

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

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November 10, 2015

Mr. John Kelly
Chief Executive Officer
Meeting Street Massachusetts, Inc.
One Posa Place
Dartmouth, MA 02747

Re: Mid-cycle Review and Verification of previous Program Review Corrective Action Plan
A - Schwartz Center Day Program

Dear Mr. Kelly:

Enclosed is the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's ("Department") Mid-cycle Review Report based upon the Mid-cycle Review conducted in your private school program in November 2015. Because the Department determined all requirements were found to be either fully implemented or commendable during the 2013 Program Review, this Mid-cycle Review Report includes a report on the status of selected Mid-cycle Review criteria as well as the implementation of new state or federal special education requirements enacted since your program's last Program Review.

We are pleased to indicate that the Department has found that your program is in substantial compliance with the selected Mid-cycle Review criteria as well as any new state or federal special education requirements enacted since your last Program Review. You and your entire staff are to be congratulated for your efforts in implementing all necessary improvements. Your program will now receive an updated status of "Full Approval." This approval shall remain in effect for three (3) years and will be contingent upon continued compliance with all regulations contained within 603 CMR 28.00 "Special Education Regulations" and 603 CMR 18.00 "Program And Safety Standards For Approved Public Or Private Day And Residential Special Education School Programs." The Department may change this approval status at any point during this three-year period if circumstances arise that warrant such a change.

The Department will notify you of your program's next regularly scheduled Program Review several months before it is to occur. At this time we anticipate the next routine monitoring visit to occur sometime during the 2018-2019 school year, unless the Department determines that there is some reason to schedule this visit earlier.

Please be advised that the attached Department Approval Certificate must be conspicuously posted in a public place within the program as required by 603 CMR 28.09.

Your staff's cooperation throughout these follow-up monitoring activities is appreciated. Should you require additional clarification of information included in our report, please do not hesitate to contact the Onsite Team Chairperson.

Sincerely,

Dee Wyatt, Mid-cycle Review Chairperson
Program Quality Assurance Services

Darlene Lynch, Director
Program Quality Assurance Services

c: Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D., Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education

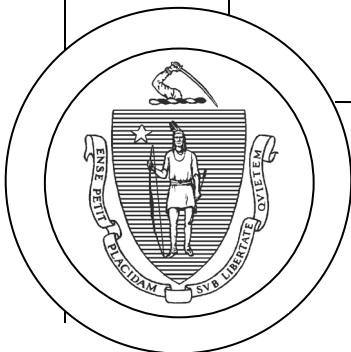
Encl.: Mid-cycle Review Report
Full Approval Certificate, Expiration Date: August 31, 2019
Schwartz Center Day Program



MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
EDUCATION

MID-CYCLE REVIEW REPORT
Meeting Street Massachusetts, Inc.
MCR Onsite Date: 11/06/2015

Programs under review for the agency:
A - Schwartz Center Day Program



Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education

MID-CYCLE REVIEW REPORT

PS Criterion #2.2 - Approvals, Licenses, Certificates of Inspection

Rating:

Implemented

Basis for Findings:

A review of documentation indicated that there were current approvals, licenses and certificates of inspection for all buildings used by the students.

PS Criterion #2.3 - EEC Licensure (Residential Programs Only)

Rating:

Not Applicable

Basis for Findings:

This standard is not applicable to day programs.

PS Criterion #6.1 - Daily Instructional Hours

Rating:

Implemented

Basis for Findings:

A review of documentation indicated that all students were scheduled to receive the required number of instructional hours.

PS Criterion #6.4 - School Days Per Year

Rating:

Implemented

Basis for Findings:

A review of documentation indicated that the required number of school days was scheduled for all students.

PS Criterion #8.5 - Current IEP & Student Roster

Rating:

Implemented

Basis for Findings:

A review of documentation and student records indicated that there was a current IEP for each enrolled Massachusetts student that had been issued by the responsible public school district and consented to by the student's parent or student, when applicable. In student records where an IEP was found to not be current, there was documentation of the program's efforts to obtain a current IEP from the responsible school district.

PS Criterion #11.3 - Educational Administrator Qualifications

Rating:

Implemented

Basis for Findings:

A review of documentation indicated that the Educational Administrator possessed the required qualifications to serve in this position.

PS Criterion #11.4 - Teachers (Special Education Teachers and Regular Education Teachers)

Rating:

Implemented

Basis for Findings:

A review of documentation indicated that the teaching staff were appropriately licensed or had been granted an appropriate waiver for the 2014-2015 school year.

PS Criterion #11.5 - Related Services Staff

Rating:

Implemented

Basis for Findings:

A review of documentation indicated that the staff providing or supervising the provision of related services were appropriately certified, licensed or registered in their professional areas.

PS Criterion #11.6 - Master Staff Roster

Rating:

Implemented

Basis for Findings:

A review of documentation indicated the Master Staff Roster contained the name, program job title, corresponding Uniform Financial Report (UFR) title number and full-time equivalent (FTE) for all staff. The Master Staff Roster also accurately corresponded to the last approved program budget.

PS Criterion #11.12 - Equal Access

Rating:

Implemented

Basis for Findings:

A review of documentation and staff interviews indicated that all students were provided with equal access to services, facilities, activities and benefits regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability or homelessness.

PS Criterion #13.2 - Kitchen, Dining, Bathing/Toilet and Living Areas

Rating:

Implemented

Basis for Findings:

Observations and staff interviews indicated that the program provides the facilities, textbooks, equipment, technology, materials and supplies needed to provide the special education services specified on the IEPs of enrolled students. All kitchen, dining, bathing/toileting, living areas and classrooms were found to be of an adequate type, size and design appropriate to meet the needs of the students. Floors, ceilings and walls were found to be clean and free from safety hazards.

PS Criterion #14.2 - Food and Nutrition

Rating:

Implemented

Basis for Findings:

A review of documentation and staff interviews indicated that all meals are included in the rate of the program, which makes breakfast and lunch available to publicly-funded students with disabilities as they would have access to such meals in their sending school district. A copy of the written plan describing the methods for purchase, storage, preparations and serving of food as well as the name and title of the person responsible for oversight of the purchase, storage and preparations were also submitted.

PS Criterion #19 - Anti-Hazing

Rating:

Implemented

Basis for Findings:

A review of student records indicated a copy of the anti-hazing legislation was received by all secondary school age students and that the program's anti-hazing disciplinary code approved by the Board of Directors had been distributed to all secondary school age students.

PS Criterion #20 - Bullying Prevention and Intervention

Rating:

Implemented

Basis for Findings:

A review of documentation and staff interviews indicated that the student admissions materials/handbook was updated to conform to the updated amended Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan ("Plan") and was consistent with the amendments to the Massachusetts anti-bullying law, including making clear that a member of the school staff may be named the "aggressor" or "perpetrator" in a bullying report. There was evidence of staff, students and parents/guardians having been annually notified in writing of the Plan and a professional development plan was in place for all staff, with evidence of its implementation provided.