Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE)
Title I, Part C – Education of Migratory Children
Local Identification and Recruitment (ID&R) Plan

School District: *Thomas County* School Year: *2025-2026*

All school districts in Georgia follow the state and regional GaDOE MEP ID&R plan as outlined in the Georgia Migrant Education Program Identification and Recruitment and Data Collections Handbook. The plan below describes how the school district will implement ID&R requirements aligned with the state and regional ID&R plans.

I. ID&R Planning and Implementation

1. How often will the MEP contact meet with local ID&R staff (recruiters and supplemental service providers or SSPs) to monitor the implementation of this ID&R plan (minimum of once a semester and summer)?
   ID&R activities will be documented by the SSP and monitored in the Fall, Spring, and the Summer (3 times annually) by the Assistant Superintendent for Federal Programs.

2. Describe how the district will manage and coordinate year-round (regular school year and summer) and ongoing recruitment efforts for enrolled and out-of-school youth (OSY), including pre-school aged children? Describe how staff's schedules will be flexible during peak periods of agricultural activity, visits to seasonal and temporary work sites such as farms, packing sheds, and meat processing plants; such as poultry, beef, or lumber mills. Include a narrative that ensures the use of the ID&R Activities checklist to guarantee all ID&R activities are taking place at the appropriate time with required documentation.
   During prime harvest season (March-October) SSP's will complete recruiting visits every two weeks within the Thomas County School District. Visiting patterns will vary to ensure each community within the district is visited every other month. SSPs will make at least one ID&R visit during the months of June and July. SSPs will work flexible hours to maximize contact opportunities, designed to match parent schedules, as they complete recruiting activities during peak periods. Each SSP will complete activities listed on the ID&R checklist during recruiting visits.

3. How will the district coordinate with regional and state MEP staff to identify and contact potentially eligible migratory families, target enrollees and non-enrollees (ages 0 to 21), and ensure COEs are completed as needed (within two days)?
   The SSP maintains awareness of agricultural seasons that impact our school district. She also monitors community events that may lead to changes in temporary work patterns. The SSP will develop appropriate work related contacts with community officials and / or employers to stay current on trends with employment. District staff will continue to work with regional recruiting staff through the MEP Region 2 office. The SSP will coordinate efforts and maintain contact with regional recruiters on an as needed (at least monthly) basis. The SSP maintains a list of current and formerly eligible families to interview each fall. COE documentation will be completed in a timely manner, within the first two days.

4. How will the district contact eligible migratory children and youth to determine if new qualifying moves have occurred and ensure COEs are completed as needed?
   The SSP will visit previously identified families/participants and locations where migrants reside/shop to inquire about new migrant participants and to document updated qualifying work opportunities. Such visits will be completed during the re-sign period as well as the weeks following school breaks. While on such visits, the SSP will ask current migrant families about qualifying moves they have made.

5. How will the district ensure the occupational survey (completed by all students during new student registration and back-to-school registration) is gathered, reviewed, and prioritized for further follow-up to identify potential migratory children and youth? Include a reference that MEP's contact or a designee will review to ensure that the form in use is the most recently updated version. Include a reference to training local school staff on the process.
The occupational survey is utilized by the system as an additional tool to screen, locate, and recruit migrant students aged 3-21 residing within the school district. This survey is part of the registration package for new enrollees as well as the back-to-school registration papers for all returning students. The current version of the occupational survey is included in the online registration process for new enrollees to complete. The Thomas County Board of Education enrollment office personnel routinely provide the SSP with all completed occupational surveys. Occupational surveys are part of the back to school packet distributed to all students in the first week of school. District MEP staff provides staff training to school clerks to send all beginning of year Occupational Surveys to the Migrant Department as soon as they are received. Completed surveys are reviewed and prioritized for follow up at the beginning of each school year, and surveys are examined as they are submitted throughout the year. Each summer, the SSP will ensure that the occupational survey in use is the current version as published by GADOE. The SSP will follow up on surveys as soon as possible, generally within two days, and then contact region staff as appropriate. Required documents will be completed, reviewed, and submitted for further action based on the directions on the bottom of the forms. COE forms will be submitted to the region office within two days.

6. How will the district coordinate with other agencies and organizations and/or gather resources to build a recruitment network to identify potentially eligible migratory participants?
Thomas County Schools maintain working relationships with support agencies such as the Department of Labor, the local health department as well as a network of residential and commercial contacts that migrant families frequent. As a routine procedure, district MEP staff documents contact with these sources on the district created log at least quarterly. Thomas County Schools also designates a staff person as the homeless liaison who works closely with MEP staff and local agencies in order to coordinate support for homeless families. This person communicates with district MEP staff to ensure the efficient flow of information and service delivery. Thomas County School's enrollment staff compile a list of new enrollees twice annually. The SSP contacts people on the list to determine if they meet MEP eligibility requirements.

II. School District/Local Agricultural Information

1. How will the district create and/or maintain a current local agricultural or employment locations map containing profiles of employers, if applicable, agricultural activities, crops, and/or growing seasons in your area? Please explain how this information will be updated during the year (each semester minimum).
Thomas County Schools staff make contact with the Agricultural Extension office during the fall, spring and summer in order to develop leads on possible recruiting locations. The federal programs office will maintain a paper copy of the LEA employment locations that reflects required data, and will update this record each semester, and following any change in economic climate. Whenever an employer is identified, the following data will be added to a monitoring roster: business name, address, name of contact person and a phone number.

2. How will the district create and/or maintain a local residential map that includes the areas/neighborhoods and labor camps/apartment complexes where migratory families may reside? Please explain how this information will be updated during the year (each semester minimum).
Thomas County Schools program staff use information from the Thomas County Tax Assessors office as well as the Chamber of Commerce and the Agricultural Extension office to generate and maintain current maps of employers and residential areas that are frequently home to migrant families. Maps are updated during the fall, spring and summer each year.

3. What is the district's plan for contacting employers within its boundaries regarding hiring practices, crops, and growing seasons to identify potentially new eligible migratory families?
   Thomas County Schools staff routinely stay in touch with local employers and program participants to gather information concerning work trends and growing seasons in the area. Thomas County Schools staff implement monthly ID&R activities to ensure families have access to a free and appropriate public education. Contacts will be made by MEP staff at least every semester via telephone or in person, and the employer roster will be updated as needed.

4. The district's list of agricultural activities, local agricultural map, residential map, and list of employers must be readily available to be shared with the GaDOE MEP staff throughout the current school year when requested and/or needed. Where will this information be stored in the district? (Please ensure to keep all this information current and on file).
   The SSP will ensure that records concerning local agricultural activities, district maps, and lists of employers will be updated in the fall, spring, and summer and stored in the Federal programs office at the Thomas County Board of Education. Files will be made available upon request.

DISCLAIMER

The Georgia Migrant Education Program Identification and Recruitment and Data Collections Handbook is the primary source of information for all aspects of ID&R.

Reminders

- All quality control procedures must follow the *Georgia Migrant Education Program Identification and Recruitment and Data Collections Handbook* quality control descriptors. Please visit: http://www.gadoe.org/School-Improvement/Federal-Programs/Pages/publications.aspx and click on the *Georgia Migrant Education Program Identification and Recruitment and Data Collections Handbook* link.

- You may use the Georgia MEP State Agricultural Activities map as a starting point when creating your local agricultural map: http://www.gadoe.org/School-Improvement/Federal-Programs/Pages/Identification-and-Recruitment.aspx

- Remember that your local agricultural map must include information unique to your area and complement the Georgia MEP State agricultural map with information not currently identified/found in it.

Agreement

☒ I agree that all the information provided in this ID&R Plan is true and up-to-date to the best of my knowledge and will be readily available for the Georgia MEP staff for use, research, resources, and or monitoring purposes throughout the current school year.

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