

Parents Rights & Responsibilities

Quincy Parent Advisory Council to Special Education

Presentation Goals

- **Introduce the special education process**
- **Highlight parents rights and responsibilities**
- **Enable collaboration**
- **Tips and resources**

Special Education Laws

- **IDEA & Regulations**
- **Chapter 71B & Regulations**
- **Other Federal Laws & Regs**
- **Other State Laws & Regs**

Special Education Process

- **Referral**
- **Evaluation/Re-evaluation**
- **Eligibility**
- **IEP Development**
- **Placement**
- **Progress Reports**
- **Dispute Resolution**

Special Education Referral

- **Aged 2 ½ - 22**
- **Parent, teacher, other**
- **Goes to school principal**
- **Supports may be offered**
- **Notice & consent within 5 school days**

Special Education Evaluation

- **Initial evaluation**
- **Periodic re-evaluation**
- **Evaluation requirements**
- **Meet to discuss the evaluation**

Required Assessments

- **Variety of assessments**
- **Educational assessment**
- **All areas of the disability**
- **Review of existing data**
- **Can include, health, home, psychological assessments**

Evaluation Time Lines

- **Within 5 school days**
- **Within 30 school days**
- **Within 45 school days**
- **At least 2 days in advance**
- **Within 10 days**
- **Every 3 years or sooner**
- **More than 60 school days**
- **Before exiting**
- **Exceptions**

Independent Education Evaluations

- **Public Expense**
- **State vs. Federal Rules**
- **Parent Choice**
- **Private Expense**

Observation Law

- **Timely Access**
- **Sufficient Duration**
- **Restrictions only to protect safety, confidentiality, integrity of program**

Convening the Team

- **Parent Participation**
- **Team Members:**
 - Parent (and child)
 - Special and General Ed Teachers
 - District Representative
 - Evaluation Interpretors
 - Others

What the Parent Receives

- **Meeting Notice**
- **Assessment Reports**
- **Draft IEP or Notes**

Determining Eligibility

- **One or more of the disabilities**
- **Unable to make effective progress**
- **Requires specially designed instruction and/or related services**

Special Considerations for Specific Learning Disabilities

- **Delayed Processing Skills**
 - Oral or Written Expression
 - Basic Reading or Fluency Skills
 - Reading or Listening Comprehension
 - Math Problem Solving or Calculation
- **Discrepancy Model or RTI**

Developing the Individualized Education Program

- **What must be considered**
- **What must be included**

Special Considerations for Students with Autism

- **Communication Needs**
- **Social Skills/Proficiencies**
- **Sensory Responses**
- **Rigidity**
- **Repetitive Activities/Movements**
- **Behavioral Strategies/Supports**
- **Skills needed to avoid and respond to bullying, harassment, or teasing**

Special Considerations for Students Age 14 and Up

- **Transition Services**
- **Transition Planning Form**
- **Transition Goals**
- **Transition Assessments**
- **Child and Agency Participation**
- **Summary of Performance**

Determining Placement

- **Continuum of Options**
- **Consider After the IEP**
- **Least Restrictive Environment**
- **Participation in Programs and Services**

Parent's Response to the IEP and Placement

- **30 Days**
- **IEP: All, Some, or None**
- **Placement: Yes or No**
- **Rejected IEPs to the BSEA**
- **Accepted will be Implemented**

Monitoring Progress

- **Regular Progress Reports**
- **Classwork, Report Cards**
- **Local and State Assessments**
- **Annual IEP Review/Revision**
- **Additional Reviews**
- **IEP Amendments**

Resolving Disagreements

- **Variety of Options**
 - Local Resolution
 - PQA: Problem Resolution System
 - OCR: Civil Rights Complaint
 - BSEA: Facilitated IEP Meeting, Spedex, Mediation, Due Process Hearing

Local Resolution

- **Teacher or Service Provider**
- **Team Chair or Liaison**
- **Team Administrator or
Department Head**
- **Director of Special Education**
- **Superintendent**

Complaints

- **PQA**
- **Problem Resolution System**
- **OCR**
- **Civil Rights Complaint**

Bureau of Special Education Appeals

- **Mediation**
- **Facilitated IEP Meeting**
- **Spedex**
- **Due Process Hearing**

Other Rights

- **Stay Put**
- **Unilateral Placement**
- **Revocation of Consent**

Prior Written Notice

- **In writing**
- **Before initiating/changing or refusing to take action**
- **In English and parent's primary language**

Student Records

- **Transcript and Temporary Record**
- **Parent/Student Access within 10 Days**
- **Annotate, Amend, or Delete**

Student Discipline

- **Suspension Up to 10 Days**
- **FAPE After 10 Days**
- **Concurrently or Recurrently**
- **Manifestation Determination**

Age of Majority

- **Student Decision-Making**
- **By At Least 17**
- **Exceptions Apply**

QPAC Tips for Effective Participation

- **Know Your Rights and Responsibilities**
- **Put It In Writing**
- **Organize Your Records**
- **Take a Day (or More)**
- **Act Locally First**
- **Get an Evaluation**
- **Ask for Help**