

# LINCOLN-SUDBURY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

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**Richard Whitehead**  
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**Contact:**  
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**Subject:** The New Statewide Individualized Education Program (IEP) Form

Dear Lincoln-Sudbury Caregivers,

Earlier this year, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) released a new Individualized Education Program (IEP) form that we will start using in September 2024, as will Sudbury and Lincoln Public Schools. This is the first new version of the IEP in twenty years so it will be a big change for us here at LS. Your student's IEP team continues to be committed to providing the best possible supports and services for your student's educational journey here at LS, and our use of the new IEP form is designed to enhance that commitment. We are currently involved in a series of professional development opportunities to make sure that we are as ready as possible to implement this new document for the 24-25 school year.

This new statewide IEP form helps teams to more effectively address the needs of students eligible for special education services. The revised form focuses attention on gathering complete information about your student's strengths, challenges, and individualized goals to develop a more personalized education plan for your student.

We believe that our use of the new statewide IEP form will offer several benefits to you and your student. Some of these key advantages include:

- **Enhanced Collaboration:** The form promotes better communication and collaboration between you, your student's teachers, and the IEP team. It encourages a better understanding of your student's unique needs, allowing for improved support strategies.
- **More Clarity and Consistency:** The revised form is designed to ensure clarity and consistency in the IEP process and in the implementation of state and federal requirements. This consistency will facilitate smoother transitions between grade levels, and it is particularly designed to help students with disabilities to transition to post-high school life at whatever stage of their school career that occurs.
- **Comprehensive Documentation of the Program:** The new IEP form offers a more detailed framework for documenting your student's progress, accommodations,

and services. This will support better tracking of your student's achievements and provide valuable information for future evaluations, assessments and life beyond high school.

We intend to conduct several parent meetings between April and June to discuss the new IEP document and share information about our implementation plans with you. We are waiting for DESE to release their parent training materials before we finalize our dates.

Please feel free to reach out to us at the Office of Student Services (978-443-9961 x 2386) if you have any immediate questions or concerns regarding the implementation of the new IEP form. We continue to value our partnership in your student's education, and we look forward to working together to support your student's educational needs.

For more information about the new statewide IEP form, please visit the state webpage at: <https://www.doe.mass.edu/sped/improveiep>

For general special education parent information, please visit:

<https://www.doe.mass.edu/sped/parents.html>

Thank you for your ongoing partnership and support.

Sincerely,

*Richard Whitehead*

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