

Frequently Asked Questions

Questions

- 1) I am worried about my child's progress. What can I do?
- 2) My child is a toddler, and I have concerns about his/her development. What can I do?
- 3) We are new to the district and my child has an IEP. Who do I contact?
- 4) What is the difference between a 504 Plan and an IEP?
- 5) What are extended school year services?
- 6) My child attends private school. How do we access special education services?
- 7) Are there parent support groups that I can contact?
- 8) What are my legal rights as a parent of a child with a disability?

Answers

- 1) I am worried about my child's progress. What can I do?

If your child is school age, you should contact your child's teacher, counselor or principal. They can assist you in determining if other interventions would be appropriate for your child.

- 2) My child is a toddler, and I have concerns about his/her development. What can I do?

Atchison Public Schools conducts monthly clinics to identify young children with special needs in the areas of vision, hearing, communication, motor and play skills. Contact the district for the location and dates of the clinics.

- 3) We are new to the district and my child has an IEP. Who do I contact?

Contact your neighborhood school. Staff at the school will schedule a team meeting with you to review the IEP.

- 4) What is the difference between a 504 Plan and an IEP?

An IEP is used to plan the specially designed instruction and related services needed by a student with a disability so that student makes progress in the general education curriculum. . A 504 Plan outlines reasonable modifications needed by a student who has a documented disability. Students who receive 504 plans are not in need of specially designed instruction but need modifications that allow them equal access to school-wide curricular and co-curricular activities.

- 5) What are extended school year services?

Students are eligible for extended school year services when the IEP Team determines that the student needs special education and/or related services during the summer to the extent that the student would regress during a break in the school year to the extent that the losses could not be recouped within a period of six to nine weeks. Extended school year services are individually tailored to maintain existing skills rather than to develop new skills.

- 6) My child attends private school. How do we access special education services?

Parents should contact their private school principal to make a referral. The private school principal will then contact the district's designee to coordinate an initial meeting to assist the private school with the intervention process and to gather information to determine eligibility for special education. If the student is eligible for special education, services will be provided by USD 409 staff. Services may be provided onsite at the private school; or at the public school with transportation provided by the school district.

- 7) What are my legal rights as a parent of a child with a disability?

You have certain rights or procedural safeguards under federal and state laws. Your legal rights are extensively described in a brochure titled "Parent Rights In Special Education".