

# Tips for IEP meetings

## and beyond

### **READ YOUR CHILD'S IEP**

Does it sound like your child? Are the goals ones that you feel are appropriate for your child? Are the accommodations working (especially virtually!) You know your child at home AND now how they perform at school.

### **PRIORITIZE GOALS**

Given what school looks like now, think about what is most important for your child to learn/be able to do in school. Make sure that is a focal point for the IEP meeting and for your child's team

### **SUPPORT**

Before any meeting, prepare your own questions and check to make sure they are answered. Take notes during the meeting (or record!) If it would be helpful for you, you can also bring a friend or advocate with for additional support.

### **SPEAK UP**

You are your child's best advocate. You are also a member of the IEP team (and don't let anyone tell you otherwise!) Don't be afraid to reach out, follow up or speak up during meetings.

### **PROMOTE TEAMWORK**

- Establish a relationship with your child's case manager - they run the team. Keep them included in emails to individual providers, and keep your child at the forefront of their mind
- Ensure collaboration - goals often get assigned to a provider, setting or time of day. In real life, many skills need to be carried over throughout the day. You may need to be the one to make sure all team members are effectively communicating.

### **BE KIND**

It's hard - you catch more flies with honey! Approaching your child's team with kindness and curiosity will benefit your child in the long run