

WHAT TO BRING: CHECKLIST TO THE IEP TEAM MEETING

- * Goals you have for the coming year – put your child's needs and preferences at the center of any discussion
- * Examples of strategies and interventions that have and have not worked
- * Last year's IEP
- * Positive mindset and willingness to try new things
- * Your input as a parent is critical to the IEP Team
- * Commitment to collaboration – acknowledge and respect each team member

TIPS

After the IEP meeting, here are a few things you can do to help ensure your child's success throughout the year.

- * Maintain close contact with your child's teacher. Two-way communication is a key to making any program work.
- * Ask for suggestions on how you can continue to practice and reinforce what is going on in school.
- * Continue to keep good records.
- * During the year, keep a list of anything you want to consider for your child's next IEP.
- * If at any time things change and you feel the need to discuss them, contact your student's case manager. Review the IEP with them and if changes are needed they can schedule a team meeting at any time.
- * Talk with your child's teacher if you have any questions or if there are any concerns.
- * Participate in training sessions or workshops offered by the school district or other community agencies.
- * If you have discovered hints that help your child learn, share them. Offer to help teachers and others adapt accommodations or modifications.

Statewide Resources

- * **CO Department of Education (CDE):**
www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/index.asp
 303.866.6694
 CDE offers extensive information regarding special and general education, special education law, and the IEP process
- * **Colorado Special Education Advisory Committee (CO SEAC):**
www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/CSEAC.asp
 303.866.6943
 CO SEAC serves as a liaison between parents, local educational agencies, and the Colorado Department of Education Exceptional Student Leadership Unit.
- * **PEAK Parent Center:**
www.peakparent.org 800.284.0251
 PEAK assists families, birth-26, with a parent advisor, trainings, Conference on Inclusive Education and statewide calendar.
- * **Empower Colorado:**
www.empowercolorado.com 866.213.4631
 Empower Colorado provides group and on-line support, education, and advocacy for families of children with brain disorders and mental health issues.
- * **Family Voices:**
www.familyvoicesco.org 800.881.8272
 Information on Medicaid, private insurance, and navigating the health care system.
- * **Parent to Parent:**
www.p2p-co.org 877.472.7201
 Learning Disabilities: www.ldonline.org Provides information and links about learning disabilities and ADHD
- * **Eastern Colorado Services:**
www.easterncoloradoservices.org 970.522.7121
 Community centered board serving developmentally/intellectually disabled persons.

Department of Special Services Elizabeth C-1 School District

676 S. Elbert Street
Elizabeth, CO 80107
(303) 646-1844

Vision Statement:

All learners are respected and supported to meet their individual potential for a successful future through high quality education between educators and families.



PARENT-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

*Parents and staff share ideas
and develop solutions together*

*Elizabeth School District C-1 parent resource
created by the Elbert County Early Childhood Council
Committee for Family Education*



WELCOME

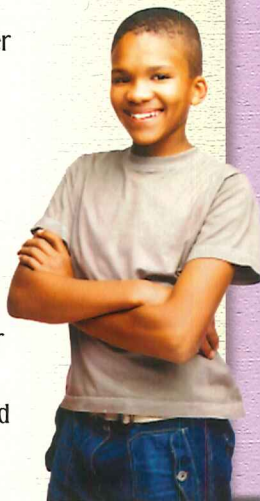
The Elizabeth Schools Special Education Team is committed to providing a quality educational experience based upon the individual needs of each child. To minimize the impact of disabilities, a specialized instructional continuum is provided that ranges from services in a general education setting to fully contained classroom settings. In addition to special education teachers, students with disabilities may receive support from paraprofessionals, nurses, school psychologists, social workers, speech language and motor therapists. The goal of the Team is to provide services that will allow students with disabilities to acquire the skills to pursue independent living and post secondary success.



YOUR SCHOOL SUPPORT TEAM

There are professionals at your child's school with whom you and your child may interact during the assessment and educational process. These school district special personnel may include the following. Please feel free to contact them if you have any questions.

- * Case Manager/SPED Teacher
- * Classroom Teacher
- * Nurse
- * Occupational Therapist
- * Physical Therapist
- * Psychologist
- * Social Worker
- * Speech/Language Teacher
- * Gifted and Talented Teacher
- * Vision Specialist
- * Teacher of Hearing Impaired
- * Audiologist



DISTRICT RESOURCES

The following district resources may be available for you or your child. Contact your school for more information.

- * Early Intervention
- * Birth to Five Child Find
- * Child Find 6-21
- * Centennial Mental Health
- * Elbert County Department of Health and Human Services
- * Connections For Families
- * Heads Up Colorado
- * Eastern Colorado Services:
www.easterncoloradoservices.org
- * Parent Advisory Committee
- * Speech/Language Service
- * Alternative Education Programs
- * School to Work Alliance
- * Response to Intervention
- * Crisis Response Team
- * Autism Team
- * Behavior Team
- * Statewide Augmentative Alternative Assistive Communication
- * Crisis Prevention Intervention
- * Significant Support Needs

WHAT IS AN IEP?

An IEP - or Individualized Education Program - is a term used to describe the official documentation of special education services that will be provided for your child.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Q. How do I know if my child needs a special program?
- A. If your child is experiencing difficulties with general education curriculum, talk with his/her teacher regarding the Response to Intervention (RTI) process. At any time during this process a parent may request a special education assessment if your child is not making academic progress.
- Q. Can my child receive special education services or specially designed instruction without my permission?
- A. No.
- Q. If my child is eligible for special education services, would my child participate in general education school programs?
- A. It depends on the child's individual needs. Students receiving special education services and related services are educated in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE). Least Restrictive Environment is that placement or program that can meet the individual student's needs and does so with a minimum loss of contact with general education class programs. Students on public school campuses are integrated with general education students during the school day and other school sponsored activities. This integration may include recess and lunch, or inclusion in many or all of the academic portions of the school day. All placements must be described fully in the IEP.
- Q. What is a parent's role in the special education process?
- A. Under federal and state law, parents and educators are equal partners in planning for the special needs of each child. Parents may request an assessment of their child. During the assessment process, parents are guaranteed the right and opportunity to provide information for the assessment. Additionally they participate in decision making which includes planning, placement, and continuing program reviews and evaluations.