



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

July 20, 2020

Honorable Christina M. Kishimoto
State Superintendent
Hawaii Department of Education
P.O. Box 2360
Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Dear Superintendent Kishimoto,

This letter addresses the Hawaii Department of Education (HIDOE) November 18, 2019 and April 1, 2020 submissions to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), in response to OSEP's September 12, 2019 Differentiated Monitoring and Support (DMS) letter.

OSEP's September 12, 2019 letter required HIDOE to:

1. Report FFY 2018 data for the State-identified Measurable Result (SiMR). Additionally, the State must, consistent with its evaluation plan described in Phase II, assess and report on its progress in implementing the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP). Specifically, the State must provide:
 - a. A narrative or graphic representation of the principal activities implemented in Phase III, Year 4
 - b. Measures and outcomes that were implemented and achieved since the State's last SSIP submission (i.e., April 1, 2019)
 - c. A summary of the SSIP's coherent improvement strategies, including infrastructure improvement strategies, and evidence-based practices that were implemented by the State and progress toward short- and long-term outcomes that are intended to impact the SiMR
 - d. Any supporting data that demonstrates that implementation of these activities is impacting the State's capacity to improve its SiMR data. If, in its FFY 2018 SPP/APR due in February 2020, the State is not able demonstrate progress in implementing its coherent improvement strategies, including progress in the areas of infrastructure improvement strategies or the implementation of evidence-based practices with fidelity, the State must provide its root cause analysis for each of these challenges.
2. The State must summarize the specific evidence-based practices that were implemented and the strategies or activities that supported their selection and ensured their use with fidelity

3. The State must describe how the evidence-based practices, and activities or strategies that support their use, are intended to impact the SiMR by changing program/district policies, procedures, and/or practices, teacher/provider practices (e.g., behaviors), parent/caregiver outcomes, and/or child outcomes.

4. Within 90 days, the State must provide a written update on the progress and effectiveness of activities currently underway, specific to data, evidence-based practices, evaluation planning, stakeholder engagement and other State-specific needs.

Upon review of the State’s submissions, OSEP has determined that HIDEOE has provided all the required information and no further action is required.

OSEP appreciates the time and attention provided by your State’s staff in addressing the required actions related to the DMS letter. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call your OSEP State Lead, Jennifer Barrett-Zitkus, at (202)245-6049.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laurie VanderPloeg".

Laurie VanderPloeg
Director
Office of Special Education Program

cc: Annie Kalama
Special Education Director