

BRANDYWINE HEIGHTS AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: CHILD FIND AND SCREENING

ADOPTED: June 28, 2004

REVISED:

<p>1. Guidelines</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">113.3. CHILD FIND AND SCREENING</p> <p><u>Public Awareness and Outreach</u></p> <p>The Director of Special Education Services shall ensure that the following public awareness activities occur concerning programs and services for children with disabilities who reside with the Brandywine Heights Area School District, regardless of whether those children attend public or private schools.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Directly or indirectly through the Berks County Intermediate Unit, publish once annually a written notice, in a newspaper or other media with circulation adequate to notify parents/guardians throughout the Brandywine Heights Area School District, of child identification activities, of school district and other public education services and programs, of the manner in which to request services and programs, and of the procedures followed to ensure confidentiality of information pertaining to students with disabilities in accordance with state and federal law. 2. Post conspicuously on the Internet home page of the school district the information described in the above section of this policy. 3. Directly or through the Berks County Intermediate Unit, consult annually with private school administrators and representatives concerning the development of child find activities designed to identify, evaluate, and offer special education services and programs to children with disabilities who reside within the Brandywine Heights Area School District and who attend private schools, provided, however, that nothing in this policy shall be construed to authorize the provision of special education programs and services in or on the premises of private schools. 4. Display conspicuously in every public school building in the school district printed circulars or pamphlets containing the information describes in the above Section 1 of this policy.
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<p>Pol. 209</p>	<p><u>Outreach</u></p> <p>The Director of Special Education Services shall ensure that the following outreach activities occur concerning programs and services for children with disabilities who reside within the Brandywine Heights Area School District, regardless of whether those children attend public or private schools:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Directly or indirectly with the Berks County Intermediate Unit, offer parent/guardian training and information activities and publicize the availability of such activities to all parents/guardians.2. Directly or indirectly through the Berks County Intermediate Unit, provide physicians, hospitals, mental health professionals, daycare providers, and County agency personnel training or other information concerning the types of special education programs and services available in and through the school district and the manner in which parents/guardians can access those services.3. Directly or through the Berks County Intermediate Unit, provide periodic training to regular education staff of the school district and, by invitation, of the private schools concerning the identification and evaluation of, and provision of special education programs and services to, students with disabilities. <p><u>Screening</u></p> <p>The Director of Special Education shall establish a system of screening to accomplish the following, and, whenever practicable, the system thus established shall use existing building-level supports, services, and processes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Identify and provide initial screening for students prior to referral for an initial special education multidisciplinary team evaluation.2. Provide peer support for teachers and other staff members to assist them in working effectively with students in the general education curriculum.3. Conduct hearing and vision screening in accordance with Section 1402 of the Public School Code of 1949, 24 P.S. 14-1402, for the purpose of identifying students with hearing or vision difficulty so that they can be referred for assistance or recommended for evaluation for special education.4. Identify students who may need special education services and programs.
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The pre-evaluation screening process described in above of this policy shall include:

1. For students with academic concerns, an assessment of the student's functioning in the curriculum including curriculum-based or performance-based assessment.
2. For students with behavioral concerns, a systematic observation of the student's behavior in the classroom or area in which the student is displaying difficulty.
3. An intervention based on the results of the assessments.
4. An assessment of the student's response to the intervention.
5. A determination of whether or not student's needs exceed the functional capacity of the regular education program, without special education programs and services, to maintain the student at an instructional level appropriate to the level and pace of instruction provided in that program.
6. Activities designed to gain the participation of parents/guardians.
7. Controls to ensure that if screening activities have produced little or no improvement within sixty (60) school days after initiation, the student shall be referred for a multidisciplinary team evaluation.

Rights Preserved and Waiver of Pre-Evaluation Screening

The screening activities described shall not serve as a bar to the right of a parent/guardian to request a multidisciplinary team evaluation at any time. When the completion of screening activities prior to referral for a multidisciplinary team evaluation will result in serious mental or physical harm, or significant educational regression, to the student or others, the school district may initiate a multidisciplinary team evaluation without completion of the screening process. Whenever an evaluation is conducted without a pre-evaluation screening, the activities of this policy shall be completed as part of that evaluation whenever possible.

PA Code
Title 22
Sec. 14.121, 14.122

34 CFR
300.125, 300.451