



Statewide Initial Consultation Meetings

September 27, 2018

Private School Administrators,

Recently you received Private Schools Equitable Service information and an invitation/registration form to attend one of the several Statewide Initial Consultation Meetings for Private Schools Equitable Services from Shaun Owen (State Ombudsman). (See attached.)

The statewide meetings are held to explain the Equitable Services provided by districts to private schools for the 2019-2020 school year. Title IA and Title VIII (IC, IIA, IIIA, IVA, and IVB) will be discussed. In the past, these meetings have been held by each school district in Georgia once a year, usually in October (and are typically called the Initial Consultation or Invitation to Consult Meeting). The purpose of now holding statewide meetings is to standardize the information, create consistency, discuss the new online platform, address Equitable Services via a collaborative approach between the GaDOE, districts and private schools, and reduce the meetings private schools that work with multiple districts (some as many as 12) need to attend. The second part of the day is optional and is designed to offer technical assistance/professional learning regarding Equitable Services.

The **Sumter County School District** is also responsible for reaching out to all eligible private schools (located within or outside of our district and the state) with students residing within the local district's geographical boundaries. For Title VIII (IC, IIA, IIIA, IVA, and IVB), the private school must be located in the district's geographical boundaries. This process for reaching out and retaining documentation has not changed and continues to be the responsibility of the LEA/district. For Title IVB, non-LEAs may reach outside the geographical boundaries depending on the service area listed in the contract.

We will have a representative, **Gayla Braziel**, from our school district available at the **November 8, 2018** meeting in **Warner Robins** to answer questions, complete Intent to Participate forms via the online platform, and provide any contact/program specific information.

If you are unable to attend one of this meetings and are interested in learning more about Equitable Services provided by districts to private schools, please contact me at **229-931-8500** or gbraziel@sumterschools.org so I can schedule time to provide all necessary information to interested private schools. You can also contact Shaun Owen, State Ombudsman, at 404-971-0096 or email her at ombudsman@doe.k12.ga.us, if you have additional questions.

Thank you,

Gayla Braziel

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