

**DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL SERVICES**

Merrimack School District  
2 Brentwood Drive  
Merrimack, New Hampshire 03054  
Telephone (603) 424-6211

David St. Jean, *Director*

March 21, 2011

Dear Parent(s) or Guardian(s),

Once again I am asking for your assistance. For the past four years, the New Hampshire Department of Education has sent each parent of a child with a disability a "Parent Involvement Survey". This survey is required by the N.H. Department of Education to measure parent involvement in the special education process.

The 2011 survey will be mailed to you next week (after March 28, 2011). Please complete the confidential survey by April 25, 2011 to ensure we hear your opinion.

Past survey results have annually been presented to our School Board and are currently posted on the Merrimack Special Education Parent Support Group website (accessed through the Merrimack School District website) for your review. In general, we have shown consistent improvement in most areas measured. We also have one of the highest return rates in the state (thank you!).

I want to assure you that we actually use the results of the survey. Last year, for example, only 46% of parent respondents felt that Merrimack provided adequate parent training about special education issues. As a result, we've been working with our Special Education Parent Support Group to offer parent training in the special education process, autism, children's mental health issues, and support in transition from high school to work or higher education. We've also taped a few sessions for our local cable access station.

The data you provide will assist us in continuing to improve our services to your children.

Please look in your mail for the confidential survey next week, fill it out, and keep our response rate high so the data truly reflects the opinions of Merrimack parents.

Thank you,



David St. Jean  
Special Education Director