



PARENT TIPS FOR THE IEP

BEFORE THE IEP

- * RESPOND TO THE MEETING NOTIFICATION.
- * MAKE SURE YOUR REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS ARE ALL IN WRITING.
- * GATHER AND ORGANIZE ALL RECENT AND RELEVANT DOCUMENTS; REVIEW AND BRING WITH YOU.
- * REQUEST THAT YOU BE GIVEN IN ADVANCE OF THE IEP ANY COMPLETED ASSESSMENT RESULTS, DRAFT IEPS AND/OR REPORTS ON CURRENT GOALS (NOTE: THE DISTRICT IS NOT REQUIRED TO PROVIDE THESE IN ADVANCE).
- * GIVE AT LEAST 24 HOURS NOTICE TO TAPE RECORD THE MEETING.
- * HAVE A VISION IN MIND; KNOW WHAT YOU SEE IN TERMS OF NEW GOALS, SERVICES AND PLACEMENT. PART OF THIS IS KNOWING YOUR CHILD AND KNOWING YOUR OPTIONS.
- * NOTE YOUR CONCERNS, QUESTIONS AND FEEDBACK. YOU CAN WRITE A PARENT STATEMENT IF DESIRED.
- * ARRANGE FOR A FRIEND, PARTNER OR SUPPORT TO ACCOMPANY YOU TO THE IEP.



PARENT TIPS FOR THE IEP

DURING THE IEP

- * BE CORDIAL - BRING SNACKS TO SHARE IF DESIRED (THERE ARE MIXED OPINIONS ON THIS; WE BELIEVE THAT KINDNESS AND AN ASSUMPTION OF GOOD WILL GO A LONG WAY).
- * MAKE CERTAIN THAT THE TEAM KNOWS YOUR CHILD AND ISN'T JUST LOOKING AT A DIAGNOSIS AND ASSESSMENT RESULTS TO MAKE DECISIONS. SHARE A VIDEO, STATEMENT FROM YOUR CHILD, A STORY OR BRING THEM IF THEY'RE OLDER AND IT'S APPROPRIATE. EVERY CHILD IS AN INDIVIDUAL, LET YOURS BE KNOWN.
- * TAPE RECORD AND/OR TAKE NOTES. WE RECOMMEND RECORDING THE MEETING; BUT NOT ALL FEEL THE NEED TO DO SO.
- * DO NOT SIGN IN AGREEMENT TO THE IEP; ONLY SIGN FOR ATTENDANCE.

WHAT TO EXPECT :

- * INTRODUCTIONS
- * RECEIVE PARENT RIGHTS
- * REVIEW OF ASSESSMENTS
- * DISCUSSION OF PAST AND PROPOSED GOALS/OBJECTIVES, SERVICES AND PLACEMENT
- * PARENTAL CONCERNS/INPUT
- * SIGNATURES (WE SUGGEST YOU SIGN ONLY FOR ATTENDANCE AT THE IEP MEETING; BRING THE DRAFT IEP HOME FOR CLOSER REVIEW AND ANY DESIRED OUTSIDE INPUT.



PARENT TIPS FOR THE IEP

AFTER THE IEP

- * DEBRIEF WITH YOUR SUPPORTS. MAKE NOTES OF NEW THOUGHTS OR QUESTIONS.
- * SEEK OUTSIDE SUPPORTS AND RESOURCES IF NEEDED (I.E. DSCBA, FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS, ONLINE SUPPORT AND TOPIC GROUPS, DISABILITY RIGHTS AND EDUCATION DEFENSE FUND, DREDF).
- * WRITE A FOLLOW-UP LETTER THAT STATES ANY QUESTIONS, CONCERNS/DISAGREEMENTS, APPRECIATIONS/AGREEMENTS AND PROPOSED FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS.
- * MAKE A DECISION TO SIGN OFF ON THE IEP IN FULL, IN PART OR NOT AT ALL (NOTE - NEW GOALS AND SERVICES CANNOT BEGIN UNTIL THEY ARE SIGNED OFF ON. ALSO NOTE THAT YOU CAN SIGN OFF IN PART TO THE IEP).
- * STAY ON TOP OF THINGS. MAKE SURE YOU GET REGULAR PROGRESS UPDATES AND THAT THE IEP REMAINS APPROPRIATE. MONITOR YOUR CHILD'S PROGRESS.
- * KNOW THAT YOU CAN CALL AN IEP MEETING AT ANY TIME. THIS NEEDS TO BE DONE IN WRITING AND THE DISTRICT HAS 30 DAYS IN WHICH TO COMPLY.