

# PUBLIC MEETINGS

## Transition Plan for Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education

**June 18, 2012; 6:00 – 8:00 PM**

*Adams High School  
808 South Twyckenham Dr.  
South Bend, IN 46615*

**June 19, 2012; 6:00 – 8:00 PM**

*Bedford North Lawrence High School  
595 N. Stars Blvd.  
Bedford, IN 47421*

**June 20, 2012; 6:00 – 8:00 PM**

*Indiana Government Center  
South Conference Center  
402 W. Washington St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46204*

### PURPOSE

The Office of Management and Budget is hosting the Public Meetings to hear public testimony on the *Draft Transition Plan for the Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education*. The public is invited to provide spoken and/or written comment on the *Draft Transition Plan*, especially regarding:

1. A detailed description of how the center for deaf and hard of hearing education will implement and carry out its duties;
2. A description of the agency that will provide office space and staff support for the center in an unbiased manner to ensure that children who are deaf and children who are hard of hearing acquire optimal language skills and academic abilities.

### GIVENS

There are three “givens” of Public Comment:

1. The center for deaf and hard of hearing education is established.  

The purpose of public comment is to testify on the transition plan (*how* to do it), not to debate whether or not (*why*) the center should be established.
2. The center shall be established in a manner that is supportive of parental choice and provides comprehensive information related to key decision points on matters such as knowledge of the full continuum of language and communication options (e.g. American Sign Language [ASL], other forms of sign language, cued speech, listening and spoken language (oral), or any combination of these skills).  

The purpose of public comment is to testify on how to support parental choice, including the full continuum of language and communication options, not to debate *who* should choose the approach to communication.
3. The center shall carry out its duties in a manner to ensure that children who are deaf and children who are hard of hearing acquire optimal language skills and academic abilities.  

The purpose of public comment is to testify on methods and recommendations that would allow the center to provide comprehensive, balanced information that will optimize language skills and academic success, not to debate the merits of communication options.

# PUBLIC MEETINGS

## Transition Plan for Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education

### AGENDA

- 5:30 – 6:00 Registration**
- 6:00 – 6:15 Welcome – Gloria Downham, Office of Management & Budget**
- Overview of Stakeholder Process
  - Public Comment Purpose and Givens
  - Public Comment Guidelines
  - Overview of Draft Transition Plan
- 6:15 – 6:30 Written Recommendations for the Transition Plan**
- To ensure that children who are deaf and children who are hard of hearing acquire optimal language skills and academic abilities:
- What are unmet needs?
  - What are the most important things that the Center can do to meet the unmet needs?
  - Other written comments
- 6:30 – 8:00 Public Comment Period**
- 8:00 Public Meeting Closed**

### PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES

Public comment will be limited to written and spoken testimony on the *Draft Transition Plan for the Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education*. See Purpose and "Givens."

1. Public comment will be heard from 6:30 PM until 8:00 PM.
2. **Any person wishing to speak must submit in person a *Sign-up Sheet* by 6:30 PM.**
3. Upon submission of the *Sign-Up Sheet*, individuals will be assigned a number indicating the order in which they will be recognized to testify.
4. Public comment will be time-limited. The amount of time allotted per person will be determined based on the number of persons registered to speak by 6:30 PM.
  - o If more than ninety persons are registered to speak, public comment will be limited to one minute per person taken in the order of registration until cut off at 8:00 PM.
5. When recognized to speak, individuals should first state their name and organization (role).
6. Speakers are asked to avoid repeated or redundant public comments. The Office of Management and Budget is interested in qualitatively understanding the full range of views.
  - o Individuals may choose to "pass" if they feel that their points were made by others.
  - o Organizations, associations, and groups are asked to appoint a single spokesperson.
7. All members of the public will treat others at the Public Meeting with respect.
  - o There will be no displays of disapproval such as booing or hissing.
8. Any persons not following these guidelines may be asked to leave the Public Meeting.
9. When the Public Meeting is officially declared closed, no further public testimony will be allowed.
10. The public is invited to submit written testimony on the *Draft Transition Plan for the Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education* through June 29, 2012.