



## Special Education Process Guide: IEP

### Meeting Overview:

- The Individualized Educational Program (IEP) team will:
  - Discuss the purpose of the meeting. (IEP meetings are held for initial, annual review, or addendums (changes) to the IEP).
  - Discuss your child's strengths.
  - Discuss and record your concerns and your vision for your child's future.
  - Discuss information about your child's results on assessments (formal and informal) and add relevant data as needed.
  - Discuss your child's current progress and areas of academic (reading, writing, math, etc.) and/or functional (social/emotional, organization, etc.) need(s).
  - Discuss other things that may be affecting your child's education (e.g. behavior, vision, hearing, and/or communication, etc.).
  - Discuss which area(s) of academic and/or functional need(s) require specially designed instruction (SDI).
  - Discuss secondary transition (if your child is 14 or older). Your child's input will be important.
  - Discuss the goal(s) your child will work on in the coming year and decide how progress toward the goal(s) will be measured.
  - Break each goal into smaller parts (short-term objectives or benchmarks) and decide how to measure progress.
  - Determine the amount of SDI, related service(s) and other supports which may be needed to address your child's goals and short-term objectives or benchmarks.
  - Decide upon the location for services (i.e. general education, special education).
  - Decide what accommodations may be needed for your child to participate in classroom activities, as well as on district and state tests.
  - Discuss whether your child is eligible for Extended School Year (ESY) services based on data. If so, the team will determine what services are needed during ESY.

### Information parents are asked to share at an IEP meeting...

#### Beginning of the Meeting:

- **Your child's strengths/growth...**
  - What are your child's strengths? What skills have you seen your child learn at school (from IEP, curriculum) and use at home? How have you seen your child grow and develop this year?
- **Your concerns about academic and functional performance in school..**
  - Describe your worries about academic performance?
  - Describe your worries about functional performance?
- **Vision for your child's future...**
  - Consider what you envision for your child
    - In 1 year?
    - In 5 years?
    - In 10 years?

#### During the Meeting:

- **Ask, answer, and participate...**

As a member of the IEP team you are able to contribute throughout the meeting.

  - You can ask questions
  - Suggest goals
  - Suggest accommodations
  - Provide input regarding the special education and related services your child may receive.