

Special Education Update

East Central Indiana Special Services.....October 16, 2020

Hooray! We are at or near the end of the first grading period! We made it!

Fall break is happening now or will be happening soon for you. Make sure to make time for yourself over break. Relax and enjoy your time off. You deserve it!

Liza, Mort, and Lisa

Parent Signature NOT REQUIRED for ACRs

While it is a good indicator of parent agreement, obtaining a parent signature is not necessary for ACRs. Instead, ask the parent if they give you verbal permission to finalize the IEP based upon the information presented at the case conference. If they do, write that they gave this verbal permission in the case conference notes section. Some parents will not agree to do this, and that is fine. However, by following this practice, you will be able to save a lot of time and energy trying to track down signatures! Don't forget to fix those blue envelopes, too!

Progress Monitoring

Just a friendly reminder to complete progress monitoring of your students' IEP goals. Please make sure to send home progress reports with the students' report cards or as close as possible to the time that report cards go home or are made available online. Also, please make sure to enclose the progress reports in a sealed envelope as you would any other confidential information.

Determination of Need for Recovery Services

Please compare your new progress monitoring data with the baseline data obtained at the start of this school year for each of your students. Then, compare this information to the progress monitoring data from last spring. If a student has not "bounced back" or made sufficient progress toward regaining skills lost over the time school was closed due to COVID, a case conference should be held to

discuss the addition of recovery services to the student's IEP. These services should be designed to increase the frequency and/or intensity of the interventions that you provide during the student's special education service time.

Service Plans

We've needed to write more service plans this year than any other due to the number of students being homeschooled!

When to write or offer a service plan:

When you have a student identified as needing special education service, who is moving to Homeschool, or Private School.

How to write a first time service plan:

- Hold a case conference to develop an IEP as if the student were attending his/her home school
- Include the services, goals, accommodations, and provisions they would be eligible to receive, based on their current needs **AS IF THEY WERE ATTENDING.**
- Your rationale statements stay the same, as if they were attending public school as well. (Transportation, assessment, PE, Assistive Tech, etc.)
- In the **Create IEP Tab**, the question is asked **"Does the parent reject FAPE?"** In this case, the parent has decided they DO NOT want public school services and accommodations. They want to choose another option. SO....you would say **'YES'** the parent is rejecting FAPE.
- Add notes, then finalize that IEP.
- In the RESPONSE to the IEP (little blue envelope) you will need to choose the option that says **Parent rejects IEP. Enrolls in a Private School Program.** (This is what you choose for parents choosing to homeschool, as well.)
- THEN, you will move to the **Service Plan Tab.**
- You will need to click on every tab for creation of the Service Plan, as you do for the IEP. The PURPOSE of the FIRST service plan is **'Initial Service Plan.'** For subsequent years, you will be able to go straight to the Service Plan tab, and the purpose will be 'Annual Service Plan.'
- The information you included in the IEP development process will carry over to the SP tabs. The team and existing data will stay the same. Goals typically will stay the same as well. Services and accommodations will change to fit the new situation. Typically less services are offered, and often in a different manner, for those being homeschooled or attending a private school. (Liza, Mort, and Lisa are all available to help you talk through your options.
- LRE: Private School is LRE: 56 Homeschool is LRE: 57.
- Once you've added notes and completed a draft, send for review as you typically do.
- Your rationale statements will change to reflect the new Homeschool or Private School placement.
- After making any necessary changes, finalize as normal, and distribute for signature. Make copies of BOTH the IEP and the SP to share with the ECISS, School office, and parents, as you normally would.

For questions, email Lisa Schmidt lisa.schmidt@eciss.org

Pursed Lip Breathing Exercise -- Try it for yourself, then teach it to your students!

Breath Series Episode 2

