

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH YOUR SCHOOL

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PLAN

1

Partnership and Parent Rights

2

General Strategies for Successful Partnership

3

An Evidence-based process for improving meetings with teachers

WHY PARTNER?

- Your child will learn more
- You learn more about your child's program
- You will feel more like speaking up
- Teachers learn more about how to support your child



IT'S YOUR RIGHT!

**KNOW
YOUR
RIGHTS**

empower yourself

LEGISLATIVE INTENT IDEA 2004

- ✓ **High expectations** for children with disabilities;
- ✓ **Access to the general education curriculum** in the regular classroom
- ✓ Support for their **efforts to meet the challenging expectations established for all children;**
- ✓ Preparation to lead as **productive and independent adult lives** as possible.

IDEA GUARANTEE



- A free, appropriate education for all children (FAPE)
- Placement in the least restrictive environment
- Protection for the rights of children and their parents
- Parent participation in educational planning

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- Understand procedural safeguards
- Confidentiality
- Review your child's educational records
- Participate in meetings (written notice)
- Give or deny consent
- Regularly informed of your child's progress



YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- Disagree with school decisions
- Independent educational evaluation
- Use IDEA processes to resolve disputes



IEP Review

Facilitated
IEP Meeting

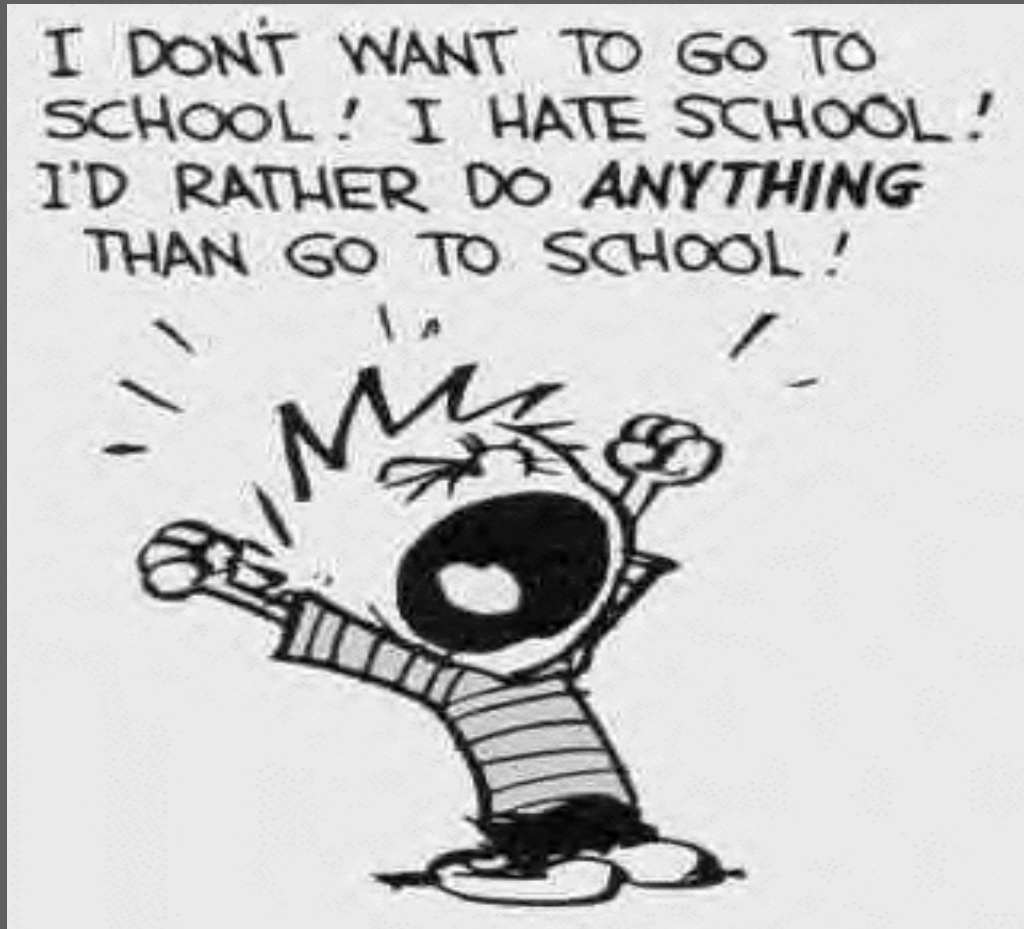
Mediation

State
Complaint

Due Process



UNDERSTAND YOURSELF



POSITIVE REGARD



LISTEN



SPEAK UP



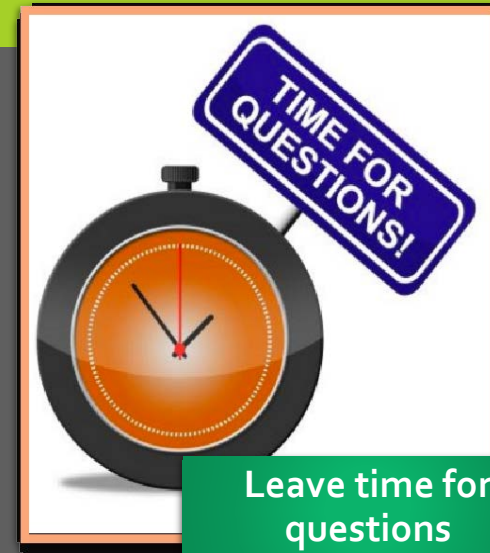
Ask questions,
express concerns, and
exchange ideas with
the team



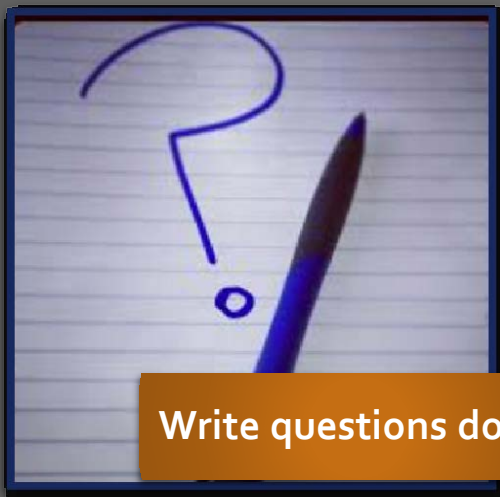
HOW TO ASK QUESTIONS



Start with just one question



Leave time for questions



Write questions down



Ask if you can share your questions later

SAMPLE QUESTIONS FOR TEACHERS

What challenges
is my child
having in the
classroom?

What can I do
differently to
support my child
at home?

Why does the
teacher use that
approach with
my child?

Is my child
making friends
at school?



ASK FOR WHAT YOU NEED



Documents

Time to
Process
Information

Test Results

Translation /
Interpreter

Time with a
teacher

Time to
observe

Best ways to
communicate

Better
meeting times

Better
meeting
places

Transportation
options

Support

GET ORGANIZED



GAIN KNOWLEDGE YOU NEED



CREATE A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH

Not "fix my kid!"



Not "I'll tell you how"



Learn together

