



*Strength in Diversity
Quality through Collaboration*

December 5, 2016

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education informed EDCO Collaborative's Executive Director, Colleen Dolan, that a Collaborative Program Review that will be taking place this school year. As part of this Collaborative Program Review, Department staff will visit the Collaborative during the week of January 10-13, 2017. Such visits are routinely conducted by the Department to satisfy federal and state requirements for the periodic review of specific education programs and services in schools throughout the Commonwealth. The Department is reviewing several programs during a single visit in order to use Department and school staff's time most efficiently and to encourage strong connections among the programs.

The Department's Collaborative Program Review will address the following programs: EDCO North Crossing Therapeutic Day Program, EDCO Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and EDCO Partners Program. After reviewing collaborative procedures for these program(s), a Department team will make its onsite visit, during which it will review individual student records, interview administrators, teachers and paraprofessional staff, survey parents and observe instructional spaces. After the onsite visit it will prepare a report for the executive director and board of directors, with detailed findings for each program.

Using a scale of ratings ranging from "Commendable" to "Not Implemented," the report will rate the implementation of each requirement reviewed by the Department. Where requirements are found not implemented or only partially implemented, the collaborative must propose to the Department corrective action to bring those areas into compliance with statutes and regulations. Collaborative programs are encouraged to incorporate the corrective action into their district and school improvement plans and professional development plan. The collaborative will be provided with technical assistance from the Department in developing a corrective action plan. Both the Department's report and the corrective action plan are public information and will be available to the public upon request. Program Review Final Reports are also available on the Department's Internet website at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/review/cpr/reports/>.

Any member of the public may request to be interviewed by telephone by a member of the Department's visiting team. Those wishing to be interviewed should call the associate executive director's office at 339-222-5602 no later than January 13, 2017 to leave their name and phone number, or they may call the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education at 781-338-3723 (number for onsite chairperson). A member of the visiting team will contact each person desiring an interview within two weeks after the completion of the onsite visit. If an individual is not comfortable communicating in English or requires some other accommodation, the Department will make arrangements to communicate appropriately with the individual.