

Tips for a Successful IEP Meeting

Before

- Build a positive relationship with other members of the IEP team
- Plan ahead and put your thoughts down on paper, so you won't forget to mention what's important to you during the meeting.
- Review current reports, last year's IEP (if applicable), and Parents' Rights (If you need an additional copy, the school can provide you with another).

During

- Remember that you know your child best – strengths, talents, interests and needs, so take in what the professionals have to say, but add your perspective also.
- Be prepared for district staff to refer to assessment data and their observations, to support their opinions about what is appropriate for your child. This may be different from your input but is just as valid.
- Keep focused on what you want answered or provided for your child
- Don't hesitate to ask questions and seek clarification
- Ask to take the IEP home to review if you're unable to make a final decision at the meeting.

After

- If you have serious doubts or concerns about the IEP,
- Develop a collaborative relationship with the professionals who interact regularly with your child.