

PLANNING FOR YOUR FIRST OR NEXT ADMISSION, REVIEW AND DISMISSAL MEETING THE ARD –10 TIPS FOR PARENTS

<p style="text-align: center;">TIP 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THINK ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE</p>	<p>Think down the road toward the next level in school and then think about after school. What are your hopes for your child's future? Do you want your child to be a reader, to go to training, to community college or a four year college after high school, to have a job, to live in an apartment independently? Make sure that what is happening in school now will support that vision.</p>
<p>Think about what your child has achieved in the past year. Have her academic skills improved? Is his behavior at home and in the community acceptable for his age? What about motor skills and speech? Are you happy with that progress? Plan to share your thoughts at the ARD meeting.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TIP 2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">REVIEW YOUR CHILD'S CURRENT ACHIEVEMENTS</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">TIP 3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">REQUIRED READING BEFORE THE ARD MEETING</p>	<p>Send a request to the teacher and ask for drafts of the IEP goals and/or assessment reports ahead of time – It is too difficult to read and understand everything at the meeting. Get these documents ahead of time and read them. Do you have questions about them? Get your questions ready prior to the meeting</p>
<p>Are there a couple of things you hope to achieve in the meeting for your child? More time with the speech therapist? More time in the general education classroom? A para-educator to provide support for some time in the classroom? Better reading skills? Be flexible about these but think about your bottom line.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TIP 4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SET SOME GOALS FOR THE MEETING</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">TIP 5</p>	<p>Special education is a service, not a place! Expect an inclusive placement and some</p>

<p>EVERY CHILD IS A GENERAL EDUCATION STUDENT</p>	<p>supports to assist your child with succeeding in that setting. If that is not the recommendation of the school, be prepared to ask why. (Learn more about inclusion on this DSASTX website under the resource tab)</p>
<p>Parents are required members of the ARD committee. Plan to share information about your child from your perspective. Listen to the school's perspective and ask questions to help you understand. Collaboration means that all persons at the meeting are active.</p>	<p>TIP 6 COME TO COLLABORATE</p>
<p>TIP 7 ITS OK TO ASK QUESTIONS</p>	<p>Ask questions about the information presented. Seek to understand. Why is one of the very best questions. Where will that instruction take place is another good one. Two additional questions are: Who will provide that support? And When will that intervention begin?</p>
<p>Ask for time at the meeting to read everything that is presented. Does it make sense? Ask questions if you have them? If you need more time, just delay signing and state that you want to take everything home to think about.</p>	<p>TIP 8 READ THE PAPERWORK WHILE AT THE MEETING</p>
<p>TIP 9 BRING SOMEONE WITH YOU</p>	<p>It is helpful to have someone to talk with during the meeting. You may bring your spouse, friend, relative or neighbor with you. If possible, don't come alone.</p>
<p>Reasonable people can disagree. If you really don't agree with a proposal don't sign that you do agree. Continue to ask for more information. Ask for a recess of up to 10 days to allow you to think about the information and the proposals. Think about your vision and your bottom line.</p>	<p>TIP 10 WHAT IF I DONT AGREE?</p>