

An Introduction to the IEP Process and Meaningful Parent Input

Prepared for PIE Neurodiversity Speaker Series

Welcome!

- I'm Lisa Baskin Wright.
- Former educator, parent of Autistic and ADHD kid.
- Navigated the IEP process as a parent and a teacher.
- Currently work as a Neurodiversity-Affirming IEP advocate.



Assessment Plans:

Consent is required prior to testing. Possible areas of assessment:

- Academic Achievement
- Health
- Intellectual Development
- Language/Speech Communication Development
- Motor Development
- Social/Emotional
- Adaptive/Behavior
- Post-Secondary Transition



Notice of Meeting:

Written notice of who will be in attendance and the purpose of the meeting is required.

Requires parental signature ahead of time:

- Administrator/Designee
- Special Education Teacher
- General Education Teacher
- Student
- Psychologist
- Specialist (type)



Parent/Student Information and Eligibility:

There are 13 eligibility categories:

- Autism
- OHI (other health impairment)
- SLI (speech/language impairment)
- SLD (specific learning disability)
- ED (emotional disturbance)
- ID (intellectual disability)
- MD (multiple disabilities)
- TBI (traumatic brain injury)
- Deaf-Blindness
- Deafness
- Hearing Impairment
- Orthopedic Impairment
- Visual Impairment, including blindness

What are the main parts of an IEP?

- Personal Information
- Eligibility
- Parent Input/Present Levels
- Goals
- Special Factors
- Supplementary Aids and Services
- Offer of FAPE (Free and Appropriate Public Education)
- ESY (Extended School Year)



Importance of a parent input statement?

- Opens the lines of communication
- Shares information that the team wouldn't otherwise be aware of
- Prioritizes what's important to you
- It sets the tone for collaboration
- Sets the expectation for reciprocity
- Becomes actionable

Components of a parent input statement

- A snapshot of your child
- Core Curriculum
- Communication
- Foundational Goals
- Sensory and Executive Functioning
- Vision Statement

A parent input statement should be no more than 1.5-2 pages long, and ideally should be submitted at least one week ahead of a meeting.

Vision Statement:

What is your vision for your child?

"Our ultimate hope is for our child to develop self-advocacy and self-regulation skills so they can get their needs met, coping strategies so they can manage their executive functioning and sensory processing differences while accessing their education, and strong foundational academic skills so they are prepared for this year and beyond"

Come work with me

I can support you through the IEP process, always through an deeply neurodiversity-affirming lens.

- One-to-one IEP Advocacy
- Four week course: A Neurodiversity-Affirming Approach to IEPs
- A Neurodiversity-Affirming Private Community
- Follow along on Instagram @lisabaskinwright