

**Metropolitan School District of Washington Township
8550 Woodfield Crossing Blvd.
Indianapolis, Indiana 46240**

Memo

Date: July 19, 2011

To: Dr. Nikki Woodson

From: Karol Farrell, Director of Special Services

RE: Approval of Independent Service Agreements

I am requesting that you place as an item on the August 10, 2011 agenda of the Board of Education meeting approval to continue to participate in independent service agreements with individuals who are registered to provide physical and occupational therapy for identified special education students. The following serves as an executive summary.

Background

According to the Individual Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Article 7, Indiana State Rules and Regulations for Special; Education, public agencies (local school districts) must provide related services to a student if the individual education planning (IEP) team determines such services are necessary for the student to benefit from special education. Physical and/or occupational therapy are considered as related services and for more than ten years, MSD Washington Township has chosen to use the services of qualified independent providers to provide them.

Terms Under the Service Agreement

Providers follow specific rules as described under regulations including procedures about record-keeping. All services are provided in designated sites within the boundaries of MSD Washington Township during an instructional day. The number of hours assigned per week is based on student specific needs. Criminal history checks are conducted for each provider and all claims for payment are submitted to the Director of Special Services for final approval. Protocols for routine billings include the student name, school, date, time and service performed.

Numbers of Students and Fiscal Impact

There are usually 300-350 students identified special education students who will receive physical and/or occupational therapy during a school year. Annual costs projected for 2011-12 are \$240,000.00. All costs will continue to be assigned to the Basic grant for Special Education.

C: Joe Licata

File: Independent Service Agreements -11-12