



ASKING QUESTIONS IMPROVES PARTNERSHIP

Parents of students with disabilities who are eligible for special education often ask questions to learn from educators more about their child at school. The answers to the questions will help parents participate in developing their child's education program. Parents are required members of the Individualized Education Program (IEP) team and are important throughout the special education process.

BELOW ARE COMMON QUESTIONS THAT PARENTS CAN ASK AT AN IEP TEAM MEETING:

- Are all the required IEP members present for this meeting?
- How much time has been scheduled for this meeting?
- May we do introductions?
- Is my interpreter present (if applicable)?
- May I have a draft copy of the IEP to follow along?
- Would you please rephrase that, so I am sure I understand?
- That term (or acronym) is unfamiliar to me. Would you please explain the meaning?
- That is interesting. Could you tell me more about it, so I am sure I understand your view?
- What can my child/youth do independently and in what areas is support needed?
- Could you tell me about my child's day so I can understand what it looks like?
- What does that accommodation/instructional intervention look like in the classroom?
- I have noticed _____, does this happen at school?
- What will the school propose to do about _____?

- Could you please share the data to support _____?
- Could you give me more specifics about _____?
- Thank you for telling me about the policy. May I have a copy of that policy to review?
- I think I heard you say _____. Is this correct?
- What time of day does _____ usually happen?
- How often does this behavior happen? Does this happen at a certain time of day?
- How was the progress you mentioned measured?
- How will I know that the IEP is working?
- How long will we need to use this intervention to determine if it is successful?
- Could we look at other strategies or options?
- Can you tell me about the evidenced based practices used to meet my child's needs?
- When can I expect to receive that report?
- Do we need to discuss compensatory time?
- What can I do at home to support the IEP goals?
- I'd like to see the final IEP before agreeing to any changes suggested at this meeting, may I have a copy to review?

"Family Engagement is a full, equal, and equitable partnership among families, educators, and community partners to promote children's learning and development from birth through college and career." Karen L. Mapp, Ed.D.

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