



**State Advisory Panel
for Exceptional Children**

Debe Terhar, President
Ohio State Board of Education
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December 27, 2013

Dear Ms. Debe Terhar,

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the Operating Standards for Ohio Educational Agencies Serving Students with Disabilities.

The changes made to the Operating Standards are positive for parents, students, schools, and stakeholders. We appreciate that the document removed the language “mentally retarded” and “cognitive disability” and changed the term to intellectual disability. This change provides a more palatable identification to the students and their families. It is also appreciated that the excessive paperwork is removed for all involved; especially reevaluations for preschoolers. Testing should provide new or relevant information and not contain unnecessary repetition. The clarifications throughout the standards are beneficial to everyone who works with students with a disability.

The State Advisory Panel for Exceptional Children unanimously endorses the proposed standards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary M. Murray".

Mary M. Murray, Chair
State Advisory Panel for Exceptional Children
Office for Exceptional Children
25 South Front Street | Columbus, Ohio 43215-4183