YOUR SEAT AT THE TABLE: A GUIDE TO YOUR RIGHTS

Protected by the
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act



SAFEGUARDS & COMPLAINTS

Schools must provide a guide explaining your legal rights and how to resolve disagreements

PRIVACY & ACCESS TO RECORDS

You can review your child's education records, including before any IEP meeting.





EDUCATION DECISIONS

You are an equal partner in deciding where and how your child learns.

INDEPENDENT EVALUATION (IEE)

If you disagree with school testing, you can request a free outside evaluation.





PRIOR WRITTEN NOTICE

Schools must notify you in writing before changing or stopping any services.

PARENTAL CONSENT AUTHORITY

Schools cannot evaluate or place your child in a program without your written consent.





DISAGREE WITH SCHOOL DECISIONS

You have the right to challenge any plan or decision you feel is not working.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION & APPEAL

If an agreement can't be reached, you can use mediation or file a formal appeal.



Learn more at https://www.parentcenterhub.org/parental-rights/

General information, not legal advice. Rules differ by state; see your school's procedural safeguards notice. Reviewed October 2026.