Palo Pinto County Special Education Shared Services Arrangement
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Santo, TX 76472
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Re: Proportionate share funding for Private Nonprofit School Notification and Consultation

The purpose of this letter is to share information about the special education services that are available to students who are parentally placed in a private nonprofit school and who are receiving instruction through a private/nonprofit school or homeschool program.

The districts participating in the Palo Pinto County Shared Services Arrangement (PPCSSA) are: Gordon ISD, Graford ISD, Palo Pinto ISD, Santo ISD and Strawn ISD. Each district is required to locate, identify and evaluate all children with disabilities who are enrolled by the parents in private schools, including religious schools, and home schools located in the school district.

Child Find Process
The child find process includes children aged 3-21 who are suspected of having a disability.

- Full Individual Evaluation (FIE)- Contact the district where the private or homeschool is located to request an FIE. The district will provide the opportunity for parents to provide informed written consent for a Full and Individual Evaluation to determine the presence of a disability.
    - If the district where the private school is located is not the district where the child resides and the parent requests the district of residence to evaluate the child, the district of residence must conduct an evaluation upon receiving written parental consent if it suspects or has reason to suspect that the child is a child with a disability.

- Re-evaluations-The school district where the private or homeschool is located must provide the parent with the prior written notice and offer the parent the opportunity to provide informed written consent for a re-evaluation. A Review of Existing Evaluation Data (REED) to determine the need for a re-evaluation is completed at least every three years.

- Provision of Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)-The district that completed the evaluation for children ages 5-21 will conduct the initial admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) meeting. The district that completed the evaluation for children who are ages 3-5 and not dually enrolled will conduct an Individual Service Plan (ISP) meeting. The purpose of these meetings is to address eligibility for special education and related services. Depending on factors such as whether the district where the private school is located is the resident school district (the resident district is required to offer FAPE) and whether the parent makes clear an intention to keep the child in the private school, the ARD or ISP committee must also determine equitable participation in programs for such children and/or the provisions of a FAPE.

- Individual Services Plan- The district where the private school is located shall develop a service plan for each parentally placed private school child with a disability who is designated to receive equitable services. Equitable services are special education and related services, including direct services, provided to parentally placed private school children with disabilities. A service plan outlines the special education and related services that a parentally placed private school child with disabilities will receive.

- Parentally placed private school children with disabilities have no individual entitlement to receive some or all the special education and related services they would receive if enrolled in the public school.

- The district, private school/home school and the student's parents determine the location where services will be provided to parentally placed private school children with disabilities during the service plan meeting. District's in the Palo Pinto County SSA provides speech services at the school of residence or the private school. Services are not provided in the child's home.

- The district, private school/home school and the student's parents will review the service plan at least annually.

Services Available
Each school district of residence will provide speech therapy services to eligible parentally placed private/homeschool students with a speech impairment.

Amount of Services Provided
The amount of services provided depend on the amount of IDEA B proportionate share funds that are available. The district must spend the following amounts on providing special education and related services (including direct services) to parentally placed private school children with disabilities:

- For children aged 3 through 21, a proportionate share of funds provided through the IDEA B grant must be expended on the number of the PPCSSA private school children with disabilities who are parentally placed in a private/homeschool as is to the total number of all children in the PPCSSA with disabilities in the district's jurisdiction aged three through 21.

- For children aged 3 through 5 the LEA must allocate a portion of its IDEA-B Preschool funds. This portion is based on the number of children in PPCSSA districts with disabilities placed by their parents in private schools, compared to the total number of children in PPCSSA districts with disabilities aged 3 through 5.

Please call Parisa Lerma if you suspect a child age 0-21 who lives in: Gordon, Graford, Palo Pinto, Santo or Strawn of having a disability. PPCSSA school districts are ready, willing and able to assist you in evaluating and developing a plan to provide services for students who have a disability.

Note: For further information on private nonprofit school participation, including instructions on calculating proportionate share, see Guidance on Parentally Placed Private School Children with Disabilities Quick Guide and FAQ, the Questions and Answers on Serving Children with Disabilities Placed by Their Parents in Private Schools (rev. Feb 2022) from the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), and Appendix B to Part 300—Proportionate Share Calculation.