

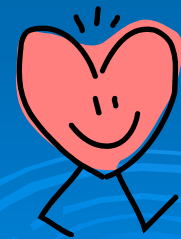
Effective communication between parents and teachers

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Why Is This Topic Important?

- It's all about the student
- Success
- Feelings about school and school personnel
- Self esteem



Maintaining communication

- It's obvious right?
- Why?
- Who's responsible?



The Right Attitude

- Recognize that we have common goals:
 - Both are committed to the child
 - Both play a crucial role
 - Both need to trust each other



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(McAfee, 2006)

R-E-S-P-E-C-T

- Tone of voice
- Word choice
- Facial expressions
- Body language
- Expectations
- All communicate respect or lack of it!
- Avoid being judgmental



(Garcia, 2007)

Be Positive

- We all enjoy positive communication
- If you have to give negatives make sure you have something positive to say too
- Pick your words carefully
- Always summarize what you've said
- End with a positive statement



(Kelling, 2010)

Explaining what the child is going through

Students are “working” just as hard as providers to manage their learning problem



Needs and Strengths

- Needs
- Strengths
- Your child's likes and dislikes
- When children are interested in something, they are more likely to stick with it and learn from it.
- No one knows your son or daughter better than you do.
- You are the expert on your child.

Questions to ask..

- How can you help me so I can help my child?
- Have you worked with a child that has similar needs to mine?
- What community resources would be helpful to meet my child's needs?

School's Perspective

- Devil's advocate
- May not understand the child's needs
- Must be aware of and responsive to the perspective of the school
- Demands on the teacher



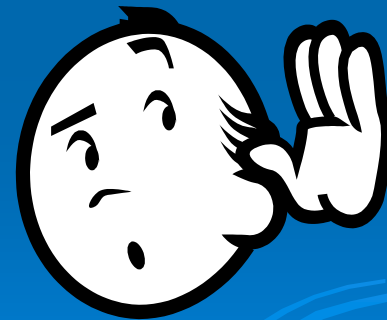
But...

Professionals play an important role in developing goals for your child and should be able to address your concerns while being respectful of your family values, beliefs, culture, and priorities.



Ways To Demonstrate Sensitivity

- Good communication
- The right attitude
- Respect
- Acknowledge change
- Be positive
- Listen



Good Communication

- Doesn't happen naturally ☹️

SPECIAL SKILLS:

- Good listening
- Tact
- Kindness
- Consideration
- Empathy
- Enthusiasm



Good Communication cont.

- Communicate Early and Often
- Stick to the Important Stuff
- Avoid Subjective Language
- Notice the Good Stuff

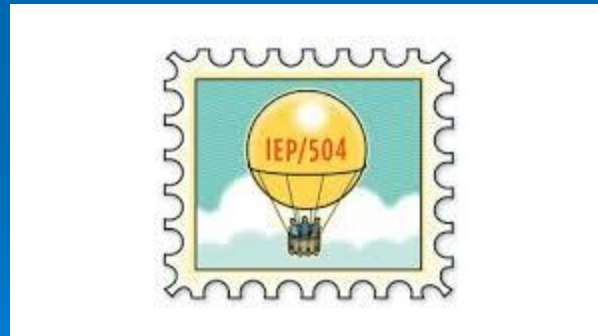


I know my rights!!

- Sections 504 Plans
- IEPs are part of the Special Education process
- While IEP teams must follow strict procedures, guidelines and timelines, Section 504 only requires that schools notify parents that their child has been identified, evaluated and placed under a 504 plan.

What's the difference between an IEP and a 504?

The Difference Between IEPs and 504 Plans



<https://www.understood.org/en>

Today I feel...



- <http://www.pacer.org/parent/php/php-c159.pdf>
- <http://www.peatc.org/>