

IDEA Regulations Parentally Placed Private School Children

Decisions about which services and the amounts of services children with disabilities enrolled by their parents in private schools will receive are made during the consultation process, between the LEA and private school, and are based upon the needs of the children designated to receive services. These children have no individual entitlement to receive some or all of the special education and related services they would receive if enrolled in a public school. *34 CFR 300.137 (a)*.

Students with disabilities who are parentally placed in private schools are issued a service plan. A **service plan** must describe the specific special education and related services that will be provided to a parentally placed private school child with disabilities designated to receive services. The regulations in *37 CFR 300.137(a)* explicitly provide that children with disabilities enrolled by their parents in private schools do not have the individual right to receive some or all of the special education and related services they would receive if enrolled in the public schools.

Service plans differ from IEPs in that IEPs for children will generally be more comprehensive than service plans developed for parentally placed private school children with disabilities who are designated to receive services. This is because parentally placed children do not have the individual entitlement to any or all of the services that the children would receive if enrolled in a public school. Further, a service plan should reflect only the services offered to a parentally placed private school child with a disability designated to receive services.

Source:

“Q & A” Document, April 2011, US Dept of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

Stonington Public Schools provides tutoring services and speech and language services to identified students enrolled at St. Michael School. Tutoring services are provided by an individual who meets the criteria for tutoring positions for Stonington Public Schools. Preference is given to those with teaching degrees. Parents should be advised of the information provided above and recognize that extent of services are based upon grant funds, allocated by a specific formula, and that **only those services covered by the available funding will be provided**. Parents enrolling students with IEPs at St. Michael School should be provided this document upon admission to the school and/or the school should make this information available to all parents who are considering enrollment.

For additional information, parents may contact the Stonington Special Services Office at 860-572-0506 ext 4.