

Office of the Independent Monitor

Modified Consent Decree

333 So. Beaudry Avenue, 18th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90017
Tel: (213) 241-1797
Fax: (213) 241-7551

DAVID ROSTETTER
Independent Monitor

JAY R. ALLEMAN
Chief Analyst

JAIME E. HERNANDEZ
Research Director

August 5, 2015

Sharyn Howell
Associate Superintendent
Division of Special Education
333 So. Beaudry Avenue, 17th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Robert M. Myers
Attorney
Newman, Aaronson, Vanaman
14001 Ventura Boulevard
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423-3558

Catherine Blakemore
Attorney
Disability Rights California
1831 K Street
Sacramento, CA 95811

Ms. Howell, Mr. Myers, and Ms. Blakemore:

After several months of investigation regarding the allegations filed by the Plaintiffs' Counsel on September 8, 2014, I have compiled two reports that detail the efforts of the investigation, findings, and determinations. On August 3, 2015, the Parties met and arrived at a consensus on the steps to be taken to correct the problems identified in the report.

Special education laws and regulations imposed a myriad of expectations on school districts. In my experience, it is impossible to conduct a review of the IEP processes in large school districts where problems cannot be identified. What is most important is not the identification of the problems, but rather the effort to address them. The Parties have demonstrated a commitment to collaboratively work to improve these processes. In particular, I am commending the leadership from the Division of Special Education for their thoughtful considerations to improve the IEP decision-making process. My office looks forward to working with them to support the implementation of the remedies in this report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Rostetter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" and last name "Rostetter" clearly distinguishable.

David Rostetter, Ed.D.
Independent Monitor

c: Ramon Cortines, Deneen Evans Cox