

Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD
Intermediate School District (ISD) Plan
for the Delivery of Special Education
Programs and Services

August 2023

Intermediate School District (ISD) Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services

Revised School Code

Section 380.1711(1)(a) of the *Revised School Code* requires the development of an intermediate school district (ISD) plan for the delivery of special education programs and services.

Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education (MARSE)

Part 7 of the *MARSE*, rules 340.1831 through 340.1839, outlines the requirements for the development, submission, and monitoring of ISD plans. Rule 340.1832 states:

"An intermediate school district plan for special education, or any modification thereof, shall be an operational plan that sets forth the special education programs and related services to be delivered. The plan shall comply with 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.1 et seq. and these rules."

ISD Plan Submission

April 18, 2023

Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD

Alan Tulppo, Superintendent

Pursuant to Rule 340.1835(a) of the *Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education*, the following signature of the intermediate school district (ISD) superintendent signifies the approval by the ISD.

The signature also acknowledges and confirms the following assurance statements:

R 340.1832(f)

The ISD and its constituent local educational agencies, including public school academies, assure that any personally identifiable data, information, and records of students with disabilities are collected, used, or maintained in compliance with 34 C.F.R. §§300.610 through 300.626.

MCL 380.1751(1)(b)

The ISD and its constituent local educational agencies, including public school academies, assure that all copies of contracts or service agreements under section 1751(1)(b) of 1976 PA 451 are on file at the ISD.

34 CFR § 300.111(a) and Dear Colleague Letter, December 5, 2014

The ISD and its constituent local educational agencies, including public school academies, have child find policies and procedures in place to identify, locate, and evaluate students who are in correctional facilities who may have a disability under the IDEA and are in need of special education and related services, regardless of the severity of their disability and consistent with the State’s child find and eligibility standards. This responsibility includes students who have never been identified as a student with a disability prior to their entry into the facility.

R 340.1758(b)

Does the ISD and/or its constituent local educational agencies, including public school academies, operate a program for students with autism under R 340.1758(b)?

Yes No

If yes, the following assurance statement applies:

Programs and services for students with autism are provided under R 340.1832(d)(e) of the ISD plan.

Alan Tulppo

02/23/2022

Alan Tulppo, Superintendent

Pursuant to Rules 340.1835(b) of the Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education, the following signatures indicate the involvement in the development of the Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services.

Name	Job Title	LEA/PAC	Date/Time Signed
DAVE RADOVICH	District Superintendent	Ewen-Trout Creek Consolidated School District	04/23/2023 06:10 AM
Alan Tulppo	ISD Superintendent	Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD	04/24/2023 08:47 AM
Jason Gustafson	District Superintendent	Wakefield-Marenisco School District	04/24/2023 09:01 AM
Mark Switzer	District Superintendent	Bessemer Area School District	05/11/2023 06:11 PM
Travis Powell	District Superintendent	Ironwood Area Schools of Gogebic County	05/12/2023 08:12 AM
George Peterson	District Superintendent	Watersmeet Township School District	05/12/2023 08:17 PM
Lisa Johnson	District Superintendent	Ontonagon Area School District	05/17/2023 09:33 AM
Lauchette Rencontre	PAC Chairperson	Parental Advisory Committee	05/25/2023 03:02 PM

I. Public Awareness and Child Find

R 340.1832(a)

A description of the procedures used by the intermediate school district to advise and inform students with disabilities, their parents, and other members of the community of the special education opportunities required under the law; the obligations of the local school districts, public school academies, and intermediate school district; and the title, address, and telephone number of representatives of those agencies who can provide information about the special education opportunities.

R 340.1832(b)

A description of activities and outreach methods which are used to ensure that all citizens are aware of the availability of special education programs and services.

R 340.1832(g)

The identity of the full- or part-time constituent local school district or public school academy administrator who, by position, is responsible for the implementation of special education programs and services.

The following describes the ISD procedures for locating, identifying, and evaluating students who need special education programs and services. This includes outreach efforts for individuals incarcerated in county jails as well as other lower incident placements, like residential facilities, homebound hospitalized, etc.:

The GOISD assumes primary responsibility for Child Find activities and outreach for preschool children, ages 0-3 through efforts of the Early On Program Coordinator, support team, and Early Childhood Special Education staff. The GOISD Early On Coordinator is the identified child find contact for children ages 0-3. The GOISD coordinates with the Great Start Collaborative through a Director and Parent Liaison, as well as implementation of the Great Start Readiness Program. All local school districts assume responsibility for child find and outreach activities for in-school and out-of-school youth ages 3 through 26. District Administrators, GOISD Special Education Director and Supervisor work collaboratively with other agencies and professionals who may be potential referral sources. The GOISD is responsible for conducting child find activities for all eligible ages including students in county jails as well as other lower incident placements, like residential facilities, homebound, hospitalized, etc.

The following describes the ISD activities, including partnerships with community agencies, and the forms of media used in the ISD outreach efforts:

Cooperative liaisons with outside agencies and professionals who may be potential referral sources are coordinated by both the GOISD and the local school districts. Brochures regarding early on and special education referral and evaluation procedures are provided for distribution. Brochures are provided to outside agencies that may include the following:

- Head Start
- Community Mental Health

- Department of Health and Human Services
- Western Upper Peninsula Health Department
- Local Schools
- Local Interagency Coordinating Council
- Area Hospitals and Clinics

Notice regarding special education evaluations, procedures and processes is posted on the GOISD and local school district websites. Available special education process and procedure trainings/workshops are posted on the GOISD website and social media including Facebook and Twitter pages. Michigan Alliance for Families (MAF) presentations are posted on the GOISD website and are promoted through the GOISD and local school districts. Procedures for identifying potential school age youth may include activities such as participation in the Multi-tiered System of Supports (MTSS) student assistance team process and pre-referral staff meetings with school personnel and parents. The GOISD Supervisor of Special Education collaborates with local districts and outside agencies regarding the location of all children who may have an educational disability and need specially designed instruction and related services.

The following table shows special education contacts within the ISD:

Title	Organization	Address	Phone
Other	Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD	Supervisor of Special Education, GOISD PO Box 218 Bergland, MI 49910	(906) 575-3438
Other	Bessemer Area School District	301 E Sellar St. Bessemer, MI 49911	906-663-4515
District Superintendent	Ewen-Trout Creek Consolidated School District	Ewen-Trout Creek School 14312 Airport Road Ewen, MI 49925	906-813-0620
District Superintendent	Ewen-Trout Creek Consolidated School District	Ewen-Trout Creek School 14312 Airport Road Ewen, MI 49925	906-813-0620
District Superintendent	Ewen-Trout Creek Consolidated School District	Ewen-Trout Creek School 14312 Airport Road Ewen, MI 4992	906-813-0620
District Superintendent	Ironwood Area Schools of Gogebic County	650 E Ayer Street Ironwood, MI 49938	906-932-0200
District Director	Ironwood Area Schools of Gogebic County	650 E Ayer Street Ironwood, MI 49938	906-932-0932
District Superintendent	Ontonagon Area School District	701 Parker Ave Ontonagon, MI 49953	906-813-0614
Other	Ontonagon Area School District	701 Parker Ave Ontonagon, MI 49953	906-813-0614
Other	Ontonagon Area School District	701 Parker Ave Ontonagon, MI 49953	906-813-0614
District Superintendent	Wakefield-Marenisco School District	715 Putnam St. Wakefield, MI 49968	906-285-4248
Other	Wakefield-Marenisco School District	715 Putnam St. Wakefield, MI 49968	906-224-7211
District Superintendent	Watersmeet Township School District	N4720 Hwy 45 Watersmeet, Michigan 49969	906-358-4504
Other	Watersmeet Township School District	N4720 Hwy 45 Watersmeet, MI 49969	906-358-4504

II. Diagnostic and Related Services

R 340.1832(c)

A description of the type of diagnostic and related services that are available, either directly or as a purchased service, within the intermediate school district or its constituent local school districts or public school academies.

Diagnostic and Related Services

The following table displays a list of diagnostic and related services provided within the ISD:

District	Assistive Technology Consultant	Audiologist	Interpreting Services	Nurse	Occupational Therapist	Ophthalmologist or Optometrist	Orientation and Mobility Specialist	Orthopedic Surgeon, Internist, Neurologist, Pediatrician, or Family Physician	Otolaryngologist or Otolologist	Physical Therapist	Psychiatrist	Psychologist	School Psychologist	School Social Worker	Teacher Consultant	Teacher of Students that are Deaf or Hard of Hearing	Teacher of Students with Speech & Language Impairment or a Speech & Language Pathologist	Teacher of Students with Visual Impairment
Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD				✓	✓					✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	
Bessemer Area School District				✓	✓					✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	
Ewen-Trout Creek Consolidated School District				✓	✓					✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	
Ironwood Area Schools of Gogebic County				✓	✓					✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	
Ontonagon Area School District				✓	✓					✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	
Wakefield-Marenisco School District				✓	✓					✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	
Watersmeet Township School District				✓	✓					✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	

Other Provider/Service added

III. Special Education Programs and Services

R 340.1832(d)

A description of the special education programs designed to meet the educational needs of students with disabilities.

R 340.1832(e)

The intermediate school district plan shall either describe special education programs and services under part 3 of these rules or shall propose alternative special education programs and services.

Programs or Services

The following table displays programs and services provided within the ISD.

District	Severe cognitive impairment	Moderate cognitive impairment	Mild cognitive impairment	Emotional impairment	Deaf or hard of hearing	Visual impairment	Physical impairment or other	Speech & language impairment	Homebound and hospitalized	Specific learning disabilities	Severe multiple impairments	Teacher consultant services	Elementary level resource	Secondary level resource	Early childhood programs	Early childhood Services	Severe language impairments	Juvenile detention facilities	Autism spectrum disorder	Alternate Program, Option 2	Birth to three	Incarcerated youth jail
Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD		✓						✓	✓			✓			✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Bessemer Area School District									✓				✓	✓								✓
Ewen-Trout Creek Consolidated School District									✓				✓	✓								✓
Ironwood Area Schools of Gogebic County									✓			✓	✓	✓	✓							✓
Ontonagon Area School District									✓				✓	✓								✓
Wakefield-Marenisco School District									✓				✓	✓								✓
Watersmeet Township School District									✓				✓	✓								✓

Alternative Program or Service

The following tables display the alternative programs or services provided by the ISD and Districts.

Option 1: Modification of a Part 3 Rule

Please Note: Only the portion of the rule being modified is listed, the remainder of the rule will be fully implemented.

Rule # for Program or Service	Description of the Change in Program or Service
R 340.1739	Change the maximum number of students on a caseload from 15 to 20.
R 340.1749a	Change the maximum number of students on a caseload from 18 to 21
R 340.1749b	Change the maximum number of students on a caseload from 20 to 25

Option 2: Alternate Program

Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD

District(s) Operating the Alternate Programs

Gogebic-Ontonagon Intermediate School District

Program Name		Student Population Served
Behavior Intervention Specialist Services		All students with disabilities in the GOISD and all constituent school districts who are displaying explosive behaviors, including verbal and physical aggression, will be supported through intensive service delivery that includes specific instruction on coping skills, self-regulation and frustration tolerance through applied behavior analysis.
Role of Teachers		Certification and/or endorsement of the teachers and service providers
The Behavior Specialist will provide student, classroom and school-wide behavior management strategies. Direct student services will include the analysis, disaggregation and communication of behavioral data to inform decisions regarding student behavior plans and IEP goals. Tier III functional behavior assessments, behavior intervention plans and instruction that strengthens executive function skills will be provided through the Behavior Intervention Specialist and documented within the supplemental aids and services section of the IEP. Services include direct instruction and consultation services.		Master's degree with applied behavior analysis or psychology. Certification as a Behavior Intervention Specialist. Certified CPI trainer and current CPR certification is a requirement.
Maximum Caseload of Teachers and Providers		
There will be no more than 15 students on a caseload at any one time, including consultation. Referrals for the service will be completed by the IEP team that includes the parent, district administrator, teachers, ancillary and diagnostic staff.		
# of Students Allowed in Attendance in the Alternative Program at one time, if applicable	Average # of Students per Instructional Period if Alternative Program is Departmentalized and Differs from R 340.1749(c).	Student/Paraprofessional Ratio in Each Program/Service Unit, if applicable

Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD	
District(s) Operating the Alternate Programs	
Ironwood Area School District	
Program Name	Student Population Served
Therapeutic Behavior Support Classroom Program (TBSC)	The TBSC program provides intensive intervention in the areas of social, emotional, and behavioral skills for K-6 students who present with aggressive or unsafe behavior preventing them from being educated safely in a general education setting. A student's IEP team uses data to determine when the TBSC is a student's LRE through the use of an entrance rubric. This pilot program will use data collection to inform ongoing changes or continuation of the program on an annual basis.
Role of Teachers	Certification and/or endorsement of the teachers and service providers
1. Provide specially-designed instruction and accommodated/modified grade-level curriculum. 2. Social/Emotional Learning instruction and behavior intervention is provided throughout the day.	Special Education Teacher certification and/or endorsement include ASD and/or EI.
Maximum Caseload of Teachers and Providers	
There will be no more than 17 maximum students on the Alternate Program teacher's caseload at any one time, and the teacher consultant with a caseload will have no more than 25 students on their caseload.	

# of Students Allowed in Attendance in the Alternative Program at one time, if applicable	Average # of Students per Instructional Period if Alternative Program is Departmentalized and Differs from R 340.1749(c).	Student/Paraprofessional Ratio in Each Program/Service Unit, if applicable
8		1 paraprofessional per TBSC Program. The paraprofessional will receive training in behavior management, CPI, and other areas of special education as deemed appropriate by administration.

IV. Paraprofessional Qualifications

R 340.1832(h)

A description of the qualifications of paraprofessional personnel.

R 340.1793 Paraprofessional personnel; qualifications.

Paraprofessional personnel employed in special education programs shall be qualified under requirements established by their respective intermediate school district plan.

Paraprofessional personnel include, but are not limited to, teacher aides, health care aides, bilingual aides, instructional aides, and program assistants in programs for students with cognitive impairment or severe multiple impairments.

The following are the minimal requirements for paraprofessionals.

The GOISD and local school districts require special education paraprofessionals to possess a high school diploma or its equivalent and demonstrate that they possess the experience and/or skills necessary to support student needs within 30 calendar days of assignment.

V. Transportation

R 340.1832(i)

A description of the transportation necessary to provide the special education programs and services described in subdivisions (c), (d), and (e) of this subrule.

The following public agency has responsibility for the transportation services needed to provide the programs and services described in Sections II and III of the ISD plan.

The ISD and LEAs both provide transportation.

VI. Millage Fund Distribution

R 340.1832(j)

A description of the method of distribution of funds under R 340.1811(5).

R 340.1811

(1) Only those programs and related services provided under a department-approved intermediate school district plan and approved for reimbursement by the department shall be eligible for reimbursement from funds generated by adoption of millage under sections 1723 and 1724 of 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.1723 and 380.1724.

(2) If intermediate school district special education tax funds are insufficient to reimburse constituent claims in full, then a like percentage of the claim shall be paid for support of each program and service to each constituent district. Claims for operation of special education programs and services available to all constituent local school districts or public school academies may be reimbursed in full before any prorated payment which may become necessary for other programs and services.

(3) Current intermediate school district special education tax funds need not be used to offset operational claim deficits from prior years.

(4) Amounts may be retained by the intermediate school district for required cash flow purposes not to exceed 1 year's operational expenses for the purpose of maintaining special education programs and services operated by the intermediate school district.

(5) Intermediate school districts shall submit the desired method for the distribution of funds to the intermediate school district, its constituent local school districts, and public school academies and the reasons therefor for approval as part of the intermediate school district plan required under section 1711 of 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.1711.

R 340.1812

(1) Costs for the operation of special education programs and services by the intermediate school district, available to all constituent local school districts and public school academies, may be reimbursed in full before the reimbursement of local districts from funds generated by adoption of millage under sections 1723 and 1724 of 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.1723 and 380.1724.

(2) If intermediate school district special education personnel offer direct services to students with disabilities in some but not all constituent local school districts or public school academies, and if prorated payment of constituent local school district or public school academy operational claims is necessary, then the per capita deficit for each student served shall be paid by the school district of residence or a direct charge shall be made to the constituent local school district based on the amount of deficit and the proportion of time the constituent local school district or public school academy received the service from the intermediate school district.

The following is the method of distribution for millage funds in the ISD that meets the requirements of R 340.1811 and R 340.1812.

The method of distributing Intermediate School District Special Education Millage is in accordance with the provisions of Rule 340.1811. All costs associated with operating special education programs and services by the Gogebic-Ontonagon Intermediate School District will be reimbursed in full. Since all GOISD programs and services are available to all constituent local school districts, millage revenue is not distributed to the local school districts. Local School Districts are billed for unreimbursed costs according to their pro-rata share of students receiving Gogebic-Ontonagon Intermediate School District programs and services.

A Special Education Services Contract Agreement between the Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD and all constituent local school districts is on file at the GOISD.

VII. Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

R 340.1832(k)

A description of how the intermediate school district will appoint the parent advisory committee members under R 340.1838(1) and (2).

The following is the ISD’s process for appointing PAC members in accordance with R 340.1838(1) and (2).

The process for appointing PAC members is in accordance with R 340.1838(1) and (2). The local district administrators shall seek recommendations from PAC and school personnel. As per the provisions of Rule 340.1838(1)(c), the GOISD Board of Education may nominate and appoint additional members to the PAC. If the GOISD Board of Education chooses to nominate and appoint additional members, it shall be done solely for the purposes of ensuring that all types of impairments of students with disabilities within the GOISD are represented on the committee. The Supervisor of Special Education or designee shall notify constituent school district administrators that a nomination of one or more parent(s) of a student with a disability is needed to fulfill a PAC position. Each LEA is entitled to all least one member on the PAC. Should there be a vacancy for school district representation at any given time, an otherwise qualified parent may be selected to serve on the PAC. The PAC may nominate a parent as a member-at-large. Such nominations shall be placed on the agenda of the ISD's next board meeting. Members-at-large, once appointed, will fill the first vacancy within their school district. All such appointments are subject to the provision of Rule 340.1838(1)(2).

PAC Participation and Additional Responsibilities

R 340.1832(I)

A description of the role and responsibilities of the parent advisory committee, including how it shall participate in the cooperative development of the intermediate school district plan, formulate objections thereto, if any, and other related matters.

R 340.1836 (1)

Any constituent local school district, public school academy, or the parent advisory committee may file objections with the intermediate school district, in whole or in part, to an approved intermediate school district plan or a plan modification that has been submitted to the superintendent of public instruction for approval. Copies of an objection to the plan shall, within 7 calendar days, be directed to the department by the intermediate school district board of education and to all constituent local school districts, public school academies, and the parent advisory committee by certified mail, return receipt requested. Objections filed shall specify the portions of the intermediate school district plan objected to, contain a specific statement of the reasons for objection, and shall propose alternative provisions.

The following describes how the PAC participates in the development of the ISD Plan.

The PAC will review the PLAN annually and provide advisory input on matters that the committee deems appropriate to the improvement of special education services within the GOISD.

The following describes how the PAC may file an objection to the ISD plan in accordance with R 340.1836(1).

If the PAC directs the chairperson, by a majority vote, an objection to the plan may be filed according to the procedures specified in Rule 340.1836 of the Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education.

Administrative Support for the PAC

R 340.1832(m)

A description of the role and relationship of administrative and other school personnel, as well as representatives of other agencies, in assisting the parent advisory committee in its responsibilities.

The following administrator(s) act as the main support assisting the PAC with fulfilling its duties as described in the ISD plan.

Agency/Organization	Title	Role and Relationship to the PAC
Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD	Director of Special Education	Advisor
Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD	Supervisor of Special Education	GOISD Liaison and facilitator

Additional Support for the PAC

See **R 340.1832(n)** in the MARSE concerning the additional support for the PAC.

R 340.1832(n)

A description of the fiscal and staff resources that shall be secured or allocated to the parent advisory committee by the intermediate school district to make it efficient and effective in operation.

The following ISD positions assist with PAC activities.

The Special Education Administrative Assistant will provide support with tasks such as typing and mailing PAC agendas and minutes.

The following resource types are available to assist the PAC.

The GOISD shall provide reasonable secretarial support for typing and mailing PAC agendas and minutes and will make available staff resources for the purpose of making the PAC an efficient and effective operational unit. Materials include all publications/documents available through the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Special Education, Gogebic-Ontonagon Intermediate School District, and the Michigan Alliance for Families. Reimbursement for costs related to trainings and conferences may be provided.

All GOISD sponsored workshops relevant to the PAC and family networking shall be fully funded.

Financial resources through the GOISD Sp. Ed. Department may be available as needed for expenses related to the PAC (travel, meals, lodging, registration fees, etc).

VIII. Surrogate Parents

34 CFR §300.519(a)(b)

General. Each public agency must ensure that the rights of a child are protected when— (1) No parent (as defined in § 300.30) can be identified; (2) The public agency, after reasonable efforts, cannot locate a parent; (3) The child is a ward of the State under the laws of that State; or (4) The child is an unaccompanied homeless youth as defined in section 725(6) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a(6)). (b) Duties of public agency. The duties of a public agency under paragraph (a) of this section include the assignment of an individual to act as a surrogate for the parents. This must include a method— (1) For determining whether a child needs a surrogate parent; and (2) For assigning a surrogate parent to the child.

The following public agencies are responsible for maintaining a pool of surrogate parents.

ISD

The following public agencies are responsible for providing training to potential surrogate parents.

ISD