

Rep. Ellen Cogen Lipton (District 27)

From: Keesler, Venessa (MDE) <KeeslerV@michigan.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2013 10:25 AM
To: Rep. Ellen Cogen Lipton (District 27); Heidi Zabik
Cc: Flanagan, Mike (MDE); Larvick, Wendy (MDE)
Subject: EAA special education complaint

Representative Lipton

MDE staff from the Office of Special Education and our legislative liaison, Wendy Larvick, will be working with you on your complaint. Outside of that formal complaint process, however, we want to assure you that we are reaching out to the EAA to help provide additional training and information to improve their processes in this area, ideally before the start of this next school year. The director of our Office of Special Education, Eleanor White, has been meeting with the individual hired by the EAA to work with special education throughout the year, and has recommended that we extend/expand our meetings to include building-level administrators to make sure all of those individuals are fully briefed on process, protocol and expectations regarding services for students with disabilities. Ensuring that the EAA has the support they need in order to provide high-quality special education services is important to MDE. We believe that working through multiple channels will help them improve their special education delivery and support strong outcomes for students with disabilities.

Thank you
Venessa Keesler

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