



Cycle 2 Group 2

Dates: January-March 2021

# TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY 2020-2021 CYCLICAL MONITORING REPORT SULPHUR SPRINGS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

CDN: 112901

Non-Compliance Identified

Corrective Actions To Be Completed

## INTRODUCTION

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) would like to extend appreciation to Sulphur Springs ISD for their efforts, attention, and time committed to the completion of the review process.

The TEA has developed a monitoring approach that reviews compliance-based indicators while also looking for best practices. In commitment to the approach, the cyclical monitoring report will provide the results of the LEA's compliance review related to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and federal and state statutes, a summary of data related to Results-Driven Accountability (RDA), State Performance Plan (SPP), Significant Disproportionality (SD), and dyslexia program evaluation recommend targeted technical assistance and support for LEAs related to special education, and highlight best practices of LEAs that demonstrate success.

## CYCLICAL MONITORING

The TEA conducts cyclical reviews of all LEAs statewide over six years. The purpose of cyclical monitoring is to support positive outcomes for students with disabilities and to determine compliance with special education regulations and dyslexia program regulations.

LEAs are required to submit artifacts and/or sources of evidence for compliance and promising practices review in the following areas:

- Child Find/Evaluation/FAPE
- IEP Development
- IEP Content
- IEP Implementation
- State Assessment
- Properly Constituted ARD Committees
- Transition

## 2020–2021 CYCLICAL REVIEW COMPLIANCE SUMMARY

On January 22, 2021, the TEA conducted a policy review of Sulphur Springs ISD. On February 25, 2021, the TEA conducted a comprehensive desk review of Sulphur Springs ISD. The total number of

files reviewed for the Sulphur Springs ISD comprehensive desk review was 24. The review found overall that 18 files out of 24 files were compliant. An overview of the policy review and student file review for Sulphur Springs ISD are organized in the chart below by indicating the number of compliant findings within the reviewed file submissions related to the compliance area. Itemized details of these findings are in the appendix:

<b>Compliance Area</b>	<b>Policy Review (# compliant of # reviewed)</b>	<b>Student File Review (# compliant of # reviewed)</b>
Child Find/Evaluation/FAPE	19 of 19	24 of 24
IEP Development	5 of 5	18 of 24
IEP Content	3 of 3	24 of 24
IEP Implementation	21 of 21	24 of 24
Properly Constituted ARD	8 of 8	24 of 24
State Assessment	4 of 4	24 of 24
Transition	6 of 6	9 of 9

## 2020–2021 DYSLEXIA COMPLIANCE SUMMARY

The dyslexia monitoring process focuses on three-core elements: early identification and intervention, program of instruction, and parent notification. The TEA Department of Review and Support: Dyslexia Monitoring reviewed Sulphur Springs ISD artifacts using a program evaluation protocol which is aligned to Senate Bill 2075 of the 86<sup>th</sup> Legislature, Texas Education Code (TEC) 38.003 (c-1), and 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 74.28. The 2020-2021 school year results for Sulphur Springs ISD are in the table below.

<b>Areas of Implementation</b>	<b>Compliance Status</b>
<b>Dyslexia Procedures</b>	Met Compliance
<b>Parent Communication</b>	Met Compliance
<b>Screening</b>	Met Compliance
<b>Reading Instruments</b>	Met Compliance
<b>Evaluation and Identification</b>	Met Compliance
<b>Instruction</b>	Met Compliance
<b>Dysgraphia</b>	Met Compliance
<b>Professional Development and Training</b>	Met Compliance

## DATA SUMMARY OF RESULTS-DRIVEN ACCOUNTABILITY, STATE PERFORMANCE PLAN INDICATORS, AND SIGNIFICANT DISPROPORTIONALITY

The following supplemental data may be used to support development of the Strategic Support Plan (SSP) for continuous improvement and/or a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) if noncompliance is identified.

Year	Results-Driven Accountability (RDA) Determination Level	SPP Indicators 11, 12, 13 Compliance*	Significant Disproportionality
2020	DL 2—Needs Assistance	COMPLIANT	N/A

\*Indicator 11: Child Find  
 Indicator 12: Early Childhood Transition  
 Indicator 13: Secondary Transition

### 2020-2021 COVID-19 IMPACT NARRATIVE

In the 2020-2021 academic year, Local Education Agencies (LEAs) were provided an opportunity to complete a COVID-19 impact narrative form documenting the practices incorporated to support Child Find and FAPE for students being served by special education programs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### 2020-2021 CYCLICAL REVIEW PARENT, TEACHER, ADMINISTRATOR INTERVIEWS/SURVEY

#### Staff and Family Surveys

On April 1, 2021, the TEA Review and Support team received 128 surveys.

The Review and Support surveys focused on the following review areas:

100% of participants felt they receive sufficient communication from their school. The best way the school/district provides information about trainings, online trainings, support groups, and other available resources concerning special education services is via email, followed by notifications sent home and phone calls.

The majority of parent/family member participants felt they would be most comfortable attending special education information sessions at the school campus.

100% of participants indicated they have a clear understanding of special education services.

The most selected areas of special education the participants would like to know about was the Small and Rural Schools Network.

The majority of participants felt the training to help meet students' needs with disabilities was effective.

66% percent of participants agree or somewhat agree that there were frequent opportunities to collaborate with related service providers.

The obstacles concerning student's special education programming and services were reported as:

- Assuring students receive accommodations and/or modifications as outlined in the IEP.
- Scheduling ARD meetings
- Timely updates on student progress
- Knowledge of available services and programs

92% of participants agree with the importance of including students' interests/life goals in the transition process, with 51% strongly agreeing.

Participants indicated half chose the in-person learning model and the other half chose the remote learning model. Most participants also reported that remote learning for students receiving special education was somewhat effective.

85% of participants felt that during COVID school closure/remote learning, the Emergency Contingency Plan effectively improved student progress.

During COVID closures, the top three ways indicated that teachers provided support to students with moderate to severe disabilities were:

- Teachers provided supports needed for students to be successful.
- Teachers made regular contact with students and parents to meet academic and emotional needs.
- Teachers modified work and provided individualized support.

Participants indicated that they needed professional development during COVID school closure/remote learning to provide virtual instruction and use the virtual platforms.

Participants indicated that during COVID school closure/remote learning strategies, the district's top two supports that didn't work well for students with disabilities were the online submission of assignments and drive-through packet pick up and drop off.

More than 50% of participants indicated that they agree or strongly agree that school staff worked with parents/guardians in addressing severe behavior and work refusal.

This survey was approved by the Texas Education Agency's data governance board. Participation in this survey was both voluntary and anonymous. No data was collected identifying a name so that individual responses cannot be linked to any respondent. Participants were given the option to stop the survey at any time.

## **Strengths**

Based on results of the policy review and student file review, along with data collected from LEA staff and family surveys, the Review and Support team identified the following strengths for Sulphur

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Springs ISD:

- All Required Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) committee members attend ARD meetings to ensure they are properly constituted.
- All monitored special education policies and practices follow federal and state requirements and are linked to the Legal Framework.
- Individual Education Plan (IEP) documentation is well-organized, neat, and up-to-date.

## Considerations

Based on results of the policy review and student file review, along with data collected from LEA staff and family surveys, the Review and Support team identified the following considerations for Sulphur Springs ISD:

- Review guidance and provide staff training related to IEP goal development, including writing objectives and benchmarks.
- Consider reviewing the guidance and providing staff training related to the present level of academic achievement and functional performance (PLAAFP) development.

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

As a result of monitoring, the TEA has identified the following technical assistance resources to support Sulphur Springs ISD engaging in **targeted** support as determined by the RDA performance level data and artifacts within the compliance review:

Topic	Resource
IEP Goal Development	<p><a href="#">Technical Assistance: Individualized Education Program (IEP) Development</a>: A technical assistance guidance document intended to support the implementation of services for students with disabilities. This guide focuses on IEP development and includes information on writing PLAAFPs and goals.</p> <p><a href="#">Individual Education Program (IEP) Annual Goal Development</a>: A question and answer document that guides the reader through annual goal development.</p>
Present Levels of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance	<p><a href="#">Technical Assistance: Individualized Education Program (IEP) Development</a>: Linked is a technical assistance guidance document intended to support the implementation of services for students with disabilities. This guide focuses on IEP development and includes information on writing PLAAFPs and goals.</p> <p><a href="#">Case Study: Making Connections to the General Curriculum through the 7 Step IEP Process</a>: Guides a case study on creating standards-based IEPs. Step three provides information on developing a PLAAFP.</p>

	<a href="#">National Center on Intensive Intervention</a> : A website intended to help state and local leaders, including school, district, and state administrators and staff responsible for leading multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) and special education initiatives, find tools and resources to support data-based individualization (DBI) implementation.
<b>Requested Network Information</b>	<a href="#">Small and Rural Schools Network</a> : This network strives to build the capacity of small and rural LEAs to provide a more equitable level of access for students with disabilities in these communities. The network will develop state-level infrastructures, resources, and professional development to support LEAs who face unique challenges, such as resource limitations and geographic remoteness.

## FINDINGS OF NONCOMPLIANCE

A finding is made when noncompliance is identified with the Review and Support report findings, SPP notification, and/or individualized education program (IEP) requirements. Noncompliance that is systemic in nature must be included in a comprehensive corrective action plan (CAP) with action steps to address each of the noncompliance findings. ***When noncompliance has been identified as part of this cyclical review, Sulphur Springs ISD will receive formal notification of noncompliance in addition to this report.***

The TEA Department of Review and Support will further advise the LEA on the corrective action process, if applicable.

The TEA follows procedures for the correction of noncompliance consistent with federal guidelines (OSEP Memo 09-02.)

Before the TEA can report that noncompliance has been corrected, it must first verify the LEA:

- Has corrected each individual case of noncompliance (Prong 1); and
- Is correctly implementing the specific regulatory requirements (i.e., subsequently achieved 100% compliance) (Prong 2).

The TEA is required to monitor the completion of a corrective action plan if any noncompliance is discovered. The corrective action plan must be designed to correct any and all areas of noncompliance ***as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year from the date of notification.***

### Corrective Action Plan (CAP)

The LEA will develop a CAP to address any items identified as noncompliance in this summary report. An approved form for the CAP can be accessed on the Review and Support website or in the resources located in Ascend Texas.

The LEA must submit the CAP in Ascend within 30 school days from the date of this report and/or formal notification of noncompliance. The TEA will review the CAP submitted by the LEA for approval.

If the TEA determines that a revision(s) is necessary, the LEA will be required to revise and resubmit. The Review and Support team will contact the LEA to provide notification when the CAP has been approved.

### Individual Correction

The educational agency has **60 school days** from the date of this summary report to correct all identified findings of noncompliance for individual students, unless noted otherwise in the report.

## 2020–2021 DYSLEXIA PROGRAM EVALUATION FINDINGS

As a result of the program evaluation review, the TEA Department of Review and Support: Dyslexia Monitoring has identified the following strengths, considerations, and technical assistance recommendations for Sulphur Springs ISD.

### Areas of Strength

Areas of strength for the LEA include their preparation of general education teachers and dyslexia specialists who provide services to students with dyslexia and related disorders. The LEA provided evidence of annual teacher preparation training.

### Areas of Consideration

The LEA's dyslexia program is in alignment with state and federal requirements. The following resources are recommended to support the implementation of the dyslexia program, internal systems, and procedures.

Topic	Resource
TEA Review and Support	<a href="#">Dyslexia Monitoring</a>
TEA Special Education	<a href="#">Dyslexia and Related Disorders</a>
Dyslexia: TEA Professional Learning Course	<a href="#">TEALearn Dyslexia Modules</a>

### Corrective Action

The TEA reviews data collected from the dyslexia program evaluation to ensure compliance with federal and state regulatory requirements. In accordance with Senate Bill 2075 of the 86<sup>th</sup> Legislature, TEC 38.003 (c-1), and 19 TAC 74.28. regarding noncompliance identified through the dyslexia program evaluation, a finding of noncompliance is identified by the citation (i.e., program or process) that is violated.

### Dyslexia Performance Plan (DPP)

If noncompliance is identified, the LEA is required to demonstrate correction of all noncompliance in the Dyslexia Performance Plan (DPP). This tool guides LEAs through a continuous improvement process. It addresses areas of growth that will positively impact students with dyslexia or other related disorders. LEAs should complete the DPP no later than 120-days after receiving notification of noncompliance. This document will be provided by the TEA or can be accessed in the resources section of the [Review and Support website](#).

## LEA ACTIONS

Timeline for Strategic Support Plan (SSP) and/or Corrective Action Plan (CAP) Below:

Required Actions	Submission Due Date	Completion Due Date	Support Level	Communication Schedule
SSP	12/18/2020		Targeted	90 days
CAP	6/14/2021	4/29/2022		30 days
DPP	NA			

For more information about cyclical monitoring and the Differentiated Monitoring and Support process, please visit the [Review and Support website](#)

\*\*LEA may have previously identified corrective actions in addition to findings in this report.



## REFERENCES

[Differentiated Monitoring and Support System](#)

[Review and Support General Supervision Monitoring Guide](#)

[State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report and Requirements](#)

[Results-Driven Accountability Reports and Data](#)

[Results-Driven Accountability District Reports](#)

[Results-Driven Accountability Manual](#)

## APPENDIX

### IEP Development

#### Student File Review

Item	IDEA Citation	TEC/TAC Citation	Evidence of Findings	Required Actions	Must Be Addressed in CAP
ID3	34 CFR § 300.320(a)(2)(i)		Yes	<p>Individual—Yes</p> <p>Convene ARD committee meetings for those students whose records indicate noncompliance in this area to consider if the student’s free, appropriate public education (FAPE) has been impacted and determine if compensatory services are needed.</p> <p>Systemic—Yes</p> <p>Review and revise policies and procedures, including operating procedures and practices, addressing this issue.</p> <p>Provide training on these procedures to the appropriate staff.</p> <p>Develop processes that allow for self-monitoring this area of noncompliance.</p> <p>Demonstrate systemic, ongoing compliance in this area.</p>	Yes

ID6	<p>34 CFR §300.320(a)(2)(ii)</p> <p>34 CFR §300.320(a)(6)</p>	<p>TAC §89.1055(b)</p>	Yes	<p>Individual—Yes</p> <p>Convene ARD committee meetings for those students whose records indicate noncompliance in this area to consider if the student’s free, appropriate public education (FAPE) has been impacted and determine if compensatory services are needed.</p> <p>Systemic—Yes</p> <p>Review and revise policies and procedures, including operating procedures and practices, addressing this issue.</p> <p>Provide training on these procedures to the appropriate staff.</p> <p>Develop processes that allow for self-monitoring this area of noncompliance.</p> <p>Demonstrate systemic, ongoing compliance in this area.</p>	Yes
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