

MONTCLAIR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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Superintendent of Schools

Jonathan Ponds, Ed.D.

September 2, 2021

Dear Families/Caregivers of Special Education students and students with 504 accommodations,

With the start of the new school year fast approaching, I wanted to provide an update regarding compensatory education. As a district, we are **committed to evaluating the need for compensatory education for all students with Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and 504 accommodation plans.**

The goal of compensatory education is to assess and remedy the knowledge and skill deficits that result when **missed services** are determined to have caused a denial of a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).

Determining the need:

- Made on an individual basis by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) team. The IEP team consists of the student, the student's parent(s)/guardian(s), the student's teachers, related service providers, and/or other school personnel.

Next Steps:

- If services were missed, students will be assessed using district data to determine the missed academic instruction and/or related services.
- Once the assessments are complete and **if compensatory services are warranted, the IEP teams will be convened to develop a compensatory education plan that includes appropriate instruction, services, and progress monitoring.**

We will begin and complete the students' assessment data during the month of September. The success of each student is a joint initiative and is of high priority to all members of the school community. We will work collaboratively to ensure that students' needs are met given the information provided by the assessments and other data points.

If you have specific questions regarding your child's IEP, please reach out to your child's case manager. Additionally, you will be able to access the district's assessment calendar on the district's [website](#) and your child's teacher/principal will share specifics regarding testing dates within each school building.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and collaboration.

Sincerely,
Dr. Jonathan Ponds
Superintendent