



Maryland

DEPARTMENT OF
JUVENILE SERVICES

Office of the Inspector General (OIG) Quality Assurance Unit – Education Audit Team

Lower Eastern Shore Children’s Center School Audit

Audit Date(s): November 21, 2024

Location: Lower Eastern Shore Children’s Center
405 W Naylor Mill Rd
Salisbury, MD 21801

School Principal: Michael Grossman
Superintendent: Derrick Witherspoon

QA Education Audit Team: Ty Blackwell, Lead QA Specialist
Chasity Leffall, QA Specialist
Landon Saunders, QA Specialist

Kevin Hoefs

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Director of Quality Assurance

1.8.25

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ENTRANCE CONFERENCE:

On November 21, 2024, an Entrance Conference was conducted by Ty Blackwell, Lead QA Specialist. Dr. Grossman was in attendance. The QA Specialist discussed the audit process and addressed any questions.

REVIEW PROCESS:

- The school was notified 10 business days before the actual start of the audit. This timeframe allowed the school to gather the student files and collect the requested information

- Audited the records and information for all students enrolled in the school from July 1, 2024 to November 8, 2024

EXIT CONFERENCE:

On November 21, 2024 an Exit Conference was held between Mr. Blackwell and Dr. Grossman. A copy of the preliminary findings were provided to Dr. Grossman on November 22, 2024

FINDINGS

NO.	Standard	Data Source	Findings
Assessment and Records			
AR-1	Students will receive an educational assessment upon admission to the facility within 5 business days	File review	A review of STAR reports in student folders indicated that 44 students received the initial assessment. Thirty-seven of the 44 students received the assessments within 5 business days of admission.
AR-2	Students will be reassessed at the 90 day mark to determine gains in reading and mathematics	File review	There were 4 students that received a follow up assessment.
AR-3	Students will be reassessed in 90 day increments to measure reading and math gains	File review	There were no students during the audited period that reached the 90 day assessment mark.
AR-4	Student records are requested upon facility admission from the LEA within 1 JSEP school day	File review	A review of the 57 files of students admitted to the school during the audit period indicated that that 57 of 57 records (100%) were requested from the LEA within the first JSEP school day.
AR-5	Student records are received from the LEA within 2 school days of request	File review	A review of the 57 files of students admitted to the school during the audit period indicated that 54 of 57 records (95%) were received from the LEA within 2 days of the request

NO.	Standard	Data Source	Findings
AR-6	Record review and credit audit is completed and reviewed with the student within 3 JSEP school days of records being received	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> File review Review of Individual Learning Plans 	A review of the 57 files and ILPs of students admitted to the school during the audit period indicated that 56 of 57 records (98%) were reviewed with the student within 3 JSEP school days of records being received
Schedule of instruction and Attendance			
SA-1	The education program operates at least 220 school days and a minimum of 1,320 school hours during a 12-month period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of School calendar Review of facility cameras 	<p>A review of school calendar indicated that the education program is scheduled to provide instruction that exceeds the 220 days and 1,320 hours minimum for instruction.</p> <p>During the audited period, the school was scheduled for 40 school days (240 hours) for the Summer Session and 45 days (270 hours) for the 1st quarter</p>
SA-2	There is a written calendar that states the specific days and total number of days for educational programs.	Review of School calendar	The written calendar indicated that 40 school days were scheduled for the Summer Session and 45 days were scheduled for the 1 st quarter
SA-3	There is a written schedule for each school that states the beginning and end of the 6-hour school day and the specific time periods during the school day when the areas of instruction are implemented.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of School schedule Review of the Facility Schedule 	A review of the school schedule indicated that there was a schedule outline a six hour school day.

NO.	Standard	Data Source	Findings
SA-4	Unit based instruction is provided at a minimum of 6 hours per week to students who are unable to attend the School because of illness or injury.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of facility cameras • Review of logbooks • Interview with the school principal 	Unit based instruction was provided to students unable to attend the school because of illness or injury.
SA-5	Students attend class on-time without delay due to residential staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camera Review • Logbook Review • Attendance records 	A review of cameras indicated that there were 9 incidents of units being late to school due to residential staffing
SA-6	Students attend class on-time without delay due to safety/security issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camera Review • Logbook Review • Attendance records 	A review of cameras indicated that there was 9 incident of units being late to school due to safety and security issues.
SA-7	Students attend class on-time without delay due to education staff shortages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camera Review • Logbook Review • Attendance records 	There no days when school was reported late for teachers being unavailable due to a program.
Special Education Instruction and Related Services			
IEP			
SE-A-1	The number of students identified as needing/receiving IEP services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MD Online IEP • File Review • Interview with staff 	There were 21 students admitted during the audited period that were identified as needing/receiving IEP services during the audited period.
SE-A-2	The percentage of IEPs that are current (received from LEA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MD Online IEP • File Review • Interview with staff 	During the audit period 21 IEPs were received from the LEAs. Twenty-one of the 21 IEPs (100%) were current
SE-A-3	The number of IEPs that are out of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MD Online IEP 	During the audit period 21 IEPs were received from the LEAs. None of the IEPs

NO.	Standard	Data Source	Findings
	compliance upon JSEP school enrollment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> File Review Interview with staff 	was out of compliance (0%).
SE-A-4	The number of youth who have had an initial IEP meeting within 20 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MD Online IEP File Review Interview with staff 	<p>During the audited period 14 out of 14 students had initial IEP meetings with 20 days of admission.</p> <p>Seven students were released prior to their meeting dates</p>
SE-A-5	Youth receive instruction as outlined by the IEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MD Online IEP File Review Interview with staff 	A review of 14 IEPs and student files indicated that the youth were receiving instruction as outlined in their IEPs
IEP Implementation			
SE-B-1	Youth receive related services as outlined by the IEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MD Online IEP File Review 	A review of IEPs indicated that 12 students were to receive related services. IEP documentation showed that all students received related services as outlined in their IEPs.
SE-B-2	Youth are provided supplementary aids as outlined by the IEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MD Online IEP File Review 	A review of IEPs indicated that all students were to receive supplementary aids.
IEP Documentation			
SE-C-1	IEPs are current and are reviewed at least annually while in continuous custody/care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MD Online IEP File Review 	A review of IEPs indicated that all IEPs were current.
Evaluations			
SE-D-1	Students are evaluated at least triennially.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MD Online IEP File Review 	A review of Special Education files indicated that all evaluations were up to date.
Child Find			
SE-E-1	Procedures are implemented to identify students who are currently	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MD Online IEP File Review 	A review of Child Find procedures indicate a process for identifying students admitted to the school who required special education services. A review of student

NO.	Standard	Data Source	Findings
	identified as students who require special education services		records found no students who were receiving special education services prior to admission that were not identified by the school.
SE-E-2	Procedures are implemented to identify students who may be in need of special education services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MD Online IEP File Review Interview with staff 	A review of Child Find procedures indicate a process for identify students who may be in need of special education. During the audited period no students were identified.
SE-E-3	The number of students identified who qualify for special education services not previously identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MD Online IEP File Review Interview with staff 	A review of Child Find procedures outline a process to identify previously unidentified students who may qualify for special education services. During the audited period no students were identified.
Teacher Certification			
TC-1	All Education staff have valid certifications	Review information from the Superintendent and DJS HR Certification Manager	A review of certifications indicated that all education staff held valid certifications.
Instruction			
I-1	Instruction is provided to students to achieve credit requirements and assessments necessary to progress towards the standards for graduation from a public high school in Maryland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> File review Review of Monthly Reports Interview with the principal 	A review of grade reports ad transcripts the students earned credits and assessments allow the students to progress toward graduations.
I-2a	The number of core credits issued towards graduation requirements versus attempted during the semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Powerschool File review 	During the audited period 13 core credits were attempted. Credit were issued for 4 of the attempted credits.

NO.	Standard	Data Source	Findings
I-2b	The number of elective credits issued towards graduation requirements versus attempted during the semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powerschool • File review 	During the audited period 14 credits were attempted. The school issued 11 of the attempted credits.
I-3	The number of students who completed their course of study and were issued a MD High School Diploma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powerschool • File review 	A review of student files indicated that one student received a MD High School Diplomas while enrolled at the school
I-4	The number of students who obtained GED waiver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powerschool • File review 	A review of student files and Powerschool indicated that one youth obtained a GED waiver during the Summer Session.
I-5	The program offers students preparation courses for the GED examination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of education policy and procedures • Interview with Principal 	A review of the program that the school does provided GED preparation courses. One student was enrolled during the audited period
I-6	The number of GED sections passed per student versus the number attempted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • File review • Review of Monthly Reports • Interview with the principal 	The number of GED sections passed per student versus the number attempted during the audited period was 4 of 4
I-7	The number of GEDs obtained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • File review • Review of Monthly Reports • Interview with the principal 	A review of student files and information provided the principal indicated that there was one GED obtained during the Summer Session.
I-8	The program offers vocational education programs	Review of school schedule	A review of program materials indicate that the school offered the following vocational programs:

NO.	Standard	Data Source	Findings
		and class offerings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OSHA 10 • OSHA 30 • Flagger • ServSafe
I-9	The number of youth enrolled in vocational program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • File review • Review of Monthly Reports • Interview with the principal 	A review of student files and information provided by the principal indicated that two students were enrolled in vocational programs during the audited period
I-10	The number of youth obtaining certification versus attempt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • File review • Review of Monthly Reports • Interview with the principal 	A review of student files and information provided by the principal indicated that no students received vocational certifications.
I-11	The percentage of youth passing their courses upon discharge and return to the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • File review • Review of Monthly Reports • Interview with the principal 	A review of the data indicated that 80% of classes attempted during the Summer Session and 79% of classes attempted during the 1 st quarter of the 2024/2025 school year were passed
Post-Secondary Education			
PE-1	The program offers students with diplomas or GED to take college courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Monthly Reports • Interview with the principal 	Program information provided by the principal indicated that the school offers virtual classes through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anne Arundel Community College • Baltimore City Community College • Frederick Community College, and • Wor-Wic Community College
PE-2	Course offerings are a minimum of 2.5 hours per school day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Monthly Reports 	A review of a list of post-secondary options provided by the JSEP Superintendent indicates that there are a combination of offerings from local colleges and online certification classes to

NO.	Standard	Data Source	Findings
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview with the principal 	provide at least 2.5 hours of classes per day.
PE-3	The number of students enrolled in credit bearing college courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Monthly Reports • Interview with the principal 	There were no students taking credit bearing college courses during the audit period.
PE-4	The number of college credits obtained while in placement versus those attempted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Monthly Reports • Interview with the principal 	There were no college credits obtained during the audit period.
Re-Entry			
RE-1	The number of students who had a re-entry/transition meeting (Committed Only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the Re-entry Committed or Detention Youth Log • Review of ASSIST • Student file review 	N/A
RE-2	The number of students whose re-entry meeting was held prior to release from commitment. (Committed Only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the Re-entry Committed or Detention Youth Log • Review of ASSIST • Student file review 	N/A
RE-3	The number of eligible students who returned to their “home school” within their LEA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the Re-entry Committed or Detention Youth Log • Review of ASSIST 	N/A

NO.	Standard	Data Source	Findings
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student file review 	
RE-4	The number of students enrolled in an alternative educational placement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the Re-entry Committed or Detention Youth Log • Review of ASSIST • Student file review 	N/A
RE-5	The number of students who remained engaged with their LEA 90 days post release	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the Re-entry Committed or Detention Youth Log • Review of ASSIST • Student file review 	N/A
RE-6	The number of credits obtained when transfer occurred mid-quarter or mid-semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the Re-entry Committed or Detention Youth Log • Review of ASSIST • Student file review 	N/A