

### **Screening, Including Child Find and Referral**

M.S.A.D. #3 has the responsibility of identifying all children between the ages of three and twenty within its jurisdiction who may be exceptional students. This identification shall be accomplished through a unit wide screening process, which, while not a definitive or final judgment of a student's capabilities or exceptionality, is a possible indicator of special educational needs. Final identification of exceptional students and programming for such students occurs only after an appropriate evaluation and a determination by the Pupil Evaluation Team. The Superintendent or his designee shall develop procedures in an effort to ensure that:

- A. All children between the ages of three and twenty who reside within the school unit and may be in need of special educational services are identified, located, and evaluated, whether those children live with their parents and attend any of the unit's public school, are tuitioned out to schools in other units, or are state wards, state agency clients, or institutional residents as defined by the Maine Special Education regulations;
- B. Screening and identification procedures are offered at public expense to children between the ages of three and twenty who reside within the school unit's geographic jurisdiction and attend private school at private expense;
- C. The screening and identification procedures employed comply with Maine and Federal Special Education Regulations;
- D. If the screening and identification process indicates that an eligible student of school age may require special education and support services, the school unit shall refer that student to the Pupil Evaluation Team to determine the student's eligibility for special education services;
- E. A practical method is maintained for documenting which students are receiving needed special education and supportive services and identifying any unmet needs;
- F. The public is informed of the school unit's responsibility to locate, evaluate, and identify all exceptional children, of what services are available in the school unit's special education program, and of who the contact person for the school unit is; and
- G. Attempts are made to involve available local and regional agencies in the identification of children with unmet needs.

Adopted: November 13, 1990