


Special
Education

Parent
Training

Freedom Area School District

August 7, 2017



Agenda

Welcome and Introductions

- Restrooms
- Meeting Norms
- Setting the Tone

- **What is special education?**
- GIEP
- IEP vs. 504
- Intervention Process

- **IEP**
 - Process
 - Meetings
 - Modifications vs. Accommodations
 - Supports for Enrichment and Remediation

- **Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)**
- **Transition**
- **What is next?**
 - Consultations
 - Procedure Safeguards
 - Feedback
 - PEAL

Meeting Norms... What Else??

- Be kind with your words, while still being honest!
- Before you say it, think about how you would feel if someone said the same thing about you!
- Maintain Privacy!
- ??
- ??
- ??

What is Special Education?



Agreements Defined

- GIEP- Gifted Individualized Education Program
- IEP- Individualized Education Program
- 504- Shortened term referring to a plan that comes from Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act

What is a GIEP?

The Pennsylvania State Board of Education has defined the purpose of its regulations governing special education for gifted students (22 Pa. Code Chapter 16) as follows:

§16.2. Purpose

- (a) This chapter specifies how the Commonwealth will meet its obligations to suspected and identified gifted students who require gifted education to reach their potential. It is the intent of the Board that gifted students are provided with quality gifted education services and programs.
- (b) The Commonwealth, through the Department, will provide general supervision of services and programs provided under this chapter.
- (c) The Department will disseminate information about and promote the use of promising practices and innovative programs to meet the needs of gifted students.
- (d) To provide services and programs efficiently, the Commonwealth will delegate operational responsibility to its school districts. Each school district shall, by direct service or through arrangement with other agencies, provide the following:
 - (1) Services and programs planned, developed and operated for the identification and evaluation of each gifted student.
 - (2) Gifted education for each gifted student which is based on the unique needs of the student, not solely on the student's classification.

What specifically is included in a GIEP?

- Refer to GIEP copy

IEP or 504??

What do they mean?

IEP (IDEA)	504 (Section 504)
Accommodations	Accommodations
Specialized Instruction (Specially Designed Instruction, SDI)	Modifications
Related Services	Medical condition that has an adverse impact on education
Documented Disability	

Refer to Handout A

Let's go a little deeper...

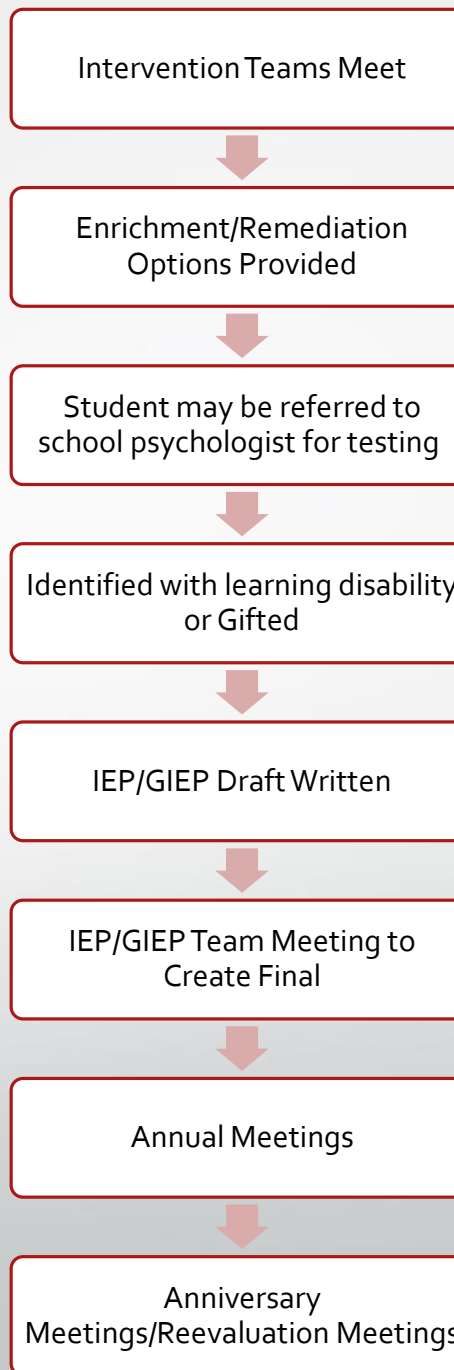
IEP	504
Child must have one or more of the <u>13 specific disabilities listed in IDEA</u>	Child has a disability or physical /mental impairment that limits one or more major life activities
Child's disability must affect the child's educational performance and/or ability to learn and benefit from the general education curriculum	Disability must interfere with a child's ability to learn in a general education classroom

Refer to Handout B



Quick Check in...

Process for Identification



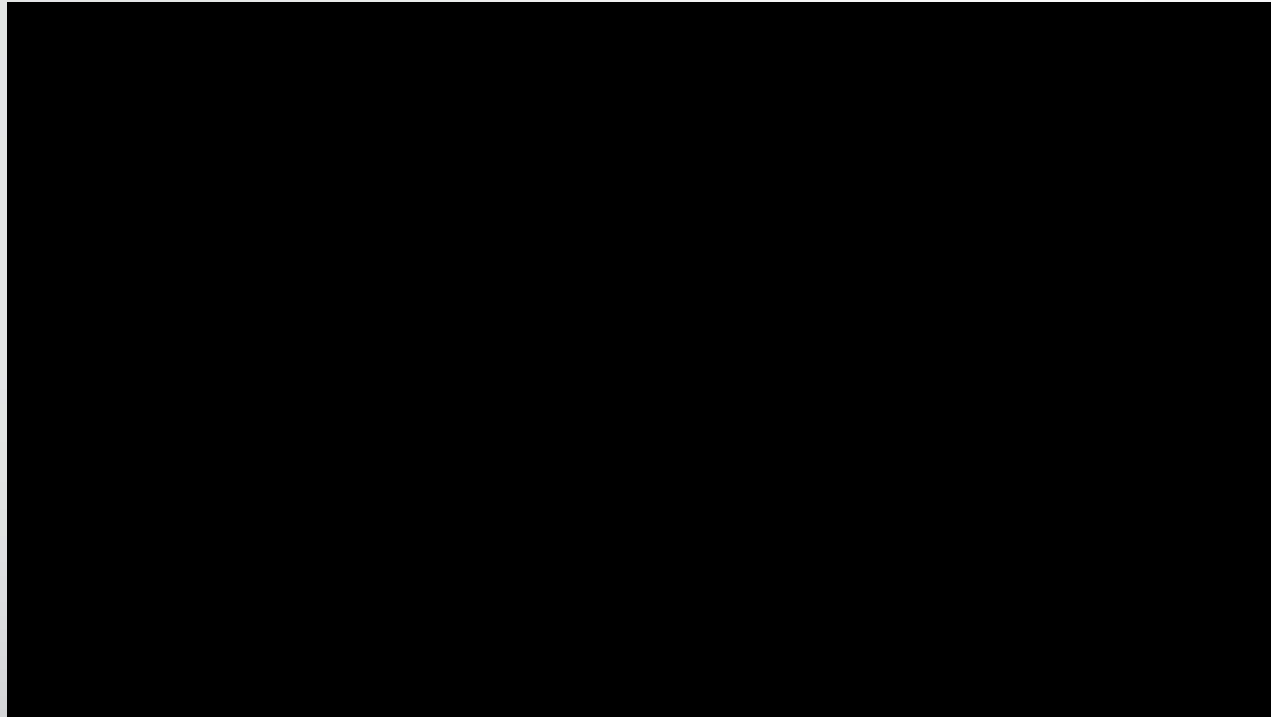
IEP, GIEP, 504 Meetings

- **What should you expect?**
 - Lots of paperwork!
 - This is a TEAM meeting...
 - Parent, Reg. Ed. Teacher, Case Manager, LEA (Principal, Administrator, or Designee, Student (if over 14), and any other related service provider
 - Your role: <https://www.understood.org/en/school-learning/special-services/ieps/playing-a-role-in-the-iep-process>
 - Review of IEP/GIEP/504
 - Discussion of your child's progress
 - Interventions, Enrichment, Accommodations, Modifications, etc...
- **What does it all mean?**
 - ASK QUESTIONS!!!!

What if I disagree?

- Explain why you disagree with an option
- Listen to what the team has to say in response
- If you still disagree, you can do one of many things...
 1. Ask to reschedule another meeting because you want to explore options and find out more information
 2. Request a meeting with the district special education director and school psychologist (if they are not present)
 3. Find an advocate to help you
 4. Ask for an interagency meeting
 - All groups associated with the student's case meet to review the case and options
 5. Ask for mediation
 - Impartial state representative comes in to hear both sides and determine a resolution (FREE to both sides)
 6. Go to Due Process
 - Assigned a state representative to hear both sides of the concern and determine a final resolution (usually includes attorneys)

How to prepare for an IEP meeting?





Let's talk...

How do you feel about Coming to an IEP, 504, or Gifted meeting?

A.



B.



C.



How do Teachers/Administrators feel about
Coming to an IEP, 504, or Gifted meeting?

A.



B.



C.





IEP/504 Structure

- Refer to Handouts C, D, And E

Accommodations vs. Modifications

- **Accommodations** are practices and procedures that level the playing field. They provide equal access during instruction and assessments for students with disabilities.
- **Modifications** are alterations to instruction and assessments. Modifications may change, lower, or reduce learning expectations.

Here is a test!!!

Preferential seating

Being excused from
specific assignments

Eliminating reading
assignment chapters

Provide an extra set of
books to keep at home

Breaking longer
assignments into chunks

Taking an alternate
assessment that is not at
the same grade level as
the other students in class

Listening to an audiobook
version of the text

Did you know the difference??

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Why is this important to know?

Accommodations

Preferential seating

Breaking longer assignments into chunks

Listening to an audiobook version of the text

Provide an extra set of books to keep at home

Modifications

Being excused from specific assignments

Taking an alternate assessment that is not at the same grade level as the other students in class

Eliminating reading assignment chapters

Transition

- Transition planning is a formal process for helping kids with IEPs figure out what they want to do after high school and how to get there. It's required by the [Individuals with Disabilities Education Act \(IDEA\)](#).
- IEP transition planning is more than just a hopeful exercise or brainstorming session. During planning, your child will work on specific goals. She'll also receive services to help her achieve these goals.
- Planning often starts at age 14
- The purpose of transition planning is to help your child prepare to be an independent young adult. She'll be [encouraged to attend IEP meetings](#) and to play a leading role.

What supports are available for enrichment and Remediation?

- **Academic**
 - Tutoring, instructional coaches working with regular education teachers, interventions within the general education setting, learning support special education services
- **Behavioral**
 - Behavioral contracts, behavioral plans, functional behavioral assessments, positive behavior support plans
- **Social-emotional**
 - Counseling services, prevention specialist supports, Student Assistance Team supports
- **Related Services**
 - Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Vision and hearing supports, speech services, specialized transportation, personal care aide, etc.
- **Family Behavioral Resources**
 - Outpatient therapy services provided on campus for individual students K-12
 - Referrals are made through the district's Student Assistance Team (SAP)

Supports Continued...

- **Sensory Room**
 - The sensory room is set up to serve students with sensory needs (sensory integration disorder, Autism Spectrum Disorder, etc.) through Occupational Therapist consultation
- **P.A.W.S.**
 - The Freedom Middle School is piloting a school-wide positive behavior support system in order to provide a systemic positive behavioral environment
 - They are entering the 1st year of implementation of this process guided by a Core SWPBIS building team
 - Core values of positive behavior supports will be built into the daily schedule to create a positive and nurturing environment

Least Restrictive Environment

LEAST RESTRICTIVE
ENVIRONMENT 

*Understand
the various
levels*



Free and Appropriate Education (FAPE)

- <https://www.understood.org/en/school-learning/your-childs-rights/basics-about-childs-rights/at-a-glance-free-and-appropriate-public-education>

What is next?

- Consultations-Dates printed and filled in
- Procedure Safeguards
- Feedback- Surveys
- PEAL