



Human Development Center – The Louisiana University Affiliated Program
The Office of the Independent Expert – Jamie S. Settlement Agreement
1900 Gravier Street, Suite 8B9, New Orleans, Louisiana 70112
(504) 556-7559 Fax: (504) 556-7584

March 26, 2010

Michael Bonds, Ph.D., President
The Office of Board Governance
P.O. Box 2181
Milwaukee, WI 53201-2181

William G. Andrekopoulos, Superintendent
Milwaukee Public Schools
5225 W. Vliet Street
Milwaukee, WI 53208

Dear Dr. Bonds & Mr. Andrekopoulos,

The Office of the Independent Expert is charged with reporting on the progress of implementation of the Jamie S. Compliance Plan. You will find included with this letter the final copy of the first report on implementation. According to the Jamie S. Compliance Plan my office will complete a report twice each year based on data and other information received as of January 15 and June 15, during the period of the compliance plan.

This first report describes a somewhat slower than expected beginning of implementation and expresses the expectation of significantly increased activity during the spring and early summer of 2010 as the first year of the Jamie S. Compliance Plan is concluded. I am particularly concerned that, after ten months, there is no minimally acceptable draft of a Literacy Plan from MPS to review for approval.

Please note as you read this report that the term 'early intervening services' or 'EIS' is generally synonymous with 'response to intervention' or 'RtI' as used by many of your staff. In the contemporary education literature EIS and RtI are used interchangeably to describe efforts in general education to meet the needs of diverse learners. Indeed, much of the information

on your own website pages (<http://www2.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/psi2/> and 'Library' references) exemplifies a current knowledge of the concepts of early intervening services or EIS.

Following your review of the attached report, please know that I am eager to discuss our findings and answer any questions you may have. We are available for conference calls or meetings that will support the efforts of the Milwaukee Public Schools at implementing the Jamie S. Compliance Plan.

I know that you are aware of correspondence from Monica Murphy to Mike Aldana of Quarles and Brady (January 13, 2010) indicating that "it has become increasingly clear that Milwaukee Public Schools are resisting the implementation of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's corrective action plan, especially that section of the plan that encompasses elements of the settlement agreement approved by court orders of Judge Goodstein on June 6th and July 28th 2008. This was further verified by Superintendent Andrekopoulos' recent statements to the press. *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, January 11, 2010." I have been informed by Plaintiff's counsel that they will not hesitate to take action to ensure compliance with the Court's order. The Office of the Independent Expert is hopeful that your awareness of Ms. Murphy's letter and the position of plaintiffs' attorneys will be expressed through full and complete cooperation by MPS with the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction as they implement the corrective action requirements.

Please know that my office is available to work directly with MPS staff in moving forward toward better results. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

W. Alan Coulter, Ph.D., Jamie S. Independent Expert
acoulter@lsuhsc.edu

Cc: Ms. Alisia Moutry, Chief of Staff
Dr. Jane Nell Luster
Mr. Burton 'Scott' Jones, DPI