

SECAC Meeting – September 6, 2018

7:00pm to 8:30pm / McFaul Activity Center in Bel Air, MD

TOPIC: IEP Basics – A Roadmap to Narrow Gaps and Increase Student Achievement

Speakers: Melissa Romano, Special Education Coordinator of Preschool and Elementary Programs
Kate Snow, Special Education Coordinator of Secondary Programs and Transition

Power point presentation with handout of slides and blank sample copy of the revised IEP form.
(Sample of revised IEP also available on MDSE website.)

The **IEP is a communication tool** between schools and parents. It is a living document that tells the story of the student's journey.

- Discussed strategies to help prepare for IEP meetings.
- Went through each section of the IEP explaining its purpose and identified essential components of the IEP.
- You should receive a copy of the proposed IEP five business days before your scheduled IEP meeting, which includes present levels, as well as any data and test results.
- To prepare for meeting, compare line by line, old vs new.
- Should include notes on not just challenges, but also of achievements and areas of growth.
- Goals should be SMART - (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-Bound)
- Goals need to change and should evolve with the child.
- Parent should provide the IEP Team with their PARENT INPUT which includes updated current information on the child (social, behavioral, academic, and health); supports that work at home; and accomplishments and concerns.
- Present Levels of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance – includes need-areas only; must have current information; gives you a baseline for that year; review to see progress/growth or regression; describes specific skills the child needs to learn to narrow/close the gap.
- Included in this section are the Parent Input, Student's Strengths, and the Impact Statement – how does the child's deficit impact their access to general ed, and what supports they will need.
- Any NEED listed in Present Levels should have a corresponding GOAL.
- Special Considerations and Accommodations must address a Need identified in Present Levels.
- Supplemental Aids, Services, Program Modifications, Supports – list supports needed to access curriculum.
- Extended School Year is decided at the table with the IEP Team.
- Parental Rights booklet has been revised (2017 / yellow cover)

TRANSITION PLAN

- Format has been modified on this year's IEP form
- Includes student preferences and interests, post-secondary goals, course of study, projected exit date, transition activities, progress monitoring, and links to agencies.
- Progress will be noted quarterly regarding student's activities, and how they help student achieve their transition goals.
- *More specifics on the Transition Plan will be discussed at the October SECAC meeting.*

OTHER INFORMATION

- Application deadline for LISS funds is October 31, 2018.
- New Superintendent of HCPS, Dr. Sean Bulson
Listen & Learn Tour (dates and locations listed on hcps.org)
- parents are invited to share feedback and suggestions

Next SECAC Meeting: October 4, 2018

Topic: Transition Services in Harford County