

KEY ASSESSMENT FOR EDLD 755 – DR. BETTY COX

Final Activity: As a final activity, you are to conduct an interview with 1) your school principal and 2) your local district director of special education (Some districts may not have an individual assigned to this latter position. In that case, interview the person responsible for the district's special education program.) You will ask the same questions to both parties but should not share one individual's responses with the other. Besides acquiring the information, the purpose of this activity is to compare how a school administrator perceives certain situations versus the person accountable overall for the district's special education program. Be certain to identify the district, school and individuals with whom you spoke. Record responses to all of the following questions:

1. What is the total number of students being provided special education services overall and by race/ethnicity and gender? What percentage of the total student population does this represent?
2. What is the total number of students being served in each special education category and by race/ethnicity and gender?
3. What is the total number of employees working only with special education students? What are the specific positions with the total number for each position?
4. What is the process for determining the eligibility for students with disabilities/exceptionalities?
5. What is the range of services available to disabled students? Please be specific.
6. What is the process for determining the eligibility for gifted and talented students? How are they served?
7. What child find procedures are used including how the general public is notified as to the services available to children with disabilities and the process of identification?
8. What is the continuum of placements for special education students, i.e., the range of settings in which students with disabilities receive their education (least to most restrictive environment)?
9. What is the process for scheduling IEP team meetings? Whose responsibility is it to schedule the meeting and contact the team members? Who chairs the committee?

10. Is there an established process for resolving disagreements between parents of special education students and school professionals? Please describe this process.
11. What is the role of collaboration among special education professionals, general education professionals, related service providers and parents in the delivery of services for students with disabilities?
12. What is the district's position relative to inclusion of special education students in the general education curriculum?
13. What is the district's position on the use and effectiveness of positive behavior supports (PBS)?
14. How are students with disabilities disciplined? Is the process different than that used with regular education students?
15. Does the district utilize intervention assistance teams? If yes, what are the positions of the members that comprise the team and the procedure guiding their roles and responsibilities of the team?

Each question should be answered fully. Following each individual's responses to the set of questions, provide your opinions and reflections of the answers, especially any discrepancies, as well as your impression of how successfully your school district is meeting the requirements of state and federal mandates relative to special education. The activity should be approximately 5-10 pages in length.