

## **Intervention and Referral Services**

### **Administrative Code**

In April 2001, the State Board of Education adopted new rules to provide district boards of education with standards for the delivery of intervention and referral services (N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7, Intervention and Referral Services). The requirements set forth in the regulations are intended to provide schools with direction in formulating coordinated services and team delivery systems to address the full range of student learning, behavior and health problems in the general education program. Under the new regulations, however, schools may also provide intervention and referral services for students who have been determined to be in need of special education programs and services.

### **Establishment and Purposes of Intervention and Referral Services**

Pursuant to these regulations, district boards of education are required to:

*"... establish and implement a coordinated system in each school building for the planning and delivery of intervention and referral services that are designed to assist students who are experiencing learning, behavior, or health difficulties..." [N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(a)]; and which are designed to:*

*"...assist staff who have difficulties in addressing students' learning, behavior, or health needs." [N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(a)]*

The regulations make it clear that I&RS activities should be focused on concerns with students, and that the end result of I&RS activities should be student improvement. It is equally important to note, however, that, an I&RS program must consist of a formal, coordinated and well articulated system of supportive activities and services for staff who have identified student difficulties and those who will be involved in the amelioration of the identified educational concerns.

### **Multidisciplinary Team**

In configuring building programs of I&RS, district boards of education are required to: "...choose the appropriate multidisciplinary team approach for planning and delivering the services..." [N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1(a)]

A multidisciplinary team is at the core of a well-coordinated system of I&RS services. Bringing together representatives from all professional constituencies in a school to support staff in helping students grow is essential for effective problem solving.

### **Hamilton Township School District**

For questions regarding the Intervention and Referral Services process in Hamilton Township School District, please contact Dana Kozak, Supervisor of Instruction for Special Education at (609) 476-6107.

For questions regarding a specific school, please contact the following:

Shaner School Dorothy Schoenstein, Guidance (609) 476-6145

Hess School Laura Hackney, Guidance (609) 476-6127

Davies Middle School Wendy McKensie (609) 476-6270