Findings of noncompliance: For the purpose of this section, a finding of noncompliance is a written notification that includes the citation of the statute, regulation,

or rule and a description of the quantitative and/or qualitative data supporting the conclusion that there is noncompliance.

(vi) Correction of noncompliance: WDE must address all noncompliance, whether collected through the on-site monitoring system, other monitoring processes such as self-assessment or desk review of records, Wyoming complaint or due process hearing decisions, or data systems. In an effort to correct noncompliance, WDE may request that the state superintendent take appropriate administrative action with the state board, including but not limited to the changing of accreditation status against any school district or public agency failing to comply with any applicable laws. [See W.S. §§21-2-202(c)]

Opportunity for hearing. For determinations made ~~Prior to withholding any funds under subsection (c) and (d) Part B of this Section, the IDEA, WDE shall provide reasonable notice to the school district or public agency of an opportunity for a hearing on those determinations. The hearing consists of and an opportunity to meet with the State Superintendent to demonstrate why the WDE should not make the determination described in subsection (c) and (d) of this Section.~~

(vii) for hearing in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.155, 300.221 and 300.222.

## APPENDIX A

### Wyoming's Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula A School

Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.307, a school district or public agency is not required to use the Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula in order for to find a child to be considered eligible as a child with a disability for special services under the category of Specific learning disability Learning Disability (SLD) as per Part 4 Section 10 of these rules. In the event a school district or public agency elects to establish a child's eligibility as a child with a disability under the category of SLD through use of a severe discrepancy model, the school district or public agency must use the Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula as per Appendix A of these rules and document compliance on the eligibility report.

The assessment of intellectual ability and academic functioning level must include individually administered norm-reference tests that are highly reliable and valid (see Salvia & Ysseldyke, 1981; 1985), and administered by an individual specifically trained to administer and interpret the instrument instruments. Criterion-referenced tests, informal measures, work samples, classroom observations, and the child's educational history should may be used as needed to corroborate norm-referenced test scores. Achievement measures should be administered in each of the areas of the suspected disability (core achievement areas: oral expression, listening comprehension, written expression, basic reading skills, problem solving, reading fluency, reading comprehension, mathematical calculations, or mathematical reasoning).

A child whose primary disability is a learning disability Specific Learning Disability must demonstrate a severe discrepancy between current achievement level and expected achievement level of 22 points upon initial evaluation. Expected achievement level (obtained from Table A) is based on the correlation between tests of the child's assessed composite intellectual standard scores score compared to the child's composite achievement score in one (1) or more core achievement areas that are 22 (15 upon re-evaluation) standard score points or more below the anticipated achievement level as predicted by a measure of intellectual functioning.

#### Notes of Clarification Instructions:

In all cases, intellectual and achievement standard scores should be based on age norms rather than grade norms:

- The severe discrepancy criterion should not be viewed as a rigid cut-off. The evaluator should consider factors such as and, when available, on cluster scores rather than on subtest scores. Using the standard errors of measurement of the instruments, the child's behavior during the evaluation, the cultural, environmental, or economic disadvantage and language background of the child, and other individual characteristics of the child in determining if a severe discrepancy exists. If a child does not meet the criterion for a severe discrepancy,

yet the IEP Team nonetheless determines the child most current editions and norms of any chosen standardized tests is learning disabled, a specific written justification must be provided for such a decision, including the basis for concluding that a severe discrepancy exists, documentation of the child's inability preferable to progress adequately in one or more basic academic areas in the regular class setting and other related information.

- When using the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children Revised, (or other applicable editions) the Full Scale Score should generally be used as an indicator of potential. However, if the Verbal and Performance IQ Scores differ significantly, the Full Scale Score is less useful for documenting potential. (In such cases, the difference between Verbal and Performance Scores should be statistically significant and diagnostically meaningful). When such a difference exists, the higher score may be used as an estimate of potential older editions with outdated norms.

- The table on the following page entitled Expected Correlation Coefficient Between Ability and Achievement Levels with Correction For Regression (STD:Test Scores) should be used to determine the child's expected achievement level. This table takes into account the correlation between the intellectual and achievement measures being used as well as regression toward the mean. To use this table, the following steps should outlined below must be followed:

- Step 1: Determine the correlation between the intellectual and achievement measures being used. Correlations between such tests are generally, if available in the extensive research literature on this topic or in the test manual.

- **Note:** If the correlation between intellectual and achievement measures is not known, it is recommended that .65 may be used as an adequate median correlation between such measures.

- Step 2: Locate the child's intellectual standard score in the first column (X) side columns of the table located on TABLE B Table A, entitled Expected Correlation Coefficient Between Ability and Achievement Levels with Correction For Regression (STD:Test Scores).

- Step 3: Follow that the row determined in Step 2 to the column with the correlation (xy) value closest to the correlation between the chosen measures of intellectual functioning and achievement or to a correlation of .65 if a specific correlation coefficient is not known.

**TABLE B**

Expected Achievement Levels with Correction for Regression (STD. Scores)

Ability Score	Table B Correlations: A: Correlation Coefficient Between Intellectual Ability and Achievement Measures Test Scores											Ability Score
	0.4	0.45	0.5	0.55	0.6	0.65	0.7	0.75	0.8	0.85	0.9	
Key	Expected Achievement Score with Correction for Regression Toward the Mean											
140	116	118	120	122	124	126	128	130	132	134		
139	116	118	120	121	123	125	127	129	131	133		
138 13	112	114	115	117	119 11	121 12	123 12	125 12	127 12	129 12	130 12	132 13
137 9	112	113	115	117 11	119 11	120 11	122 12	124 12	126 12	128 12	130 12	131 12
136	114	116	118	120	122	123	125	126	128	130		
135	114	116	118	119	121	123	125	126	128	130		
134 12	114 11	113	114	115	117	119 11	120	122 12	124 12	126 12	127 12	129 12
133 12	113 11	112	114	115	117 11	118	120 11	121 12	123 12	125 12	126 12	128 12
132 12	113 11	112	113	114	116	118 11	119 11	121 12	122 12	124 12	126 12	127 12
131 12	112 11	111	113	114	116 11	117 11	119 11	120 11	122 12	123 12	125 12	126 12
130	112	114	115	117	118	120	121	123	124	126		
129	112	113	115	116	117	119	120	122	123	125		
128	111	113	114	115	117	118	120	121	122	124		
127	111	112	114	115	116	118	119	120	122	123		
126 12	110	111	112	113	114	116	117	118	120 11	121 12	122	124
125 12	110 10	111 11	112	113	114	115	116	118 11	119 11	120	121	123
124 12	110 10	111 11	112 11	112	113	114	116 11	117	118	119	120	122
123 12	109 10	110 10	112 11	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	120 11	121
122 12	109 10	110 10	111 11	112 11	112	113	114	115	117 11	118 11	119 11	120
121 11	108	109	111 11	112 11	111	112	113	114	115 11	116	117	118 11
120 11	108 10	109 10	110 10	111 11	112 11	112	113	114	115 11	116 11	117 11	118
119 11	108 10	109 10	110 10	110 10	111 11	112 11	112	113	114	114	115	116 11
118 11	107 10	108 10	109 10	110 10	111 11	112 11	111	112	113	114	114	115 11
117 11	107 10	108 10	109 10	109 10	110 10	111 11	112 11	111	112	113	114	114 11
116 11	106	107 10	108 10	109 10	110 10	110 10	111 11	112 11	111	112	113	114

4	6	7	8	8	9	0	1					
115	106	107	108	108	109	110	111	111	112	113		
11411 3	10610 5	106	107	10810 7	108	10910 8	11010 9	11111 0	111110	111	112	113
11311 2	105	10610 5	10710 6	107	10810 7	108	10910 8	11010 9	110	11111 0	111	112
11211 1	10510 4	105	106	10710 6	107	10810 7	10910 8	108	109	11010 9	110	111
11111 0	104	105	10610 5	106	10710 6	10710 6	10810 7	108	109108	109	109	110
11010 9	104	10510 4	105	10610 5	10610 5	10710 6	106	107	108107	108	10910 8	109
10910 8	10410 3	104	10510 4	10510 4	105	10610 5	106	10710 6	106	107	10810 7	108
10810 7	103	10410 3	104	104	105	105	10610 5	10610 5	106	10710 6	106	107
10710 6	10310 2	103	10410 3	10410 3	104	10510 4	10510 4	105	106105	10610 5	105	106
10610 5	102	10310 2	103	103	10410 3	10410 3	104	10510 4	105104	10510 4	104	105
10510 4	102	102	10310 2	10310 2	10310 2	103	10410 3	10410 3	104103	10410 3	104	104
10410 3	10210 1	10210 1	102	102	102	10310 2	10310 2	10310 2	103102	103	103	103
10310 2	101	101	10210 1	10210 1	10210 1	10210 1	10210 1	10210 1	102	10310 2	102	102
10210 1	10110 0	10110 0	101	101	101	101	101	10210 1	102101	10210 1	101	101
10110 0	100	100	10110 0	10110 0	10110 0	10110 0	10110 0	10110 0	101100	10110 0	100	100
10099	100	100	100	10099	10099	10099	10099	10099	10099	10099	99	99
9998	10099	10099	10099	99	99	99	99	99	9998	9998	98	98
9897	99	99	99	9998	9998	9998	9998	9998	98	9897	97	97
9796	9998	9998	9998	98	98	9897	9897	9897	9897	97	96	96
9695	98	98	98	9897	9897	97	97	9796	9796	9796	96	95
9594	98	9897	9897	97	9796	9796	9796	96	9695	9695	95	94
9493	9897	97	97	9796	96	9695	9695	9695	9594	9594	94	93
9392	97	9796	9796	96	9695	95	9594	9594	94	9493	93	92
9291	9796	96	96	9695	95	94	94	9493	9493	9392	92	91
9190	96	96	9695	95	9594	94	9493	93	9392	9291	91	90
9089	96	9695	95	9594	9493	9493	9392	9392	9291	9291	90	89
8988	9695	95	9594	9493	93	9392	92	9291	9190	9190	89	88
8887	95	9594	94	93	9392	92	9291	9190	90	9089	88	87
8786	9594	94	9493	9392	92	9291	9190	90	9089	8988	87	86
8685	94	9493	93	92	9291	9190	90	9089	8988	8887	86	85
8584	94	93	9392	9291	9190	90	9089	8988	8887	8786	86	84
8483	9493	9392	92	91	90	9089	8988	8887	8786	86	85	83
8382	93	92	9291	9190	9089	8988	8887	87	86	8685	84	82

<u>8281</u>	<u>9392</u>	<u>9291</u>	<u>91</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>8786</u>	<u>8685</u>	<u>8584</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>81</u>
<u>8180</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>91</u>	<u>9190</u>	<u>9089</u>	<u>8988</u>	<u>8887</u>	<u>8786</u>	<u>8685</u>	<u>8584</u>	<u>8483</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>80</u>
<u>8079</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>91</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>8988</u>	<u>8887</u>	<u>8786</u>	<u>8685</u>	<u>8584</u>	<u>8483</u>	<u>8382</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>79</u>
<u>7978</u>	<u>9291</u>	<u>9190</u>	<u>9089</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>84</u>	<u>8382</u>	<u>8281</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>78</u>
<u>7877</u>	<u>91</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>8887</u>	<u>8786</u>	<u>8685</u>	<u>8584</u>	<u>8483</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>8180</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>77</u>
<u>7776</u>	<u>9190</u>	<u>9089</u>	<u>8988</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>8584</u>	<u>8483</u>	<u>8382</u>	<u>8281</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>76</u>
<u>7675</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>8786</u>	<u>8685</u>	<u>84</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>8281</u>	<u>8180</u>	<u>8079</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>75</u>
<u>7574</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>8988</u>	<u>8887</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>8584</u>	<u>8483</u>	<u>8382</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>8079</u>	<u>7978</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>74</u>
<u>7473</u>	<u>9089</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>8685</u>	<u>84</u>	<u>8382</u>	<u>8281</u>	<u>8180</u>	<u>7978</u>	<u>7877</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>73</u>
<u>7372</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>8887</u>	<u>8786</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>8483</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>8180</u>	<u>8079</u>	(+) 7 8	<u>7776</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>72</u>
<u>7271</u>	<u>8988</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>8584</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>8281</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>7978</u>	<u>7877</u>	<u>7675</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>71</u>
<u>7170</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>8786</u>	<u>8685</u>	<u>84</u>	<u>8382</u>	<u>8180</u>	<u>8079</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>7776</u>	<u>7574</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>70</u>

APPENDIX B

Maintenance of Effort and Early Intervening Services.

LEAs that seek to reduce their local maintenance of effort in accordance with Part 8 Section 1 subsection (h) of these rules and CFR. 300.205(d) and use some of their Part B funds for early intervening services under Part 8 Section 3 of these rules must do so with caution because the local maintenance of effort reduction provision and the authority to use Part B funds for early intervening services are interconnected. The decisions that an LEA makes about the amount of funds it uses for one purpose affect the amount that it may use for the other. Below are examples that illustrate how maintenance of effort reductions and early intervening services affect one another.

Example 1:

In this example, the amount that is 15% of the LEAs total grant which is the maximum amount that it may use for early intervening services(EIS) is greater than the amount that may be used for local maintenance of effort(MOE) reduction (50% of the increase in the LEA's grant from the prior year's grant).

Prior year Allocation	\$900,000
Current Years Allocation	\$1,000,000
Increase	\$100,000
Maximum Available for MOE Reduction	\$50,000
Maximum Available for EIS	\$150,000

If the LEA chooses to set aside \$150,000 for EIS, it may not reduce MOE (MOE maximum \$50,000 minus \$150,000 for EIS means \$0 can be used for MOE).

If the LEA chooses to set aside \$100,000 for EIS, it may not reduce its MOE (MOE maximum \$50,000 less \$100,000 means \$0 can be used for MOE).

If the LEA chooses to set aside \$50,000 for EIS, it may not reduce its MOE (MOE maximum \$50,000 less \$50,000 means \$0 can be used for MOE).

If the LEA chooses to set aside \$30,000 for EIS, it may reduce its MOE by \$20,000 (MOE maximum \$50,000 less \$30,000 for EIS means \$20,000 can be used for MOE).

If the LEA chooses to set aside \$0 for EIS, it may reduce its MOE by \$50,000 (MOE maximum \$50,000 less \$0 for EIS means \$50,000 can be used for MOE).

**Example 2:**

In this example, the amount that is 15% of the LEA's total grant, which is the maximum amount that the LEA may use for EIS, is less than the amount that may be used for MOE reduction (50% of the increase in the LEA's grant from the prior year's grant).

Prior Year's Allocation ————— \$1,000,000

Current Year's Allocation ————— \$2,000,000

Increase ————— \$1,000,000

Maximum Available for MOE Reduction — \$500,000

Maximum Available for EIS ————— \$300,000

If the LEA chooses to use no funds for MOE, it may set aside \$300,000 for EIS (EIS Maximum \$300,000 less \$0 for MOE means \$300,000 for EIS).

If the LEA chooses to use \$100,000 for MOE, it may set aside \$200,000 for EIS (EIS Maximum \$300,000 less \$100,000 for MOE means \$200,000 for EIS).

If the LEA chooses to use \$150,000 for MOE, it may set aside \$150,000 for EIS (EIS Maximum \$300,000 less \$150,000 for MOE means \$150,000 for EIS).

If the LEA chooses to use \$300,000 for MOE, it may not set aside anything for EIS (EIS Maximum \$300,000 less \$300,000 for MOE means \$0 for EIS).

If the LEA chooses to use \$500,000 for MOE, it may not set aside anything for EIS (EIS Maximum \$300,000 less \$500,000 for MOE means \$0 for EIS).







## Wyoming Department of Education

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Phone 307-777-7673 Fax 307-777-6234 Website [www.k12.wy.us](http://www.k12.wy.us)

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TO: The Honorable Dave Freudenthal  
Governor, State of Wyoming

FROM: Jim McBride, Ed.D.  
Wyoming Department of Education

SUBJECT: Supplemental Packet for the Proposed Rules for the Wyoming Department of Education – Permanent Chapter 7 Rules Governing Services for Children with Disabilities

DATE: October 30, 2009

In addition to the template rulemaking documents, the Wyoming Department of Education (“Department”) would like to submit supplemental documentation to assist in consideration of the proposed permanent Chapter 7 Rules Governing Services for Children with Disabilities (“proposed Chapter 7 Rules”).

After revocation of its Notice of Intent to Adopt Permanent Rules on July 10, 2009, the Department undertook an extensive effort to ensure stakeholder input and support for the proposed Chapter 7 Rules. The Department included in excess of one hundred and twenty-five (125) individuals and conducted six (6) separate meeting to obtain stakeholder input regarding the proposed Chapter 7 Rules. The majority of the comments received were favorable and those in the field have expressed support of the proposed Chapter 7 Rules.

Please find the following documents which outline the efforts undertaken, those that participated and the changes made as a result of the informal comments:

1. Stakeholder Meeting Regarding the Wyoming Chapter 7 Rules Governing Children with Disabilities, consisting of four (4) pages (Attachment A);
2. Summary of Stakeholder Input, consisting of four (4) pages (Attachment B);
3. Summary of Changes to proposed Chapter 7 Rules, consisting of two (2) pages (Attachment C);
4. Letter of recognition from the Wyoming Association of Special Education Administrators, consisting of one (1) page (Attachment D); and,
5. Strike and Underscore copy comparing the Proposed Chapter 7 Rules as currently proposed versus those proposed in May of 2009 (Attachment E).

If you have any question or concerns regarding this matter, or if you believe additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

## Stakeholder Meetings Regarding Wyoming Chapter 7 Rules Governing Children with Disabilities.

Six stakeholder meetings were held to gather input regarding the Permanent Chapter 7 Rules promulgation. This information was gathered informally and was used to assist the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) in the rule making process. The WDE felt it was necessary to use various stakeholders, including those working in the field as a resource. Approximately 125 individual stakeholders were present for the various stakeholder meetings. Following a summary presentation, Stakeholder Input Comment Cards were distributed to request written comment to inform rule development. Participants were encouraged to hand the cards to the facilitator or mail them to the Special Programs Unit. Additionally, stakeholders in attendance were encouraged to take comment cards for peers in the field and return them to the WDE prior to October 9, 2009. Approximately 29 cards were returned to the Department with comments.

The purpose of the stakeholder group meetings and the comment cards was to:

- Provide the opportunity to discuss the scope of the IDEA and Federal Regulations and how they apply to each political subdivision in Wyoming including the WDE's ultimate responsibility for the operation of all special education programs and services provided to children with disabilities age 3 through 11;
- Inform constituents about rule drafting procedures including state and federal considerations and requirements;
- Encourage each stakeholder to contribute by offering written comments and suggestions and to inform their peers of the opportunity to comment.

The following is a summary of the meetings held and the participants invited:

### General Supervision Stakeholder Meeting September 14, 2009 in Riverton, Wyoming

Facilitators: Stephanie Weaver, Deputy Director Special Education and Lenore Knudtson, Consultant

Brad Martin & Tammy Bertelson; Wyoming Association Special Education Administrators (WASEA)

\*Sue Belish, Wyoming Association of School Administrators (WASA)

Matthew Strannigan, Wyoming Association School Secondary Principals (WASSP)

\*Suzanne Young, University of Wyoming, College of Education

Julie Heil, Wyoming Advisory Panel on Student Disabilities (WAPSD)

\*Terri Dawson, Director, Parent Information Center (PIC)

Betty Carmon, Parent Information Center (PIC)

\*Carolyn Conner, Northwest BOCES

\*Mike Massie, Senator/Executive Director, Child Development Services of Wyoming

Pat Reid and Randy Peil, Protection and Advocacy

\*Carla Gregorio, Wyoming Association of Elementary School Principals (WAESP)

Sandy Root-Elledge, Wyoming Individuals with Disabilities (WIND) and WAPSD

Shannon Buller, Wyoming Governor's Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities (GPCDD)

Carol Maliszewski, Part B 619 Coordinator, Early Intervention Education Programs

Peggy Nikkel, Executive Director, UPLIFT (Parent advocacy center)

Dan Wilde, Department of Family Services

\*Patti Talley, Region V BOCES

\*Invited but did not attend. However all stakeholders received a copy of the minutes from the meeting and had the opportunity to provide comments.

Wyoming Association of Special Education Administrators (WASEA) Stakeholder Meeting  
September 25, 2009 in Casper, Wyoming

Facilitators: Peg Brown-Clark, State Director of Special Education and Stephanie Weaver, Deputy Director

Rick Woodford, Special Education Director, Lincoln County #2  
Becky Anderson, Special Education Director Albany County #1  
Wes Townsend, Special Education Director Big Horn County #1  
Jeanette Ohman, Special Education Director, Big Horn County School District #2  
Gary Meredith, Special Education Director, Big Horn County School District #3  
Jared Moretti, Special Education Director, Big Horn County School District #4  
Doug Rose, Special Education Director, Campbell County School District #1  
Cheryl Meyers, Special Education Director, Carbon County School District #1  
Debbie Riker, Special Education Director, Carbon County School District #2  
Lisa Weigel, Special Education Director, Converse County School District #1  
Traci Turk, Special Education Director, Converse County School District #2  
Sandra Neiman, Special Education Director, Crook County School District #1  
Ken Nielsen, Special Education Director, Fremont County School District #1  
Dawn Scarince, Special Education Director, Fremont County School District #14  
Marty Gale, Special Education Director, Fremont County School District #2  
Randon Lawrence, Special Education Director, Fremont County School District #21  
Michelle Martin, Special Education Director, Fremont County School District #24  
Mike Kouris, Special Education Director, Fremont County School District #25  
Martha Paxton, Special Education Director, Fremont County School District #38  
Jody Cameron, Special Education Director, Fremont County School District #6  
Randy Butcher, Special Education Director, Goshen County School District #1  
Al McClelland, Special Education Director, Hot Springs County School District #1  
Tim O'Gan, Special Education Director, Johnson County School District #1  
Alice Hunter, Special Education Director, Laramie County School District #1  
J.P. Denning, Assistant Special Education Director, Laramie County School District #1  
Brent Bacon, Special Education Director, Laramie County School District #2  
Brad Martin, Special Education Director, Lincoln County School District #1  
Rick Woodford, Special Education Director, Lincoln County School District #2  
Tammie Bertleson, Special Education Director, Natrona County School District #1  
Robyn Heth, Special Education Director, Niobrara County School District #1  
Luke Danforth, Special Education Director, Park County School District #1  
Shaun Nicklas, Special Education Director, Park County School District #16  
Karen Hopkin, Special Education Director, Park County School District #6  
Katie Carmin, Special Education Director, Platte County School District #1  
Kari Young, Special Education Director, Platte County School District #2  
Bob Heimbaugh, Special Education Director, Sheridan County School District #1  
Tom Racette, Special Education Director, Sheridan County School District #2  
Anne-Marie Tennyson, Special Education Teacher, Sheridan County School District #3  
John Baule, Special Education Director, Sheridan County School District #3

Peg Carney, Special Education Director, Sublette County School District #1  
 Scott McGuire, Special Education Director, Sublette County School District #9  
 Carrie Polson, Special Education Director, Sweetwater County School District #1  
 Don Borchardt, Special Education Director, Sweetwater County School District #2  
 Michael Redzich, Special Education Director, Teton County School District #1  
 Glenna Calmes, Special Education Director, Uinta County School District #1  
 Dan Mayer, Special Education Director, Uinta County School District #4  
 Mary Thrasher, Special Education Director, Uinta County School District #6  
 Linda Anderson, Special Education Director, Washakie County School District #1  
 Jean Peterson, Special Education Director, Washakie County School District #2  
 Klinette Brandon, Special Education Director, Weston County School District #1  
 Janice Peterson, Special Education Director, Weston County School District #7  
 \*All directors were either in attendance or received stakeholder information in the minutes.

**Child Development Services of Wyoming Stakeholder Meeting  
 September 30, 2009 in Casper, Wyoming**

Facilitators: Stephanie Weaver, Deputy Director of Special Education and Lenore Knudtson, Consultant  
 Clark Burden, CDS President & Director, Region X  
 Becky Curless – Special Education Coordinator, Region X  
 John Starnes, CDS Vice-President & Director, Region IX  
 Marnie Camp, Education Director, Region IX  
 Barb Murphy, Special Education Director, Region III  
 Morita Flynn, CDS Treasurer & Director, Region XI  
 Ann Owen, Executive Director, Region VII (phone)  
 Shauna Lockwood, Executive Director, Region V (phone)  
 Trena Bauder, Special Education Director, Region XIII  
 Sue Jezek, Executive Director, Region XIV (phone)  
 Ken Fisher, Special Education Director, Region XII  
 Judy Montague, Executive Director, Region IV (phone)  
 Lori Morrow, Executive Director, Region VI  
 Scott Carlson, Special Education Director, Region VI  
 Mike Massey, Executive Director, Child Development Services of Wyoming  
 Carol Maliszewski, 619 B Coordinator, Division of Developmental Disabilities  
 Christine DeMers, Part C Coordinator, Division of Developmental Disabilities

**Wyoming Advisory Panel for Students with Disabilities (WAPSD) Stakeholder Meeting  
 September 30, 2009 in Riverton Wyoming**

Facilitator: Peg Brown-Clark, State Director of Special Education  
 Sandy Root-Elledge, WAPSD Chair & Parent  
 Julie Heil, WAPSD Chair-Elect & Juvenile Corrections  
 Becky Anderson, State/Local Education Official  
 Carrie Brasher, Parent  
 Shannon Buller, Other Agency  
 Terri Dawson, Parent/PIC  
 Clay Dokken, Vocational Rehabilitation

Joseph Elledge, Person with a Disability  
Wendy Hewitt, Parent  
Greta Hinderliter, Homeless Liaison/Instructional Facilitator  
Michelle Jarman, Post-Secondary Education  
Ted Knowles, Parent  
Peggy Nikkel, Parent  
Tim O'Gan, State, Local Education Official  
Carol Salveson, Parent  
Gregg Saunders, Person with a Disability/Parent  
Barb Sellar, Related Service Provider  
Dot Sippel, Parent  
Pam Zamora, Institutions

Wyoming School Psychologists Association (WSPA) Stakeholder Meeting  
October 9, 2009 Conference Call

Facilitator: Carol Hvidston, Special Education Administrator  
Shawn Powell, WSPA President  
Dr. Bob Bayuk, School Psych  
Madeleine Pitsch, School Psych Sweetwater #1  
Darlene Hool Walker, School Psychologist Sweetwater #1  
Scott McGuire, School Psychologist Sublette #9  
Deb Black, School Psychologist  
Laura Lane, School Psychologist  
Eldon Clifford, School Psychologist  
Mike Crane, School Psychologist  
Tracy Hed, School Psychologist  
Laura Hopp, School Psychologist Sweetwater #2  
Jeffrey Sprague, PBIS Presenter, Consultant

Wyoming Speech-Language and Hearing Association (WSHA) Stakeholder Meeting  
October 13, 2009 Conference Call

Facilitator, Carol Hvidston, Special Education Administrator  
Anna Anderson, WSHA President (SLP, VA Hospital Cheyenne)  
Donna Shippen (School based SLP, Cody)  
Linda Coyle (UW Professor, Laramie)  
Christiane Dechert (UW Professor, WSHA Past President, Laramie)  
Melissa Allen (UW Professor, WSHA member)  
Doug Petersen (UW Professor)

Wyoming Occupational Therapy Association (WyOTA) Stakeholder Meeting  
Email attempts to arrange a conference call for input are documented as  
September 29, October 5, and 7, 2009. No meeting was held.

## Summary of Stakeholder Input

Date of Meeting	Stakeholder Representation	Organization	Summary of Comments:	Subject of Comment
September 14, 2009	General Supervision Stakeholder Group	Parent	I support general supervision by SEA of the CDCs	General Supervision
		Parent	Support Health Evaluation Requirement	Evaluation Process
		Advocacy	Kudos for changing 'Autism' to 'Autism Spectrum Disorder	Eligibility Criteria
		School District	Court ordered placements DFS pays residential and treatment costs excluding educational and medical costs – YIKES – does this mean that districts pay for students who we can education but the courts have determined otherwise??	Other
		Advocacy	Could change to clarify 'multiple disabilities'	Eligibility Criteria
		School District	Appreciate the change to Autism Spectrum Disorder. This will allow more students access to sensory interventions necessary to successfully access the general curriculum	Eligibility Criteria
		School District	Thank you for removing professional judgment under DD and S/L. This will help with over identification	Eligibility Criteria
September 30, 2009	Child Development Services Directors	Child Development Center	Please look at the NECTAC report on 14 states that allow professional override for developmental delay criteria. If it	Eligibility Criteria

				is allowable under IDEA I would appreciate allowance with state monitoring to avoid over use.	Eligibility Criteria
		Child Development Center		According to NECTAC Issue #24, May 2007, there are a number of states (14) that permit "informed team consensus, professional judgment or informed clinical opinion in lieu of test scores to determine eligibility in DD category. In addition some states do not specify quantitative cuts, but may provide guidance. It appears that this methodology is used in other states	Eligibility Criteria
		Child Development Center		I believe we are asking professionals to risk liability concerns by providing a score for an assessment when the child is not able to complete an assessment as the company stated, just for a score for eligibility criteria.	Eligibility Criteria
October 1, 2009	Wyoming Advisory Panel for Students with Disabilities	Advocacy		Pg. 7-18 section 5 (b)(v) "nondisabled" should be changed to person-first "that children without disabilities would attend"	Other
September 25, 2009	Wyoming Association of Special Education Administrators	School District		Please keep professional (clinical) judgment out of the SLP – speech qualification as now proposed in emergency regulations	Eligibility Criteria
		School District		Would like to see all definitions still included in Chapter 7 but understand why you didn't	Eligibility Criteria

		School District	Remove the need for a teacher of the visually impaired from the required member list on the identification of a child for a visual impairment; their expertise is not always needed in identification; maybe wording can be "shall consist of a teacher of the VI and/or other qualified professionals (p. 20 section A)	Evaluation process
Various Dates	Other Comments Received			
		Child Development Centers	SLP can still speak to the issues without including the language "clinical judgment"	Eligibility Criteria
		Child Development Centers	Like the removal of "clinical judgment" from the DD and Speech categories	Eligibility Criteria
		Parent	Section 4(d)(v)(page 7-7) dealing with emotional disability uses the word "inability" twice. It says "an inability to learn that cannot be explained by intellectual, sensory, or health factors..." "I'm wondering about using, "a reduced ability to learn.." or "a diminished ability to build or maintain..." instead.	
October 13, 2009	SLP Conference Call	UW Faculty	Consider alternate wording that aligns with a more valid, accurate and ethical approach to the assessment of language	Eligibility Criteria
		Service Provider	Recommend modifications to the standard deviation levels in	Eligibility Criteria

			language category; modify language criteria to allow performance based measure; allow clinical judgment to bring evidence together; and allow RtI as part of determination of eligibility	Eligibility Criteria
		UW Faculty	Concern over the removal of the requirement to obtain a physician's statement prior to providing voice therapy	Eligibility Criteria
		UW Faculty	Standardized measures are not the same as norm referenced tests; clinical judgment not assumed	Eligibility Criteria
October 9, 2009	Wyoming School Psychologists Association	Service Provider	Agrees with the modifications to Autism Spectrum Disorder and Cognitive Disability	Eligibility Criteria
		Service Provider	Modify the description of qualified personnel to include "certified school psychologist"	Eligibility Criteria
		Service Provider	Other Health Impaired category	Eligibility Criteria
		Service Provider	Developmental Delay needs to have language concerning academic need	Eligibility Criteria
		Service Provider	In the specific learning disability category remove the word "composite" in section (e)(1).	General
		Service Provider	Supported the shortened document and fewer rules	Eligibility Criteria
		Service Provider	SLD criteria too rigid at 22 points	Eligibility Criteria
		Service Provider	Emotional Disability should specify certified school psychologists	Eligibility Criteria

## Summary of Changes to proposed Chapter 7 Rules

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After receiving stakeholder input, and based upon subsequent reviews of the proposed Chapter 7 Rules, the Wyoming Department of Education made the following changes:

- 1) **Add Section 4(b)(i)(C):** A comprehensive evaluation shall include, as needed, evaluative services provided by a licensed physician to determine a child's medically related disability that results in the child's need for special education and related services. [See 34 C.F.R. §300.34(c)(5)]

**Reason for Change:** Broad stakeholder input revealed that many providers and professionals were not aware that the IDEA requires evaluative services by a licensed physician be part of ANY evaluation in which the team questions a child's medically related disability or condition as it relates to the need for special education and related services. This requirement was not removed from the Voice Impairment Eligibility Criteria. It remains a requirement for all eligibility categories, if needed. Removing the language from Voice impairment and adding it to the general Initial Evaluation section emphasizes the importance of evaluative services by a licensed physician in any evaluation, if needed.

- 2) **Add to Section 4(d)(iv):** "... that adversely affects educational performance. . ."

**Reason for Change:** Stakeholders suggested adding the language to be consistent with other eligibility categories.

- 3) **Section 5(a)(ii) Relocated to Section 9(b):** In accordance with W.S. §§21-2-701(a)(1) and 21-2-703 the Department of Health, Developmental Disabilities Division (Division), is assigned responsibility for ensuring the provision of FAPE to preschool children with disabilities. Pursuant to W.S. §21-2-702, the Division shall be deemed an intermediate educational unit, and as such, shall function as an educational service agency consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.12(c). [See 34 C.F.R. §300.12 and W.S. §§21-2-701 through 21-2-703.]

**Reason for Change:** The content of this paragraph deals with issues of General Supervision. It is more appropriately placed in the General Supervision section.

- 4) **Added Section 9(h)(vi):** Correction of noncompliance: WDE must address all noncompliance, whether collected through the on-site monitoring system, other monitoring processes such as self-assessment or desk review of records, Wyoming complaint or due process hearing decisions, or data systems. In an effort to correct noncompliance, WDE may request that the state superintendent take appropriate administrative action with the state board, including but not limited to the changing of accreditation status against any school district or public agency failing to comply with any applicable laws. [See W.S. §§21-2-202(c)]

**Reason for Change:** The additional language provides notice to the school districts and public agencies that accreditation status can be changed as a result of failing to correct noncompliance.

- 5) **Changed throughout Rules:** "Licensed clinical psychologist" was changed to "licensed psychologist."

**Reason for Change:** Stakeholder concerns expressed regarding current terminology and licensure in Wyoming.

David  
10-21-09

Wyoming Association of  
Special Education  
Administrators  
WASEA

October 20, 2009

Dear Peg,

The WASEA Executive Committee would like to thank you and your staff for welcoming our participation in the process leading up to the recently completed modification of WDE's model forms for Special Education, as well as the review and rewrite of Chapter 7; Services for Children With Disabilities Emergency Special Education Rules and Regulations. We feel that this was an example of the kind of collaboration that makes us all better participants in conducting Special Education services in Wyoming. We believe that the outcomes of this collaboration are positive steps forward in our efforts to comply with federal law and to meet individual student needs.

We also commend you and your staff on the selection of Ms. Lenore Knudtson as the lead legal advisor and chief facilitator in this process. We found Lenny to be knowledgeable and qualified to serve the State of Wyoming in this capacity. She brings to the table an exceptional foundation of personal and professional experiences in special education. Additionally, Lenny has the ability to lead with her ears open and maintain an unwavering focus on outcomes for individual children with disabilities.

Again, the WASEA Executive Committee thanks and commends you and your staff, and we look forward to continued meaningful collaboration in the future.

Sincerely,  
The WASEA Executive Committee

*Tammie Bertelson*      *Brad Martin*      *Traci Turk*      *Carolyn Conner*

Tammie Bertelson  
President

Brad Martin  
Past President

Traci Turk  
President Elect

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*Ken Nielson*

*Jared Moretti*

Jared Moretti  
Region 4 Rep.

Tim O'Gan  
Region 5 Rep.

*Tim O'Gan*

Pc: Lenore Knudtson

CHAPTER 7

SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

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## CHAPTER 7

### SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

~~Section 1. Authority.~~  
~~The Wyoming~~

Section 1. Authority.

(a) These rules are authorized by W.S. § 21-2-202(a)(xviii) and have been adopted by the Wyoming State Superintendent of Public Instruction as authorized by the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act, W.S. §§ 16-3-101 through 16-3-115.

(b) These rules govern the operation of all special education programs and services provided to children with disabilities ages three (3) through the completion of the school year in which the child turns twenty-one (21), pursuant to Wyoming law, by a school district, by State and local juvenile and adult correctional facilities, and by other public agencies within the State of Wyoming.

Section 2. **Scope.**

(a) All provisions under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 (IDEA) (20 U.S.C. §1400 *et seq.*) and all federal regulations pertaining to the IDEA, including any subsequent amendments or revisions of the law, regulations, and/or rules, apply to each political subdivision in Wyoming, regardless of whether the political subdivision received any federal IDEA Part B funds. The IDEA requires the state educational agency, or the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE), ensure the requirements of the IDEA and Wyoming educational standards are met in all education programs administered by the State or any school district or other public agency within Wyoming providing services to children with disabilities.

(b) For purposes of services to children with disabilities between the ages of three (3) through completion of the school year in which the child turns twenty-one (21), unless specifically addressed in these rules, WDE hereby adopts all requirements in the IDEA and supporting federal regulations at 34 C.F.R. ~~§§300.1 through 300.818. Parts 300 and 301, including the 2008 Amendments.~~ The public may view the IDEA and federal regulations on WDE's website at [www.k12.wy.us/se.asp](http://www.k12.wy.us/se.asp). All references to a specific rule include, but are not limited to, any applicable provision in the IDEA and the federal regulations. The requirements of the IDEA are binding on each school district or public agency that has direct or delegated authority to provide special education and related services to children with disabilities in Wyoming. This does not limit the responsibility of any school district or public agency for providing or paying appropriate costs for a Free Appropriate Public Education for children with disabilities in Wyoming.

(c) WDE shall ensure that federal special education funds are appropriated to and spent by school districts or public agencies in accordance with these rules, the IDEA, including but not limited to 34 C.F.R. §§300.200 through 300.230 and that school

districts or public agencies submit a plan to provide assurances to WDE that they provide for the education of children with disabilities within their jurisdiction, having in effect policies, procedures, and programs that are consistent with the Wyoming policies and procedures established under Part B of the IDEA. These funds shall be recovered by WDE for services to any child determined to be erroneously classified and reported to WDE as a child with a disability. WDE may use whatever State, local, federal or private sources of support that are available to meet the requirements of the IDEA.

### Section 3. Definitions.

(a) All terms defined in the following federal laws and regulations and any other federally defined terms are incorporated herein by reference for purposes of these rules:

(i) The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA), 20 U.S.C. §1400 *et seq.*; and

(ii) The IDEA regulations at 34 C.F.R. Part 300 (governing Part B programs for school-aged children with disabilities), and 34 C.F.R. Part 301 (governing programs for preschool children with disabilities).

(b) The following definitions are specifically defined by WDE for the purposes of these rules.

(i) **“Developmental delayDelay”** means a child with a disability ages three (3) through nine (9) who is determined, through appropriate diagnostic instruments and procedures, to be experiencing delays in the following areas: physical development, cognitive development, communication development, social or emotional development, or adaptive development and who, by reason thereof, needs special education and related services.

(ii) **“Elementary school”** means a school consisting of kindergarten through grade five (5), or any appropriate combination of grades within this range, as determined by the plan of organization for schools authorized by the board of trustees, including a nonprofit institutional day or residential school or a public elementary charter school that provides elementary education as determined by Wyoming law. [See 34 C.F.R. § 300.13 and W.S. 21-13-101(a)(iv)]

(iii) **“High school”** means a school consisting of grades nine (9) through twelve (12), or any combination of grades within this range, as determined by the plan of organization for schools authorized by the district board, including a nonprofit institutional day or residential school or a public secondary charter school as determined by Wyoming law, except that it does not include education beyond grade 12. [See 34 C.F.R. § 300.36 and W.S. 21-13-101(a)(vi)]

~~(iv) **“Highly qualified”** has the same meaning given the term in section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and 34 C.F.R. §200.56.~~

~~(v) **“Highly qualified special education teacher”** has the same meaning given the term in 34 C.F.R. §300.18.~~

(iv) "Home based education" means a program of educational instruction provided to a child by the child's parent or legal guardian or by a person designated by the parent or legal guardian. An instructional program provided to more than one family unit does not constitute a home-based educational program. [See W.S. §21-4-101(a)(v)]

(v)(v) "Middle school" means a school, consisting of grades six (6) through eight (8) or any combination of grades within this range, as determined by the plan of organization for schools authorized by the district board of trustees, including a nonprofit institutional day or residential school or a public charter school. [See 34 C.F.R. §§300.13 and 300.36 and W.S. 21-13-101(a)(vii)]

(vi)(vi) "Preschool children with disabilities" mean anymeans children three (3) through five (5) years of age in Wyoming identified as eligible for special education and related services. (Authority:[See W.S. §21-2-701-])

(vii) "Private school" means, for the purpose of these rules, any nonpublic, elementary or secondary school providing basic academic educational programs for children and may include parochial and church or religious schools and home-based educational programs. [See W.S. §21-4-101(a)(iii)]

#### Section 4. **Identification, Evaluation, and Eligibility Determinations.**

(a) Child find. Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.111, each school district or public agency shall adopt and implement policies and procedures to ensure that all children with disabilities who reside within the school district's or public agency's educational jurisdiction, including children with disabilities attending private schools or facilities such as residential treatment centers, day treatment centers, hospitals, mental health institutions, detention and correctional facilities, children who are highly mobile, and children who are advancing from grade to grade, regardless of the severity of their disability, and who are in need of special education and related services, are located, evaluated and identified in compliance with all applicable requirements of IDEA, including but not limited to 34 C.F.R. §§ 300.111, 300.131, 300.301 through 300.306 and these WDE rules and standards.

(i) School districts or public agencies must provide parents with public notice of its child find activities pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.612(b).

(ii) School districts or public agencies must implement procedures to ensure protection of the confidentiality of any personally identifiable information collected, used, or maintained in child find activities in accordance with the federal regulations, including but not limited to 34 C.F.R. §§300.32, 300.134 and 300.622610 through 300.627.

(iii) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.130 through 300.144, if a child is parentally enrolled in a private elementary or secondary school outside the boundaries of the school district or public agency in which the student is living, the school district or public agency where the private school is located is responsible for child find activities, evaluations, and provision of services.

(iv) School districts and public agencies shall coordinate child find responsibilities for children ages birth through two (2) with early intervention providers or agencies.

(b) Initial evaluation.

(i) In accordance with 34 C.F.R. §300.301(b),<sup>1</sup> either a parent, school district, or public agency may initiate a request for ana full and individual initial evaluation.

(A) A school district or public agency shall establish procedures for requesting an initial evaluation.

(B) If a comprehensive initial evaluation is determined warranted, consent must be obtained consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.300, and the evaluation must be conducted consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.301 through 300.311.

(C) A comprehensive evaluation shall include, as needed, evaluative services provided by a licensed physician to determine a child's medically related disability that results in the child's need for special education and related services. [See 34 C.F.R. §300.34(c)(5)]

~~(C)~~(D) If the school district or public agency does not suspect that the child has a disability and refuses a parent's request for an initial evaluation, the school district or public agency must provide written notice to the parent consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.503. The parent may challenge the refusal by utilizing the dispute resolution procedures in these rules.

(c) Eligibility under the IDEA.

(i) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.8, to be eligible for special education and related services under the IDEA a child must meet the criteria for one (1) or more of the disability categories listed in this section, and the disability must adversely affect the student's educational performance such that the student needs special education, as defined in 34 C.F.R. §300.39, and related services, as defined in 34 C.F.R. §300.34.

(ii) Limitation. Speech Language Impairment is the only disability category that would be considered either:

(A) A special education service if eligibility criteria is met, or

(B) A related service if the eligibility criteria for one (1) of the other disability categories is satisfied.

(d) Disability categories and eligibility criteria.

(i) **Autism- Spectrum Disorder.** Autism Spectrum Disorder means a developmental disability significantly affecting verbal and nonverbal communications and social interaction, generally evident before age three (3) that adversely affects a child's educational performance. Other characteristics often associated with autismAutism Spectrum Disorder are engagement in repetitive activities and stereotyped movements, resistance to environmental change or change in daily routines, and unusual responses

to sensory experiences. Autism Spectrum Disorder does not apply if a child's educational performance is adversely affected primarily because the child has an ~~emotional disability~~Emotional Disability as defined in this section.

(A) Autism Spectrum Disorder eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall include recommendations for instruction from a qualified diagnostician, such as a licensed ~~clinical~~ psychologist, psychiatrist or other qualified professional. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements of these rules, a child is identified as a child with ~~autism~~Autism Spectrum Disorder if four (4) out of five (5) following criteria are satisfied:

(I) Impaired communication: The child is unable to use expressive and receptive language for social communication in a developmentally appropriate manner; lacks nonverbal communication skills or uses abnormal nonverbal communication; uses abnormal form or content when speaking; or is unable to initiate or sustain conversation with others;

(II) Inappropriate relationships: The child exhibits deficits relating to people; marked lack of awareness of others' feelings; abnormal seeking of comfort at times of distress; absent or abnormal social play; or inability to make friends. The child does not relate to or use objects in an age appropriate manner;

(III) Abnormal sensory processing: The child exhibits unusual, repetitive, or non-meaningful responses to auditory, visual, olfactory, taste, tactile or kinesthetic stimuli;

(IV) Impaired cognitive development: The child has difficulty with concrete versus abstract thinking, awareness, judgment or the ability to generalize. The child may exhibit perseverative thinking or impaired ability to process symbolic information; or

(V) Abnormal range of activities: The child demonstrates a restricted repertoire of activities, interests, and imaginative development evident through stereotyped body movements, persistent preoccupation with parts of objects, distress over trivial changes in the environment, unreasonable insistence on routines, restricted range of interests, or preoccupations with one (1) narrow interest.

(ii) **Cognitive Disability.** ~~Cognitive disability~~Disability means significantly sub-average general intellectual functioning, existing concurrently with deficits in adaptive behavior and manifested during the developmental period that adversely affects a child's educational performance.

(A) ~~Cognitive disability~~Disability eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In

accordance with these rules, a child is identified as a child with a ~~cognitive disability~~Cognitive Disability if all of the following criteria are met:

(I) Documentation on an individual test of intelligence that the child's intellectual functioning is two (2) or more standard deviations below the mean, taking into consideration the standard error of measurement. In the event that an individual test of intelligence is not able to be administered to the child, the evaluation team shall document how they determined that the child's profile of intellectual functioning indicates sub-average performance in a majority of areas;

(II) Documentation on an individually administered test or assessment that the child's academic or pre-academic skills are coexistent with the child's deficits in intellectual functioning. Behavior observations, criterion-referenced tests, or documentation of classroom performance may be used when a child's level of functioning cannot appropriately be measured by standardized tests; and

(III) Documentation on standardized adaptive behavior measurements, that includes information gathered from parents and school staff, that the child's deficits in adaptive behavior are coexistent with the child's deficits in intellectual functioning.

(iii) **Deaf-Blindness.** ~~Deaf-blindness~~Blindness means concomitant hearing and visual impairments, the combination of which causes such severe communication and other developmental and educational needs that they cannot be accommodated in special education programs solely for a child with deafness or a child with blindness.

(A) ~~Deaf-blindness~~Blindness eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with these rules. The initial evaluation process shall include a licensed audiologist, certified teacher of the visually impaired, and other qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements of these rules, a child is identified as a child with ~~deaf-blindness~~Deaf-Blindness if all of the following criteria are met:

(I) Eligibility criteria for ~~hearing impairment, including deafness~~Hearing Impairment, Including Deafness, are met;

(II) Eligibility criteria for ~~visual impairment, including blindness~~Visual Impairment, Including Blindness, are met; and

(III) The child's current level of performance indicates significant problems with motor functioning, communication, self-help/adaptive skills, social skills, or pre-academic or academic skills.

(iv) **Developmental Delay.** ~~Developmental delay~~Delay means a child with a disability ages three (3) through nine (9) who is determined through appropriate diagnostic instruments and procedures to be experiencing developmental delays in the following areas: physical development, cognitive development, communication development, social or emotional development, or adaptive development, that adversely affects educational performance and who, by reason thereof, needs special education

and related services. ~~Developmental delay~~Delay is a category available to children ages three (3) through nine (9) who do not qualify in other categories under these rules, but meet the ~~developmental delay~~Developmental Delay criteria. School districts or public agencies are free to utilize ~~developmental delay~~Developmental Delay as a disability category if adopted by the local governing board and annual assurances are provided to WDE that the criteria is implemented consistent with these rules.

(A) ~~Developmental delay~~Delay eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with these rules, a child is identified as a child with a ~~developmental delay~~ if all of Developmental Delay if the following criteria are met:

(I) The child's performance is significantly below the mean of expected performance, measured at 1.75 standard deviations below the expected performance for children of comparable chronological age in one (1) area (physical, cognitive, social/emotional, communication, or adaptive functioning); or

(II) The child's performance is markedly below the mean of expected performance, measure at 1.5 standard deviations below the expected performance for children of comparable chronological age in two (2) or more areas (physical, cognitive, social/emotional, communication, or adaptive functioning); and

(III) Results of hearing and vision screening that provide evidence that the child's performance is not the result of hearing or vision impairments.

(B) Exceeding the age of eligibility: Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.305(e)(1), the school district or public agency must evaluate the child before determining the child is no longer a child with a ~~developmental delay~~Developmental Delay.

(v) **Emotional Disability.** ~~Emotional disability~~Disability means a condition exhibiting one (1) or more of the following characteristics over a long period of time and to a marked degree that adversely affects a child's educational performance: an inability to learn that cannot be explained by intellectual, sensory, or health factors; an inability to build or maintain satisfactory interpersonal relationships with peers or teachers; inappropriate types of behavior or feelings under normal circumstances; a general pervasive mood of unhappiness or depression; or a tendency to develop physical symptoms or fears associated with personal or school problems. The term includes schizophrenia. The term does not apply to children who are socially maladjusted, unless they have an ~~emotional disability~~Emotional Disability as defined in these rules.

(A) ~~Emotional disability~~Disability eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall include recommendations for social, emotional, or behavioral instruction from a qualified diagnostician, such as a licensed ~~clinical~~—psychologist, school psychologist, psychiatrist, or other qualified professional. The initial evaluation process

shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements of these rules, a child is identified as a child with an ~~emotional disability~~ if all of Emotional Disability if the following criteria are met:

(I) Documentation from regular education positive behavioral interventions evidences that the behavior adversely affects the child's educational performance.

(II) The child continues to exhibit behavioral or emotional characteristics over a long period of time and to a marked degree that adversely affects the child's educational performance as evidence by one (1) or more of the following:

(1.) An inability to learn that cannot be explained by intellectual, sensory, or health factors;

(2.) An inability to build or maintain satisfactory interpersonal relationships with peers and teachers;

(3.) Inappropriate types of behavior or feelings under normal circumstances;

(4.) A general pervasive mood of unhappiness or depression; or

(5.) A tendency to develop physical symptoms or fears associated with personal or school problems.

(III) The term does not apply to children who are socially maladjusted, unless it is determined that they have an ~~emotional disturbance~~ Emotional Disability consistent with the criteria above.

(vi) **Hearing Impairment, Including Deafness.** Hearing impairment, ~~including deafness~~ Impairment, Including Deafness means a hearing impairment including deafness that, with or without amplification, adversely affects educational performance, may be permanent or fluctuating, and may be so severe that the child is impaired in processing linguistic information through hearing, with or without amplification.

(A) ~~Hearing impairment, including deafness~~ Impairment, Including Deafness eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with these rules. The initial evaluation process shall include a licensed audiologist and other qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with these rules, a child is identified as a child with a ~~hearing impairment, including deafness~~ Hearing Impairment, Including Deafness, if the following criteria are met:

(I) Documentation of the child's potential requirement for amplification and ~~the child's etiology of~~ one (1) of the following hearing losses:

(1.) Sensorineural hearing loss; or

(2.) Conductive hearing loss.

(II) Documentation that the hearing loss interferes with the student's ability to function in an educational program using traditional materials and techniques due to the child's difficulty in using or understanding spoken language.

(vii) **Multiple Disabilities.** ~~Multiple disabilities~~Disabilities means concomitant impairments (such as ~~cognitive disability-blindness; cognitive disability-orthopedic impairment~~Cognitive Disability-Blindness; Traumatic Brain Injury-Orthopedic Impairment), the combination of which causes such severe educational needs that they cannot be accommodated in special education programs solely for one (1) of the impairments. The term does not include ~~deaf-blindness~~Deaf-Blindness unless eligibility criteria in an additional disability category are satisfied.

(A) ~~Multiple disabilities~~Disabilities eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability.

(viii) **Orthopedic Impairment.** ~~Orthopedic impairment~~Impairment means a severe orthopedic impairment that adversely affects a child's educational performance. The term includes impairments caused by a congenital anomaly, impairments caused by disease (e.g., poliomyelitis, bone tuberculosis), and impairments from other causes (e.g., cerebral palsy, amputations and fractures or burns that cause contractures).

(A) ~~Orthopedic impairment~~Impairment eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements of these rules, a child is identified as a child with an ~~orthopedic impairment~~Orthopedic Impairment if the following criteria are met:

(I) Documentation of an ~~orthopedic impairment~~Orthopedic Impairment from a physician within the previous twelve (12) months for an initial evaluation; and

(II) Documentation that the child's impaired motor functioning significantly interferes with educational performance; and either

(III) Documentation that the child exhibits deficits in muscular or neuromuscular functioning that significantly limit the child's ability to move about, sit, or manipulate materials required for learning; or

(IV) Documentation that the child's bone, joint, or muscle problems affect ambulation, posture, or gross and fine motor skills.

(ix) **Other Health Impaired-Impairment.** ~~Other health-impaired~~Health Impairment means having limited strength, vitality, or alertness, including a heightened

alertness to environmental stimuli, that results in limited alertness with respect to the educational environment, that is due to chronic or acute health problems, such as asthma, attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, diabetes, epilepsy, a heart condition, hemophilia, lead poisoning, leukemia, nephritis, rheumatic fever, sickle cell anemia, and Tourette Syndrome, and adversely affects a child's educational performance.

(A) ~~Other health impaired~~Health Impairment eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements of these rules, a child is identified as ~~other health impaired~~a child with an Other Health Impairment if the criteria below are met:

(I) Subject to the provision below regarding attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, documentation of an acute or chronic health problem from a licensed physician within the previous twelve (12) months for an initial evaluation;

(1.) In concert with the above provision, as determined appropriate by a school district or public agency, a licensed psychologist or certified psychologist, in lieu of a physician may document the child meets eligibility requirements for an Other Health Impairment with respect to attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder for an initial evaluation; and

(II) Documentation that educational performance is adversely affected due to acute or chronic limited strength, vitality, or alertness.

(x) **Specific Learning Disability (SLD).** ~~Specific learning disability~~Learning Disability means a disorder in one (1) or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or in using language, spoken or written, that may manifest itself in an imperfect ability to listen, think, speak, read, write, spell, or to do mathematical calculations, including conditions such as perceptual disabilities, brain injury, minimal brain dysfunction, dyslexia and developmental aphasia. A ~~specific learning disability~~Specific Learning Disability does not include learning problems that are primarily the result of visual, hearing, or motor disabilities, ~~of cognitive disabilities, of disability,~~ emotional disability, or of environmental, cultural or economic disadvantage.

(A) ~~Specific learning disability~~Learning Disability eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by a ~~team~~group of qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with these rules, a child is identified as a child with a ~~specific learning disability~~Specific Learning Disability if the criteria in this section are satisfied.

(B) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.308, the determination of whether a child suspected of having a ~~specific learning disability~~Specific Learning Disability is a

child with a disability as defined in 34 C.F.R. §300.8, must be made by a group, which includes the child's parents and a team of qualified professionals, which must include including:

(I) The child's regular teacher, or if the child does not have a regular teacher, a regular classroom teacher qualified to teach a child of his or her age; or

(II) For a child of less than school age, an individual qualified by Wyoming to teach a child of his or her age; and

(III) At least one (1) person qualified to conduct individual diagnostic examinations of children, such as a school psychologist, speech-language pathologist, or remedial reading teacher.

(C) With respect to the evaluation described in paragraph (A) above, and consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.310, the school district or public agency must ensure that the child is observed in the child's learning environment, including the regular classroom setting, to document the child's academic performance and behavior in the areas of difficulty. In the case of a child of less than school age or out of school, a group member must observe the child in an environment appropriate for a child of that age. The team of qualified professionals group, in determining whether a child has a specific learning disability Specific Learning Disability, must decide to:

(I) Use information from an observation in a routine classroom instruction and monitoring of the child's performance that was done before the child was referred for evaluation; or

(II) Have at least one (1) member of the group conduct an observation of the child's academic performance in the regular classroom after the child has been referred for an evaluation and parental consent, consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.300(a), is obtained.

(D) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.309(a), the team may determine group determines that a child has a specific learning disability Specific Learning Disability if:

(I) The child does not achieve adequately for the child's age or to meet Wyoming grade-level standards in one (1) or more of the following areas, when provided with learning experiences and instruction appropriate for the child's age or Wyoming grade-level standards:

- (1.) Oral expression<sub>i</sub>
- (2.) Listening comprehension<sub>i</sub>
- (3.) Written expression<sub>i</sub>
- (4.) Basic reading skill<sub>i</sub>
- (5.) Reading fluency skills<sub>i</sub>
- (6.) Reading comprehension<sub>i</sub>

(7.) Mathematics calculation;

(8.) Mathematics problem solving; and

(II) The child does not make sufficient progress to meet age or Wyoming grade-level standards in one (1) or more of the above areas when using a process based on the child's response to scientific, research-based intervention.

(E) ~~Evaluation teams~~The group shall use either the Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula or a response to intervention process when determining whether a child is not making sufficient progress to meet age or Wyoming grade-level standards.

(I) Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula: The ~~team~~group may determine that the child demonstrates a severe discrepancy between current achievement level and expected achievement level of at least 22 points upon an initial evaluation, utilizing Appendix A ~~incorporated in~~ of these rules. Expected achievement is based on the correlation between tests of the child's composite intellectual standard score compared to the child's composite achievement score in one (1) or more core achievement areas.

(1.) ~~The school district or public agency must utilize the~~The Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula in Appendix A of these rules must be utilized when making an eligibility determination based on a severe discrepancy between intellectual ability and achievement.

(2.) A severe discrepancy exists when application of the Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula results in a difference between expected and actual achievement greater than or equal to 1.5 standard deviations (See Appendix A).

(II) Response to intervention process: The ~~team~~group may determine that the child does not make sufficient progress to meet age or Wyoming grade-level standards in one (1) or more of the ~~above areas~~areas in paragraph (D)(I) of this section when using a process based on the child's response to scientific, research-based intervention.

(F) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.309, to ensure that underachievement in a child suspected of having a ~~specific learning disability~~Specific Learning Disability is not due to lack of appropriate instruction in reading or math, as part of the evaluation the ~~team~~group must consider:

(I) Data that demonstrate that prior to, or as a part of, the referral process, the child was provided appropriate instruction in regular education settings, delivered by qualified personnel; and

(II) Data based documentation of repeated assessments of achievement at reasonable intervals, reflecting formal assessment of student progress during instruction, which was provided to the child's parents.

(G) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.309, the ~~team~~group must determine that underachievement of a child suspected of having a ~~specific learning disability~~Specific Learning Disability is not primarily the result of:

- (I) A visual, hearing, or motor disability;
- ~~(II) Mental retardation;~~
- (II) Cognitive disability;
- (III) Emotional disability;
- (IV) Cultural factors;
- (V) Environmental or economic disadvantage; or
- (VI) Limited English proficiency.

(H) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.309(c), a school district or public agency must promptly request parental consent to evaluate the child to determine if the child needs special education and related services, and must adhere to the timeframes in 34 C.F.R. §§300.301 through 300.303, unless extended by mutual written agreement of the child's parents and the team/group of qualified professionals under the following circumstances:

- (I) If, prior to a referral, a child has not made adequate progress after an appropriate period of time when provided instruction described in (F) above, and
- (II) Whenever a child is referred for an evaluation.

(I) Specific documentation required for the eligibility determination. Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.311, for a child suspected of having a ~~specific learning disability~~ Specific Learning Disability, the documentation of the determination of eligibility must contain a statement of each of the following:

- (I) Whether the child has a ~~specific learning disability~~ Specific Learning Disability;
- (II) The basis for making the determination, including an assurance that the determination has been made in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §300.306(c)(1)-i;
- (III) The relevant behavior, if any, noted during the observation of the child and the relationship of that behavior to the child's academic functioning-i;
- (IV) The educationally relevant medical findings, if any-i;
- (V) Whether:

(1.) The child does not achieve adequately for the child's age or to meet Wyoming grade-level standards consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.309(a)(1); and

(2.) The child does not make sufficient progress to meet age or Wyoming grade-level standards consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.309(a)(2)(i).

- (VI) The determination of the group concerning the effects of a visual, hearing, or motor disability; ~~mental retardation~~ cognitive disability; emotional

~~disturbance; disability~~ cultural factors; environmental or economic disadvantage; or limited English proficiency on the child's achievement level.

(VII) If the child has participated in a process that assesses a child's response to scientific, research-based intervention:

(1.) The instructional strategies used and the student-centered data collected; and

(2.) The documentation that the child's parents were notified about:

a. Wyoming's policies regarding the amount and nature of student performance data that would be collected and the general education services that would be provided;

b. Strategies for increasing the child's rate of learning; and

c. The parents' right to request an evaluation.

(VIII) Each ~~team~~group member must certify in writing whether the report reflects the member's conclusion. If it does not, the ~~team~~group member must submit a separate statement presenting the member's conclusions.

(xi) **Speech or Language Impairment.** ~~Speech or language impairment~~Language Impairment means a communication disorder, such as ~~stuttering~~Stuttering, ~~impaired articulation~~Articulation, a ~~language impairment~~Language Impairment or a ~~voice impairment~~Voice Impairment, that adversely affects a child's educational performance.

(A) ~~Speech or language impairment~~Language Impairment eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by a Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) and other qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements of these rules, a child is identified as a child with a ~~speech~~Speech or language impairmentLanguage Impairment in the qualifying area(s) of ~~articulation, language, stuttering~~Articulation, Stuttering, Language Impairment, or voiceVoice Impairment if the following specific criteria are met.

(i) ~~Articulation-~~eligibility criteria. Articulation means speech sound production or phonological errors atypical of a child of comparable age and development.

(1.) Eligibility criteria: One (1) of the following criteria must be met:

a. Documentation that the child exhibits errors of speech sound production beyond the age at which 85% of typically developing children have achieved mastery (based on current developmental norms);

b. Documentation that the child's performance on a standardized evaluation instrument is 1.5 standard deviations or greater below the mean for the child's chronological age based on a norm-referenced test of articulation or phonology;

c. Documentation that one (1) or more phonological patterns of sound are significantly disordered and evidence that the child's conversational intelligibility is affected; or

d. Documentation that the child's scores are at a moderate, severe, or profound rating on appropriate evaluation instruments.

(II) Stuttering-eligibility criteria. Stuttering means abnormal flow of speech evident in interruptions by hesitations, repetitious or prolongation of sounds, syllables, words or phrases or articulatory positions or by avoidance and struggle behaviors.

(1.) Eligibility criteria: Either criteria a. or b. must be met in addition to criteria c.

a. Documentation that the child demonstrates at least a moderate rating or its equivalent on a formal fluency rating scale; or

b. Documentation that the child exhibits stuttering on 5% or more of words spoken in a representative language sample or demonstrates stuttering in varied speaking situations; and

c. An observation documenting that the child's stuttering interferes with communication and calls attention to itself.

(III) Language Impairment-eligibility criteria. Language impairment means a deficiency in language comprehension or production evident in the content, form or use of oral communication or its equivalent.

(1.) Eligibility criteria: Both of the following criteria must be met:

a. The child demonstrates on standardized measures an understanding and use of morphologic, syntactic, semantic, or pragmatic patterns at 1.5 standard deviations below the mean for the child's chronological age; and

b. Documentation that receptive or expressive language interferes with the child's oral communication or primary mode of communication.

(IV) Voice Impairment. Voice impairment means a deficiency significant deviation in voice pitch, intensity or quality to a marked degree, which significantly interferes with communication for an extended period of time and is atypical for a child of comparable age and development.

(1.) Eligibility Criteria: ~~Voice impairment~~ Impairment eligibility criteria: Voice Impairment must be evidenced by:

a. ~~Speech which is largely unintelligible and inadequate for communication;~~ or

a. ~~Evidence~~Documentation that the child ~~utilizes extreme effort in producing speech~~exhibits significantly abnormal voice quality, pitch, resonance, loudness, or duration; and

b. Documentation that the condition is present for an extended period of time.

(B) The evaluation process must take into account that the child does not exhibit any one (1) of the following exclusionary factors:

(I) Mild, transitory, or developmentally appropriate speech or language difficulties that children experience at various times to various degrees;

(II) Speech or language difficulties resulting from dialectical difference or from learning English as a second language, unless the child has a ~~language impairment~~Language Impairment in his or her native language;

(III) Difficulties with auditory processing without a concomitant impairment in speech sound production;

(IV) A tongue thrust which exists in the absence of a concomitant impairment in speech sound production; or

(V) Elective or selective mutism or school phobia without a documented oral ~~speech~~Speech or ~~language impairment~~Language Impairment.

(xii) **Traumatic Brain Injury.** ~~Traumatic brain injury~~Brain Injury means acquired injury to the brain caused by an external physical force, resulting in total or partial functional disability or psychosocial impairment, or both, that adversely affects a child's educational performance. ~~Traumatic brain injury~~Brain Injury applies to open or closed head injuries resulting in impairments in one (1) or more areas such as cognition; language; memory; attention; reasoning; abstract thinking; judgment; problem-solving; sensory; perceptual and motor abilities; psychosocial behavior; physical functions; information processing; and speech. ~~Traumatic brain injury~~Brain Injury does not apply to brain injuries that are congenital or degenerative, or to brain injuries induced by birth trauma.

(A) ~~Eligibility Criteria~~Traumatic Brain Injury eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with the requirements of these rules. The initial evaluation shall be conducted by qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with these requirements, a child is identified as a child with a ~~traumatic brain injury~~Traumatic Brain Injury if the following criteria are satisfied:

(I) Documentation from a physician, within the previous twelve-(12) months, that the child has sustained a brain trauma (e.g., skull fracture, contusions, and/or bullet wound, etc.) resulting in the onset of an impairment; and

(II) Documentation that the ~~traumatic brain injury~~Traumatic Brain Injury adversely affects the child's educational performance in one (1) or more of the

following areas: cognitive ability, social behavior, use of adaptive skills, physical ability, vision, hearing, or ability to communicate.

(xiii) **Visual Impairment, Including Blindness.** ~~Visual impairment, including blindness~~Impairment, Including Blindness means an impairment in vision, even with correction, that adversely affects a child's educational performance. The term includes both partial sight and blindness.

(A) ~~Eligibility~~Visual Impairment eligibility criteria: Eligibility is established through a comprehensive evaluation in accordance with these rules. The initial evaluation team shall consist of a certified teacher of the visually impaired and other qualified professionals as determined appropriate by the school district or public agency. The initial evaluation process shall be comprehensive and address all areas of need resulting from the suspected disability. In accordance with the requirements of these rules, a child is identified as a child with a ~~visual impairment, including blindness~~Visual Impairment, Including Blindness if criteria in paragraph (I) is met in addition to one (1) additional criteria in paragraphs (II) through (V).

(I) Documentation of loss of vision which adversely affects the child's educational performance and requires the use of specialized tests, techniques, materials, or assistive technology devices; and

(II) Documentation of visual acuity in the better eye with the best possible correction of:

(1.) 20/200 or less (blind); or

(2.) 20/50 or less (partially sighted);

(III) Documentation of reduced visual field to 20 degrees or less in the better eye;

(IV) Documentation of a progressive loss of vision which may, in the future, affect the child's ability to learn; or

(V) Visual acuity, which cannot be measured, but in which the child has a functional loss of vision as determined through a functional vision assessment.

## Section 5. **Special Education Process.**

(a) Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).

(i) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.101 and 300.102 and W.S. §21-2-501, school districts and public agencies shall ensure that a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) is available to all children with disabilities residing in Wyoming no later than the child's third (3<sup>rd</sup>) birthday through the completion of the school year the child turns twenty-one (21), including those children who have been suspended or expelled from school. ~~(Authority: W.S. §21-2-501.)~~

(ii) **Preschool children with disabilities** means children age three (3) through five (5) in Wyoming who are identified as eligible for special education and related

services under the IDEA, federal regulations and these rules. ~~The Wyoming division or section assigned responsibility for services to preschool children with disabilities shall function as an educational service agency consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.12 and shall be responsible ensuring that preschool children with disabilities receive FAPE. (Authority: W.S. §§21-2-701 through 21-2-704.)~~

(iii) Any preschool children with disabilities who are five (5) years of age on or before September 15<sup>th</sup> and who are receiving services from a school district shall be the responsibility of that school district for the purpose of ensuring the provision of FAPE. (Authority: ~~[See W.S. §21-2-704.]~~)

(b) Least Restrictive Environment (LRE).

(i) ~~Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.114 through 300.120, and any Wyoming LRE policy or procedure adopted pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.165, except as provided in §300.324(d)(2) (regarding children with disabilities in adult prisons) and consistent with any Wyoming LRE policy or procedure adopted pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.165, WDE must ensure that school districts and public agencies have policies and procedures in place to ensure that:~~

(A) To the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities, including children in public or private institutions or other care facilities, are educated with children who are nondisabled; and

(B) Special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of children with disabilities from the regular educational environment occurs only if the nature or severity of the disability is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily.

(ii) Each school district or public agency must ensure that a continuum of alternative placements is available to meet the needs of children with disabilities for special education and related services.

(iii) The continuum of alternative placements must include the alternative placements listed in 34 C.F.R. §300.39 and make provisions for supplementary services, defined in 34 C.F.R. §300.42, to be provided in conjunction with regular class placement.

(iv) The placement decision: In determining the educational placement of a child with a disability, including a preschool child with a disability, the school district or public agency must ensure that:

(A) The placement decision:

(I) Is made by a group of persons, including the parents, and other persons knowledgeable about the child, the meaning of the evaluation data, and the placement options; and

(II) Is made in conformity with the LRE provisions above and 34 C.F.R. §§300.114 through 300.118.

(B) The child's placement:

- (I) Is determined at least annually;
- (II) Is based on the child's IEP; and
- (III) Is as close as possible to the child's home.

(v) Unless the IEP of a child requires some other arrangement, the child shall be educated in the school that he or she would attend if nondisabled.

(vi) In selecting the LRE, consideration shall be given to any potential potentially harmful effect on the child or on the quality of services that he or she needs.

(vii) A child with a disability shall not be removed from education in age-appropriate regular classrooms solely because of needed modifications in the general curriculum.

(c) Extended School Year (ESY).

(i) Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.106 and any Wyoming ESY policy or procedure adopted pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.165, each school district or public agency must ensure that extended school year services are available as necessary to provide FAPE.

(A) ESY services means special education and related services that:

(I) Are provided to a child with a disability:

(1.) Beyond the normal school year of the school district or public agency;

(2.) In accordance with the child's IEP; and

(3.) At no cost to the parents of the child; and

(II) Meet the standards of Wyoming.

(B) ESY services must be provided only if a child's IEP team determines, on an individual basis, that the services are necessary for the provision of FAPE to the child. In implementing the requirements of this section, the school district or public agency must consider a multi-factor approach in determining whether ESY services are necessary, and may not:

(I) Limit extended school year services to particular categories of disability; or

(II) Unilaterally limit the type, amount, or duration of those services.

(d) Individualized Education Program (IEP) and placement decisions.

(i) School districts and public agencies shall develop, implement, review and revise IEPs consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.320 through 300.328.

(ii) IEP teams shall make placement decisions in accordance with the rules herein and with the least restrictive environment provision at 34 C.F.R. §§300.114 through 300.118.

(e) **Reevaluations.** A school district or public agency must ensure that a reevaluation of each child with a disability is conducted in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.303 through 300.311.

(f) **IEPs for transfer students.**

(i) Procedures for children with disabilities who transfer between school districts or public agencies in Wyoming in the same school year shall be consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.323(e).

(ii) Procedures for children with disabilities who transfer to Wyoming school districts or public agencies from another state shall be consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.323(f).

(iii) Procedures for preschool children with disabilities transitioning from developmental preschool centers in the state of Wyoming to school districts or other public agencies shall be consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.323(e).

(iv) Procedures for children identified as Developmentally Delayed who transfer to a school district or public agency that has not adopted the Developmentally Delayed criteria shall be consistent with the procedures in 34 C.F.R. §300.323(f) for students who transfer from another state.

(A) The school district or public agency, consistent with the consent requirements, shall:

(I) Conduct an evaluation and eligibility determination consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.301 through 300.311; and

(B) Meet the requirements above with respect to continuing to provide FAPE to the child, including services comparable to those described in the child's IEP from the previous public agency until completion of the evaluation and eligibility determination consistent with these rules and IDEA.

(g) **Inter-district placements.** Each school district or public agency shall provide FAPE to children with disabilities residing within its boundaries. If the school district or public agency is unable to provide the programs and services necessary for the child with a disability to receive FAPE, the school district or public agency shall contract with another school district or public agency to provide those programs and/or services. (Authority: [See W.S. §21-2-502.])

(h) **Residential placement by another entity.**

(i) If a child with a disability has been placed in a residential treatment facility or psychiatric hospital by another public agency or court, the residential treatment facility or hospital shall initiate action to develop, review, or revise the child's IEP consistent with IDEA and these rules, or if necessary, evaluate and identify the child as a child with a disability according to IDEA and these rules.

(ii) The facility or hospital shall notify the child's resident school district or public agency of the child's placement at the facility or hospital. The resident school district or public agency shall participate in planning and implementing FAPE for the child.

(iii) In the event that the residential treatment facility is unable or unwilling to provide FAPE to the child as required under the IDEA, the resident school district or public agency is responsible for ensuring that the child receives FAPE. (Authority: ~~See~~ W.S. §21-2-502.)

(i) Court-ordered placements.

(i) The Department of Family Services (DFS) shall pay residential and treatment costs excluding educational and medical costs of court ordered placements of children in private residential treatment facilities and group homes located in Wyoming.

(ii) Programs providing education services including programs for children with disabilities provided by a Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), shall bill WDE directly for educational costs of court ordered placements.

~~(iii) In addition, costs of all related services for children with disabilities and costs of education assessment for other children incurred as a result of court order prior to any placement, shall be billed directly to WDE. (Authority: W.S. §21-13-315.)~~

~~(iv)~~(iii) All costs billed to WDE under this section shall be in the manner and form required by WDE, and consistent with W.S. §21-13-315 and Chapter 14 of WDE Rules and Regulations.

**Section 6. Procedural Safeguards.** Each school district or public agency shall implement procedural safeguards consistent with the requirements of 34 C.F.R. §§300.500 through 300.536, including dissemination of a Procedural Safeguards Notice ~~procedural safeguards notice~~ that meets the requirements of 34 C.F.R. §300.504.

(a) Parent participation and involvement. The parents of a child with a disability must be afforded an opportunity to participate in the special education process and examine educational records pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.501.

(b) Parental consent. The school district or public agency shall implement parental consent and the revocation of parental consent procedures consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.9 and 300.300- (including the 2008 Amendment and any subsequent amendments).

(c) Independent educational evaluation (IEE). Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.502, the parents of a child with a disability shall have the right to obtain an independent educational evaluation of the child.

(d) Prior written notice. Prior written notice shall be given to the parents of a child with a disability a reasonable time before the school district or public agency proposes to, or refuses to, initiate or change the identification, evaluation, educational placement of the child, or the provision of FAPE to the child consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.503.

(e) Discipline procedures. Discipline of a child with a disability shall be implemented consistent with the requirements of 34 C.F.R. §§300.530 through 300.536 and any Wyoming discipline policy or procedure adopted pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.165.

(f) Surrogate parents. The procedures for appointment of a surrogate parent shall comply with 34 C.F.R. §§300.30 and 300.519.

(g) Transfer of parental rights at age of majority. When a student reaches the age of 18, parental rights under the IDEA shall transfer to the student in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.320(c) and 300.520. ~~(Authority: [See W.S. §14-1-101.])~~

(h) Unilateral private placements. Requirements for unilateral placement by parents of children with disabilities in private schools shall be consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.129 through 300.144 and §300.148.

(i) Special education records. The school district or public agency must protect the confidentiality of student education records consistent with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and its implementing regulations at 34 C.F.R. §99, and consistent with the IDEA and 34 C.F.R. §§300.610 through 300.627.

**Section 7. Dispute Resolution.** In compliance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.151, 300.506, and 300.508, WDE shall ensure the adoption of dispute resolution policies and/or procedures pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.165.

(a) Mediation. In accordance with the procedures specified in 34 C.F.R. §300.506 WDE shall offer parties to disputes involving any matter arising under Part B of the IDEA, including disputes arising prior to a due process hearing request, an opportunity to resolve the dispute through mediation.

(b) Wyoming state complaint procedures. In compliance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.151 through 300.153, WDE shall resolve any state complaint, including a complaint filed by an organization or individual from another state, that alleges a violation of Wyoming or Federal laws, and meets the requirements of the above referenced complaint provisions.

(i) In resolving a state complaint in which a failure to provide appropriate services has been found, WDE, pursuant to its general supervisory authority under Part B of the IDEA, shall address:

(A) The failure to provide appropriate services, including corrective action appropriate to address the needs of the child; and

(B) The appropriate future provision of services for all children with disabilities.

(c) Due process hearing procedures. A parent or public agency may file a due process complaint on any of the matters relating to the identification, evaluation, educational placement, or provision of FAPE to the child consistent with procedures outlined in 34 C.F.R. §§300.507 through 300.518 and 300.532.

(d) Child's status during proceedings. Except as provided in 34 C.F.R. §300.533 (regarding disciplinary removals), during the pendency of any administrative or judicial proceeding regarding a due process hearing, unless the Wyoming, school district, or public agency and the parents of the child agree otherwise, the child that is the subject of the dispute must remain in his or her current educational placement consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.518.

#### Section 8. **Special Education Funding.**

(a) School district or public agency eligibility. School district or public agency Part B funding shall be implemented in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.200 through 300.230 and any other applicable provisions.

(b) Compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Each school district or public agency shall adopt and implement appropriate policies, procedures, programs and services to ensure that children with disabilities who reside within the agency's educational jurisdiction, including children who are enrolled in private schools or facilities such as residential treatment centers, day treatment centers, hospitals, mental health institutions are identified and evaluated, and have access to FAPE in compliance with all applicable requirements of Wyoming laws and any applicable federal laws and regulations.

(c) Condition of assistance. A school district or public agency is eligible for federal funding under Part B of the IDEA for a fiscal year if the school district or public agency submits a plan that provides assurances to the WDE that the school district or public agency meets each of the conditions set forth in this section and these rules.

#### Section 9. **General Supervision.**

(a) Pursuant to its general supervisory responsibility, WDE shall ensure that the requirements of the IDEA and federal regulations are carried out and that each school district or public agency implements programs that meet the standards of Wyoming, consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.149 and any formally adopted Wyoming policy or procedure, ~~which shall be incorporated herein by reference and enforceable pursuant to these rules.~~

Section 9.(b) In accordance with W.S. §§21-2-701(a)(1) and 21-2-703 the Department of Health, Developmental Disabilities Division (Division), is assigned responsibility for ensuring the provision of FAPE to preschool children with disabilities. Pursuant to W.S. §21-2-702, the Division shall be deemed an intermediate educational unit, and as such, shall function as an educational service agency consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.12(c). [See 34 C.F.R. §300.12 and W.S. §§21-2-701 through 21-2-703.]

(a)(c) Monitoring focus. WDE shall enforce the requirements of the IDEA and monitor the implementation of these rules and by school districts and public agencies in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.600 through 300.608 (including the 2008 amendment Amendment and any subsequent amendments). The primary focus of the monitoring activities shall be on:

(i) Improving educational results and functional outcomes for all children with disabilities; and

(ii) Ensuring that the school districts or public agencies meet the program requirements under Part B of the IDEA, with a particular emphasis on those requirements that are most closely related to improving educational results for children with disabilities.

~~(b)~~(d) Priority areas. Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.600(d), WDE shall monitor school districts and public agencies using quantifiable indicators in each of the following priority areas, and using such qualitative indicators as are needed to adequately measure the performance in those areas:

(i) Provision of FAPE in the least restrictive environment;

(ii) Wyoming exercise of general supervision, including child find, effective monitoring, the use of resolution meetings, mediation, and a system of transition services defined in 34 C.F.R. §§300.43; and 300.124.

(iii) Disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services, to the extent the representation involves inappropriate identification, pursuant to data collected in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §300.646.

~~(e)~~(e) Wyoming use of targets. WDE shall use the targets established in the Wyoming's performance plan under 34 C.F.R. §300.601 and the priority areas described in 34 C.F.R. §300.600(d) to analyze the performance of each school district or public agency.

~~(d)~~(f) Public reporting and privacy. ~~WDE shall:~~ Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.602 (including the 2008 Amendment and any subsequent amendments) WDE shall:

(i) Make Wyoming's performance plan, under 34 C.F.R. §300.601(a) available through public means.

(ii) Make Wyoming's annual performance report under 34 C.F.R. §300.602(b)(2) available through public means.

~~(i)~~(iii) Report annually to the public in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §300.602 (including the 2008 amendment and any subsequent amendments) on the performance of each school district or public agency; and in Wyoming under 34 C.F.R. §300.602(b)(1)(i)(A).

~~(ii) Make the Wyoming's performance plan available through public means, including by posting on the WDE website, distribution to the media, and distribution through public agencies.~~

~~(e)~~(g) Determinations. Based on the information provided by school district or public agencies, information obtained through monitoring visits, and any other public information made available, WDE shall determine if the school district or public agency:

(i) Meets the requirements and purposes of Part B of the IDEA;

(ii) Needs assistance in implementing the requirements of Part B of the IDEA;

(iii) Needs intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B of the IDEA; or

(iv) Needs substantial intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B of the IDEA.

(f)(h) Enforcement. WDE shall enforce the requirements of the IDEA using appropriate enforcement mechanisms consistent with 34 C.F.R. §§300.600 through 300.606 (including the 2008 amendment Amendment and any subsequent amendments-);

(i) Needs assistance. If WDE determines, for two (2) consecutive years, that a school district or public agency needs assistance in implementing the requirements of Part B of the IDEA, WDE shall take one (1) or more of the following actions:

(A) Advise the school district or public agency of available sources of technical assistance that may help the school district or public agency address the areas in which it needs assistance. Such technical assistance may include:

(I) The provision of advice by experts to address the areas in which the school district or public agency needs assistance, including explicit plans for addressing the area for concern within a specified period of time;

(II) Assistance in identifying and implementing professional development, instructional strategies, and methods of instruction that are based on scientifically based research;

(III) Designating and using distinguished superintendents, principals, special education administrators, special education teachers, and other teachers to provide advice, technical assistance, and support; and

(IV) Devising additional approaches to providing technical assistance, such as collaborating with institutions of higher education, educational service agencies, national centers of technical assistance, and private providers of scientifically based technical assistance.

(B) Direct the use of school district or public agency Part B funds on the area or areas in which it needs assistance.

(C) Identify the school district or public agency as a high-risk grantee, and impose special conditions on the use of Part B funds by the school district or public agency.

(ii) Needs intervention. If WDE determines, for three (3) or more consecutive years, that a school district or public agency needs intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B of the IDEA, the following shall apply:

(A) WDE may take any of the actions described in paragraph (i) above.

(B) WDE shall take one (1) or more of the following actions:

(I) Require the school district or public agency to prepare a corrective action plan or improvement plan if WDE determines that the school district or public agency should be able to correct the problem within one (1) year.

(II) Require the school district or public agency to enter into a compliance agreement if WDE has reason to believe that the school district or public agency cannot correct the problem within one (1) year.

(III) For each year of the determination, withhold not less than 20 percent% and not more than 50-percent% of the school district's or public agency's IDEA Part B funds until WDE determines that the school district or public agency has sufficiently addressed the areas in which it needs intervention.

(IV) Seek to recover funds paid to the school district or public agency under Part B of the IDEA consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.604(b)(2)(iv).

(V) Withhold, in whole or in part, any further payments to the school district or public agency made under Part B of the IDEA.

(VI) Refer the matter for appropriate enforcement action, which may include a referral to the Office of the Wyoming Attorney General or the United States Department of Justice.

(iii) Needs substantial intervention. Notwithstanding paragraphs (i) and (ii) above, at any time WDE determines that a school district or public agency needs substantial intervention in implementing the requirements of Part B of the IDEA or that there is a substantial failure to comply with any condition of the school district's or public agency's eligibility under Part B of the IDEA, WDE shall take one (1) or more of the following actions:

(A) Recover IDEA Part B funds consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.604(c).

(B) Withhold, in whole or in part, any further payments to the school district or public agency under Part B of the IDEA.

~~(C) Refer the case to the Attorney General for further action.~~

~~(D)~~(C) Refer the matter for appropriate enforcement action, which may include a referral to the Office of the Wyoming Attorney General or the United States Department of Justice.

(iv) In exercising its monitoring responsibilities under this section, WDE shall ensure that when it identifies noncompliance with the requirements of IDEA by a school district or public agency, the noncompliance is corrected as soon as possible, and in no case later than one (1) year after WDE's identification of the noncompliance in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §300.600(e) (including the 2008 amendment Amendment and any subsequent amendments).

(v) Findings of noncompliance: For the purpose of this section, a finding of noncompliance is a written notification that includes the citation of the statute, regulation, or rule and a description of the quantitative and/or qualitative data supporting the conclusion that there is noncompliance.

(v)(vi) Correction of noncompliance: WDE must address all noncompliance, whether collected through the on-site monitoring system, other monitoring processes such as self-assessment or desk review of records, Wyoming complaint or due process hearing decisions, or data systems. In an effort to correct noncompliance, WDE may request that the state superintendent take appropriate administrative action with the state board, including but not limited to the changing of accreditation status against any school district or public agency failing to comply with any applicable laws. [See W.S. §§21-2-202(c)]

(vi)——Opportunity for hearing. Prior to withholding any funds under Part B of the IDEA, WDE shall provide reasonable notice and an opportunity for hearing in accordance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.155, 300.221 and 300.222.

## APPENDIX A

### Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula

Consistent with 34 C.F.R. §300.307, a school district or public agency is not required to use the Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula in order to find a child eligible for special services under the category of Specific Learning Disability (SLD). In the event a school district or public agency elects to establish a child's eligibility under the category of SLD through use of a severe discrepancy model, the school district or public agency must use the Wyoming Severe Discrepancy Formula and document compliance on the eligibility report.

The assessment of intellectual ability and academic functioning level must include individually administered norm-reference tests that are reliable and valid, and administered by an individual specifically trained to administer and interpret the instruments. Criterion-referenced tests, informal measures, work samples, classroom observations, and the child's educational history may be used as needed to corroborate norm-referenced test scores.

A child whose disability is a Specific Learning Disability must demonstrate a severe discrepancy between current achievement level and expected achievement level of 22 points upon initial evaluation. Expected achievement level (obtained from Table A) is based on the correlation between tests of the child's composite intellectual standard score compared to the child's composite achievement score in one (1) or more core achievement areas.

#### Instructions:

In all cases, intellectual and achievement standard scores should be based on age norms rather than grade norms and, when available, on cluster scores rather than on subtest scores. Using the most current editions and norms of any chosen standardized tests is preferable to using older editions with outdated norms.

The table on the following page entitled Correlation Coefficient Between Ability and Achievement Test Scores should be used to determine the child's expected achievement level. This table takes into account the correlation between the intellectual and

achievement measures being used as well as regression toward the mean. To use this table, the steps outlined below must be followed:

Step 1: Determine the correlation between the intellectual and achievement measures being used, if available. If the correlation between intellectual and achievement measures is not known, .65 may be used as an adequate median correlation between such measures.

Step 2: Locate the child's intellectual standard score in the side columns of Table A, entitled Correlation Coefficient Between Ability and Achievement Test Scores.

Step 3: Follow the row determined in Step 2 to the column with the correlation value closest to the correlation between the chosen measures of intellectual functioning and achievement or to a correlation of .65 if a specific correlation coefficient is not known.

Ability Score	Table A: Correlation Coefficient Between Ability and Achievement Test Scores											Ability Score
	0.4	0.45	0.5	0.55	0.6	0.65	0.7	0.75	0.8	0.85	0.9	
	Expected Achievement Score with Correction for Regression Toward the Mean											
130	112	114	115	117	118	120	121	123	124	126	127	130
129	112	113	115	116	117	119	120	122	123	125	126	129
128	111	113	114	115	117	118	120	121	122	124	125	128
127	111	112	114	115	116	118	119	120	122	123	124	127
126	110	112	113	114	116	117	118	120	121	122	123	126
125	110	111	113	114	115	116	118	119	120	121	122	125
124	110	111	112	113	114	116	117	118	119	120	122	124
123	109	110	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	120	121	123
122	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	117	118	119	120	122
121	108	109	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	121
120	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	120
119	108	109	110	110	111	112	113	114	114	116	117	119
118	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	114	115	116	118
117	107	108	109	109	110	111	112	113	114	114	115	117
116	106	107	108	109	110	110	111	112	113	114	114	116
115	106	107	108	108	109	110	111	111	112	113	114	115
114	106	106	107	108	108	109	110	111	111	112	113	114
113	105	106	107	107	108	108	109	110	110	111	112	113
112	105	105	106	107	107	108	108	109	110	110	111	112
111	104	105	106	106	107	107	108	108	109	109	110	111
110	104	105	105	106	106	106	107	108	108	109	109	110
109	104	104	105	105	105	106	106	107	107	108	108	109
108	103	104	104	104	105	105	106	106	106	107	107	108
107	103	103	104	104	105	105	105	105	106	106	106	107
106	102	103	103	103	104	104	104	105	105	105	105	106
105	102	102	103	103	103	103	104	104	104	104	104	105
104	102	102	102	102	102	103	103	103	103	103	104	104
103	101	101	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	103	103	103
102	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	102	102	102
101	100	100	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
99	100	100	100	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99

Ability Score	Table A: Correlation Coefficient Between Ability and Achievement Test Scores											Ability Score
	0.4	0.45	0.5	0.55	0.6	0.65	0.7	0.75	0.8	0.85	0.9	
Expected Achievement Score with Correction for Regression Toward the Mean												
98	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	98	98	98	98
97	99	99	99	98	98	98	98	98	98	97	97	97
96	98	98	98	98	98	97	97	97	97	97	96	96
95	98	98	98	97	97	97	97	96	96	96	96	95
94	98	97	97	97	96	96	96	96	95	95	95	94
93	97	97	97	96	96	95	95	95	94	94	94	93
92	97	96	96	96	95	95	94	94	94	93	93	92
91	96	96	96	95	95	94	94	93	93	92	92	91
90	96	96	95	95	94	94	93	93	92	92	91	90
89	96	95	95	94	93	93	92	92	91	91	90	89
88	95	95	94	93	93	92	92	91	90	90	89	88
87	95	94	94	93	92	92	91	90	90	89	88	87
86	94	94	93	92	92	91	90	90	89	88	87	86
85	94	93	93	92	91	90	90	89	88	87	86	85
84	94	93	92	91	90	90	89	88	87	86	86	84
83	93	92	92	91	90	89	88	87	86	86	85	83
82	93	92	91	90	89	88	87	87	86	85	84	82
81	92	91	91	90	89	88	87	86	85	84	83	81
80	92	91	90	89	88	87	86	85	84	83	82	80
79	92	91	90	88	87	86	85	84	83	82	81	79
78	91	90	89	88	87	86	85	84	82	81	80	78
77	91	90	89	87	86	85	84	83	82	80	79	77
76	90	89	88	87	86	84	83	82	81	80	78	76
75	90	89	88	86	85	84	83	81	80	79	78	75
74	90	88	87	86	84	83	82	81	79	78	77	74
73	89	88	87	85	84	82	81	80	78	77	76	73
72	89	87	86	85	83	82	80	79	78	76	75	72
71	88	87	86	84	83	81	80	78	77	75	74	71
70	88	86	85	84	82	80	79	78	76	74	73	70



