

**Kirsten Baesler**  
State Superintendent



**NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**

600 E Boulevard Ave., Dept. 201  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0440  
Phone (701) 328-2260  
Fax (701) 328-2461  
[www.nd.gov/dpi](http://www.nd.gov/dpi)

March 17, 2017

Douglas Sullivan, Superintendent  
Dickinson School District  
444 4<sup>th</sup> St W  
Dickinson ND 58601-4951



Dear Mr. Sullivan:

As required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) 2004, the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI) has developed and implemented a six-year State Performance Plan that consists of 17 compliance and performance indicators. Each year, the NDDPI collects data from all school districts regarding their performance on these indicators. This Annual Performance Report is submitted to the U. S. Department of Education in February of each year. These reports are posted on the NDDPI website located at: <https://www.nd.gov/dpi/SchoolStaff/SpecialEd/DataandReports/>.

In addition to these reports, States must also annually review SPP/APR data for each district. As a result of this review, the NDDPI must determine the level of performance for each public school district based on data for the 2015-2016 school year. Each school district is then assigned one of the following *Levels of Determination*:

1. Meets Requirements
2. Needs Assistance
3. Needs Intervention
4. Needs Substantial Intervention

The determinations for school districts are made on an annual basis. The NDDPI uses the criteria set out by the U.S. Department of Education in 2009 when determining performance levels for each school district. The determination may change from year to year based upon progress or slippage on indicators and other measures. Additional criteria will be added annually as NDDPI and school districts establish baseline data for other required compliance and performance indicators.

Dickinson School District has been determined to be in the *Meets Requirements* level based on data submitted for the 2015-2016 school year. The district has demonstrated substantial compliance for the Indicators used as measures for 2015-2016.

The NDDPI commends your district for the progress demonstrated to improve the educational opportunities of students with disabilities and the successful compliance with the IDEA 2004 requirements. Our staff supports your continued efforts as we move toward 100% compliance on the ND State Performance Plan (SPP) and the ND Annual Performance Report (APR).

<b>Levels Of Determinations</b>	<b>Indicators Considered</b>	<b>Compliance Rate</b>	<b>Additional Considerations*</b>
Meets Requirements	4, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13	95% and above	District met all but one indicator and that indicator had results of 90% or better <i>And</i> all data submitted were valid and reliable.
Needs Assistance	4, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13	51% - 90%	Districts that had more than one indicator with less than 90% compliance. Districts that did not fit the criteria of <i>Meets Requirements</i> or <i>Needs Intervention</i> .
Needs Intervention	4, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13	Results less than 50%	District did not correct noncompliance for the previous year. Data submitted were not valid and reliable.
Needs Substantial Intervention	4, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13		District that did not submit the required data, has had consistent and systemic issues of noncompliance, or refuses to comply with IDEA.
NDDPI will also consider the length of time the problem has existed, the magnitude of the problem, and the District's response to the problem, including progress the District has made to correct the problem.			

IDEA 2004 does not require public reporting on the determinations. This letter serves as your school district's notification for the 2015-2016 school year. However, public information requests regarding school district performance must be honored.

The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction is committed to supporting your district's effort in improving results for children and youth with disabilities. We look forward to continued collaboration with you and your staff. If you have any questions, please contact the Special Education Office.

Respectfully,



Director of Special Education  
ND Department of Public Instruction

Enclosure

CC: Sarah Ricks, School Board President  
Dot Martinson, Dickinson Special Education Unit