

Connecticut State Department of Education

MEMORANDUM

Division of Educational Programs and Services
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TO: Directors of Special Education and Pupil Services

FROM: Leslie M. Avera, Acting Associate Commissioner *LMA*

DATE: October 15, 1996

SUBJECT: Update *#2*

As promised, this is the second in a series of updates regarding our activities within the Bureau of Special Education and Pupil Services.

1. Validation of Department of Children and Families Placements

The bureau, in concert with the Department of Children and Families (DCF), has initiated a project to validate information about DCF placements. This information is necessary as part of our internal self-analysis in preparation for clarifying the statutes regarding state agency placements. Over the next several weeks, DCF education consultants will be reviewing files, in the regional offices, for the purpose of identifying the population of children receiving services from the agency on October 1, 1996. The information being reviewed includes the type of placement, i.e., foster home, group home, residential facility, etc., town of placement, education site, education status, i.e., regular education or special education, and the nexus/no-nexus status of the student. It may become necessary for the DCF education consultants to contact school districts to validate the information being reviewed. It is very important that you cooperate with the DCF education consultant if it is necessary for them to contact you regarding a child. The DCF education staff who may be contacting you are: Art Carey, Marilyn Earle, Ray Galloway, Howard Haberman, Katie O'Connor and George Zitnay.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact Terri DeFrancis at (860) 638-4275.

2. Listing Position Vacancies for Speech and Language Pathologists

The bureau, through Carolyn Isakson, consultant for Speech and Language Services, is continuing its collaboration with the Connecticut Speech-Language-Hearing Association (CSHA) to assist school districts in securing qualified staff for speech and language programs.

CSHA will be holding its Fall conference on October 25, 1996 at the Marriott Hotel in Farmington. If you have a vacancy for a speech and language pathologist and would like CSHA's assistance in advertising it at the conference, please **complete the attached form and return it to the CSHA office by October 21**. CSHA's Career Information Committee maintains a booth in the exhibit area during the conference and provides candidates seeking employment with a current list of job vacancies.

The CSHA office maintains an ongoing listing of position vacancies and candidates seeking employment. The office also has a "JOB HOTLINE," which is updated on a daily basis. Feel free to copy the CSHA form and use it whenever you have a vacancy that you would like to have listed. You may also request CSHA's candidate list as necessary. Please notify the CSHA office when your position is filled, so that the job listings can be kept current.

For further assistance, you may call Maria Parker at the CSHA office, (860) 666-6900.

3. Self-analysis

We are continuing our work in preparation for the December State Board of Education meeting.

We have convened two task force meetings, chaired by Terri DeFrancis and Nancy Cappello. They will focus on completing our work on state agency placements and private school approvals, respectively. CONNCASE and CAPSEF members have been invited to participate.

We will continue to update you and involve you as we move forward in defining the future role of the bureau.