



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

Noyes/Western Maryland Children’s Center

Audit Date(s): December 29th, 2023

Location: Western Maryland Children’s Center
18420 Roxbury Road
Hagerstown, MD 21740

School Principal: Tanya Montgomery
Superintendent: Stacy Rauer

QA Education Audit Team: Landon Saunders, QA Specialist

Kevin Hoefs

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Director of Quality Assurance

1.4.24

Date



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ENTRANCE CONFERENCE:

On December 29th, 2023, an Entrance Conference was conducted by Landon Saunders, QA Specialist. In attendance was Ms. Tanya Montgomery, Principal. The QA Specialist discussed the audit process and addressed any questions.

REVIEW PROCESS:

- The school was notified 10 business days prior to the actual start of the audit. This timeframe allowed the school to gather the students files and collect requested information
- Audited the records and information for all students enrolled in the school from July 5, 2023 to November 8, 2023.

EXIT CONFERENCE:

On December 29th, 2023 an Exit Conference was held between Landon Saunders, QA Specialist and Tonya Montgomery, Principal. At the meeting preliminary findings and Star reporting was discussed.

| 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 | Seven students received an educational assessment upon admission to the facility within 5 business days |
| AR-2 | Students will be reassessed at the 90 day mark to determine gains in reading and mathematics | File review | There were three students during the audited period that reached the 90 day assessment mark. |
| AR-3 | Students will be reassessed in 90 day increments to measure reading and math gains | File review | There were three 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 45 files of students admitted to the school during the audit period indicated that 44 of 44 records (100%) were requested from the LEA within the first JSEP school day. *One student was a Graduate |
| AR-5 | Student records are received from the LEA within 2 school days of request | File review | A review of the 45 files of students admitted to the school during the audit period indicated that 43 of 45 records (95%) were received from the LEA within 2 days of the request. *One student was a Graduate *One file no date listed |
| AR-6 | Record review and credit audit is completed and reviewed with the student within 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • File review • Review of Individual Learning Plans | A review of 35 files and ILPs of students admitted during the audited period indicated that 24 out of 35 (68%) records were reviewed with the student within 3 JSEP school days of record being received. |

| NO. | Standard | Data Source | Findings |
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| | JSEP school days of records being received | | *Eight students exited before needing testing *Two students were Graduates |
| 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 | 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. During the audited period, the school was scheduled for 40 days for the Summer session and 45 days for the Fall quarter for a total of 85 days. 510 school hours. A review of the facility cameras indicated the school met for the prescribed days and hours. |
| 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 the school was scheduled for 40 days for the Summer session and 45 days for the Fall quarter for a total of 85 days. |
| 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. The facility and school schedule indicated that school began at 8:15 AM. |
| SA-4 | Unit based instruction is provided at a | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of facility cameras | Unit based instruction was provided to students unable to attend the school because of illness or injury. |

| NO. | Standard | Data Source | Findings |
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| | 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 logbooks • Interview with the school principal | |
| 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 | During this audit period there was 1 day of students attending class late 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 attendance records indicate students attended class late on 21 occasions due to safety/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 | A review of attendance records indicated students were delayed to class on 1 occasion due to education staff shortages. |
| 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 18 students admitted during the audited period that were identified as needing/receiving IEP services during the audited period. *One youth exited after being detained two days |
| 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 17 IEPs were received from LEA. 17 of 17 (100%) IEPs were current. *Information from an IEP from Pennsylvania not available. Students IEP was Amended on 10/5/23. |
| SE-A-3 | The number of IEPs that are out of compliance upon | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MD Online IEP • File Review | During the audit period 17 IEPs were received from LEA. Seventeen of the IEP's were in compliance. *One students IEP was Amended on |

| NO. | Standard | Data Source | Findings |
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| | JSEP school enrollment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview with staff | 10/5/23. |
| 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 | During the audited period 17 out of 17 students had initial IEP meetings within 20 days of admission. |
| 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 17 IEPs and student files indicated the 17 of youth were receiving instruction as outlined in their IEP's |
| 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 17 IEP's indicated that 11 were to receive related services. IEP documentation showed that 11 of the 11 students (100%) received related services as outlined in their IEPs. |
| SE-B-2 | Youth are provided supplementary aides as outlined by the IEP | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MD Online IEP • File Review | A review of IEPs indicated that 17 were to receive supplementary aid. |
| 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 17 of 17 IEP's 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 16 of 17 evaluations were updated. |
| Child Find | | | |
| SE-E-1 | Procedures are implemented to identify students who are currently identified as students who require special education services | <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 records found no students who were receiving special education services prior to admission that were not identified by the school. |

| NO. | Standard | Data Source | Findings |
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| 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 4 of 4 educators hold 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 and transcripts indicated 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 semester student's from Noyes is reported as attempting 14 core credits with 14 credits being issued. WMCC is reported as attempting 9.5 core credits with 5.5 credits being issued. |
| I-2b | The number of elective credits issued towards graduation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powerschool • File review | During the semester students from Noyes attempted 18 elective credits, 13.5 credits were issued. During the semester students |

| NO. | Standard | Data Source | Findings |
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| | requirements versus attempted during the semester | | from WMCC attempted 20.5 elective credits, 16.5 credits were issued. |
| 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 and information provided by the Principal indicated that 0 students obtained a High School Diploma. |
| 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 three students obtained GED waivers during the audited period. |
| 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 | An interview with the school Principal indicated the program does not provide GED preparation courses. However tutoring for GED preparation is provided after school. |
| 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 | During the audited period 3 students sat for the GED readiness test. No students passed the readiness test. There were 3 students reported for taking the GED Examination. |
| 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 information provided by the principal indicated that 0 students obtained a High School Diploma. |
| I-8 | The program offers vocational education programs | Review of school schedule and class offerings | <p>A review of program materials indicate that the school offered the following vocational programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flagger Certification • Serve Safe Food Handler Certification • OSHA-10, OSHA-30 |

| NO. | Standard | Data Source | Findings |
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| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPR/First Aid Certification |
| 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 information provided by the principal indicated that 34 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 records and the Certificate databases indicated 15 students obtained vocational certification. Twelve students received their learner's permit through the Department of Motor Vehicles. |
| 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 85.9% of the youth from Noyes passed their courses upon discharge and return to the community. 73.3% of the youth from WMCC passed their courses upon discharge and return to the community. |
| 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 the following college options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frederick Community College • Anne Arundel 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 • Interview with the principal | 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 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 | An interview with the school Principal indicated that two students are attempting or receiving college credits while in the placement. |

| NO. | Standard | Data Source | Findings |
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| 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 | An interview with the Principal indicated two students attempting to obtain college credits. Credits attained was not available at the writing of this report |
| 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 • Student file review | N/A |
| 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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the Re-entry Committed | N/A |

| NO. | Standard | Data Source | Findings |
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| | remained engaged with their LEA 90 days post release | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • or Detention Youth Log • Review of ASSIST • Student file review | |
| 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 |