



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION

Flandreau Indian School

1132 N. Crescent Street

Flandreau, SD 57028

Telephone: (605) 997-3773 Fax: (605) 997-2601

December 7, 2020

Dear Parent:

On March 21, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education issued a document titled “Supplemental Fact Sheet, Addressing the Risk of COVID-19 in Preschool, Elementary and Secondary Schools While Serving Children with Disabilities.” This fact sheet provides the following guidance to schools regarding compensatory education requirements during COVID-19 related school closures:

“[W]here, due to the global pandemic and resulting closures of schools, there has been an inevitable delay in providing services – or even making decisions about how to provide services - Individualized Education Program (IEP) (as noted in the March 12, 2020 guidance) must make an individualized determination whether and to what extent compensatory services may be needed when schools resume normal operations.”<sup>1</sup>

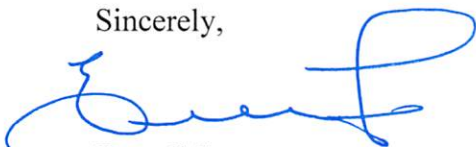
Accordingly, as Principal of the school I am writing to you regarding plans to schedule an IEP team meeting to discuss the provision of compensatory education services for your child(ren). Compensatory education is an equitable form of reimbursement when a school district does not provide a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) to children with disabilities. Compensatory education can be in the form of reimbursement for out-of-pocket educational expenses, additional prospective services or supports, and even a more supportive educational setting (such as residential or day school placement) than what the student would have been entitled to if the school had not failed to provide a FAPE. The concept behind compensatory education is to place the student in a position that he or she would have been if there had been no violations of FAPE as required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Appropriate compensatory education services is an IEP team decision. Your child's Case Manager will be contacting you to schedule an IEP team meeting to discuss the extent to which compensatory education services may be needed for your child. You may choose to schedule the IEP meeting for a time in the next few weeks or choose to wait to meet until a time when the school is able to commence in person.

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<sup>1</sup>U.S. DEP'T OF EDUC., SUPPLEMENTAL FACT SHEET, ADDRESSING THE RISK OF COVID-19 IN PRESCHOOL, ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCH. WHILE SERVING CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES (2020).

This has been a challenging time for everyone, and we appreciate your support and partnership as we continue to navigate through this unprecedented crisis. If you have questions about this letter, please contact me by email at [everall.fox@bie.edu](mailto:everall.fox@bie.edu) or by phone at (605) 997-3773.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Everall Fox', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Everall Fox  
Chief School Administrator  
Flandreau Indian School