



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

JUN 6 2008

Honorable David Borja
Commissioner of Education
CNMI Public School System
P.O. Box 501370 CK
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Commissioner Borja:

Thank you for the timely submission of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands' (CNMI) FFY 2006 Annual Performance Report (APR) and revised State Performance Plan (SPP) under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), as amended in 2004. We also acknowledge the revisions to CNMI's SPP and APR received on April 14, 2008. We appreciate CNMI's efforts in preparing these documents.

The Department has determined that, under IDEA sections 616(d) and 642, CNMI meets the requirements of Part C of the IDEA. The Department's determination is based on the totality of CNMI's data and information including CNMI's FFY 2006 APR and revised SPP, other CNMI-reported data, audits, and other publicly available information. See the enclosure entitled "How the Department Made Determinations under Sections 616(d) and 642 of the IDEA in 2008" for further details.

Specific factors affecting OSEP's determination that CNMI met requirements under IDEA sections 616(d) and 642 include: (1) CNMI provided valid and reliable FFY 2006 data reflecting the measurement for each indicator; and (2) CNMI reported correction or high levels of compliance for Indicators 1, 7, 8A, 8B, 8C, and 9. We commend CNMI for its performance.

The enclosed table provides OSEP's analysis of the CNMI's FFY 2006 APR and revised SPP and identifies, by indicator, OSEP's review of any revisions made by CNMI to its targets, improvement activities (timelines and resources) and baseline data in CNMI's SPP. It also identifies, by indicator, CNMI's status in meeting its targets, whether CNMI's data reflect progress or slippage, and whether CNMI corrected noncompliance and provided valid and reliable data.

If CNMI included revisions to baseline, targets or improvement activities in your APR submission, and OSEP accepted those revisions, please ensure that you update your SPP accordingly and that the updated SPP is made available to the public.

OSEP is committed to supporting CNMI's efforts to improve results for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families and looks forward to working with CNMI over the next year. If you have any questions, would like to discuss this further, or want

400 MARYLAND AVE., S.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202
www.ed.gov

Our mission is to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence throughout the Nation.

Page 2 – Lead Agency Director

to request technical assistance, please do not hesitate to call Ms. Lucille Sleger, your OSEP State Contact, at 202-245-7528.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William W. Knudsen", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

William W. Knudsen

Acting Director

Office of Special Education Programs

Enclosures

cc: Part C Coordinator