

Humanities II

A New Visions Charter High School



28 February 2020

Mr. David Frank & Laura Hill
Charter School Office
New York State Education Department
89 Washington Ave EB 5N Mezzanine
Albany, NY 12234

Mr. Frank & Ms. Hill,

I wanted to follow up with you about an issue raised by the Committee of Special Education documented in the renewal report. I'm glad you reached out to them because when I started at this school, I was concerned about the overall low compliance rates for IEPs, too. Over the past year and a half I've been able to look into this issue more deeply, as well as take steps to try to ameliorate the situation.

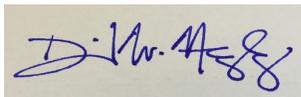
For some additional context, since I've become principal, I have made repeated attempts to meet with the Chair of CSE I. I sent an email request for a meeting within the first month in the role (July 2018) and they did not respond last year, despite repeated attempts. We finally had the first in person meeting on 1/15/20 after repeated attempts and with the support of our Director of Student Support, as well as the backing of the board. The primary reason why I wanted to meet was to discuss a series of issues with the CSE that prevented HUM II from having a productive relationship. The following represents a high level summary of concerns:

- We've experienced continued problems with scheduling and the overall compliance rate of both triennial and annual IEPs is significantly out of compliance.
- CSE loses documents and rarely closes IEPs on time.
- Initials have been largely ignored despite repeated follow ups.
- Our school is regularly confused with other schools in the Bronx and we have had multiple parents sent to the wrong school.
- We had a plan to catch up in the summer; I onboarded a new AD SPED early to facilitate meetings, and none of the meetings were handled as agreed upon.
- Triennial evaluations for school year 2019-2020 were not scheduled until 2/27/2020. This puts a huge burden on the entire special education team to complete the entire school's evaluations in a short period of time.

All of this to say, I understand that the CSE has given feedback regarding our schools participation in the past, however we have been proactively trying to work with them to resolve a number of issues with very slow success. As for their specific concern, I believe we have addressed that as a school community and it is no longer occurring. We will continue to welcome all feedback and address continued concerns.

I hope this additional context can also be taken into consideration when reviewing our IEP compliance percentages. I am happy to provide any specific examples or data to clarify the examples provided above.

Sincerely,



David W. Neagley
Principal of Humanities II