Evaluation

What happens when there are concerns about my child's learning?

If you have concerns about your child's learning, your first step should be to discuss your concerns with your child's teacher, school counselor, or administrator. Your child's teacher can share ideas to provide extra support for your child in the classroom, which may start with interventions.

Interventions are extra supports provided to struggling students and can:

- Be delivered in the classroom in addition to what the student is already learning
- Be provided for academic (reading, writing, math) or behavioral areas of need
- Use different methods or strategies to meet student needs

How can a student be referred for special education?

You and/or a school staff member can refer your child to the school's special education team if there is a suspected disability impacting their progress in school.

The special education team will hold a meeting to:

- Review all information about your child, including academic and behavioral skills
- Identify areas of concern the team has for your child
- Determine if a special education evaluation is appropriate

Once it has been determined that an evaluation is appropriate, the special education team will explain the process and answer any questions you have. The team will then complete the following steps:

- Decide which assessments are needed to determine if your child has a disability
- Obtain *Consent for Assessment* from parents **before** completing any testing.

How is eligibility determined?

Once the district has received written consent from parents, a team of professionals will have 60 calendar days to:

- Complete all assessments outlined in the Consent for Assessment
- Hold a team meeting to review all assessment information
- Determine if your child has a disability, and is eligibility for special education

What happens after the eligibility determination?

If the team determines that your child **is not** a student with a disability, your child will continue with general education supports

If the team determines that your child **is** a student with a disability, the team will work with you to develop an Individualized Education Program, or IEP, which is:

- A one-year plan that helps students with disabilities get the support they need to be successful in school
- An outline of your child's strengths and needs
- A list of goals, services and accommodations to support your child

Once parents agree to this plan in writing, the school is responsible for providing the supports outlined in the IEP.

