



**Department of
Education**

Chancellor Richard A. Carranza

Danya Labban
Auditor General

August 16, 2019

Mr. Kenrick Sifontes
Audit Director
Office of the State Comptroller
Division of State Government Accountability
123 William Street
New York, NY 10038

**Re: Status Update on Recommendations in the OSC Audit
Report of the Department's Compliance with Special
Education Requirements - Evaluations (2017-N-3)**

Dear Mr. Sifontes:

This letter constitutes the New York City Department of Education's (Department) status update on recommendations made by the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) on the Department's Compliance with Special Education Requirements - Evaluations.

The Department is providing the following update on the status of these recommendations:

- 1. Assess the reasons for non-compliance with the 60-calendar-day requirement and take appropriate actions, especially for the districts/schools and grades where significant non-compliance has been consistently identified.**

As noted in the DOE's response, it is current practice to analyze real-time data on an ongoing basis to manage the completion of evaluations as timely and effectively as possible, and to guide the allocation of resources as needed, through the use of business intelligence tools. The DOE is continuing this practice.

2. Calculate school year compliance rates based on actual disposition dates for all initial referrals made during the school year (annual initial referral cohort), in addition to the information provided in the Annual Reports.

As noted in the DOE's response, it is current practice to review both real-time and historical data that allow us to identify issues and implement appropriate interventions in support of our compliance efforts. The DOE continues this practice of monitoring all open evaluations on an on-going basis, without constraint to a particular school year.

The Department's efforts outlined above effectively address the report's recommendations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Danya Labban", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Danya Labban
Auditor General