



RESOURCES

[NEGOTIATION SKILLS FOR PARENTS](#)

From DisabilityrightsofOhio.org: This booklet contains suggestions to help you negotiate for appropriate services for your child. It was written for parents of children with disabilities to help them be more successful with the IEP team process. The suggestions can also work well in all situations where teams are responsible for decisions about services for your child.

https://www.disabilityrightsofOhio.org/assets/documents/negotiation_skills_for_parents.pdf?pdf=Negotiation_Skills_for_Parents

[8 Step to Better IEP Meetings: Play Hearts, Not Poker](#)

From wrightslaw.com: Advocacy is by its nature, a cerebral activity and involves great thought and creativity. Parenting is by nature a visceral activity that involves great emotions and heavy decisions. For the sake of our children, we must strive to be patient with those whose experiences have not given them access to our perspective. It is our duty to lead these people to a fuller understanding of the beauty and ability within our children. To do this, we must become effective advocates. Here are eight steps for parents to learn. These steps will help the parent negotiator minimize conflict when dealing with good-faith district negotiators. They will also help you prepare a solid case when negotiating with district personnel who are acting in bad faith.

<https://www.wrightslaw.com/advoc/articles/iep.bollero.hearts.htm>

[11 Tips on Informal Negotiation Strategies | IEP, Evaluation Services](#)

From Understood.org: Informal meetings with your school—such as evaluation, teacher and team meetings—can be a good time to negotiate for the educational services your child needs. Here are 11 tips on informal negotiation strategies. This article is written by Andrew M.I. Lee, JD who is an editor and former attorney who strives to help people understand complex legal, education, and parenting issues.

<https://www.understood.org/en/school-learning/your-childs-rights/dispute-resolution/11-tips-on-informal-negotiation-strategies>

[Having a problem with your school or district?](#)

From the Ohio Department of Education: Ohio is a local control state in education. This means that your locally elected school board of education (not the Ohio Department of Education) has the authority to determine policy and establish procedures for many areas in accordance with Ohio school law. When a problem occurs between your family and your child's school, you must work out a solution at the local school district level. This article outlines the necessary steps for conflict resolution in the state of Ohio.

<http://education.ohio.gov/Parents/Having-a-problem-with-your-school-or-district>

[A Guide to Parent Rights in Special Education](#)

From the Ohio Department of Education: This guide can help you understand your rights and your child's rights according to IDEA and the Ohio Operating Standards. It also gives you information and resources to help you understand your child's special education supports and services. Your local school district also can help you understand your rights under this law. If you have questions about the information in this guide, please contact the director of special education for our district.

http://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Special-Education/A-Guide-to-Parent-Rights-in-Special-Education/ODE_ParentRights_040617.pdf.aspx

[Dispute Resolution](#)

From the Ohio Department of Education: Situations may arise where parents or other family members believe a school has violated federal or state law. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) Office for Exceptional Children (OEC) and Office of Early Learning and School Readiness (EL&SR) encourage parents, family members and schools to work together to resolve differences. This site provides an overview of the Dispute Resolution process.

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Special-Education/Dispute-Resolution>

[Early Resolution Information Sheet](#)

From the Ohio Department of Education: The Office for Exceptional Children (OEC) at the Ohio Department of Education has an Education Program Specialist (EPS) available to provide further explanation about federal and state laws relating to special education, describe the options that are available to parents, inform parents of procedural safeguards, identify other agencies and support services, and describe available remedies and how parents can proceed. This is an informal process that may alleviate the need to file a formal written complaint or due-process complaint.

http://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Special-Education/Dispute-Resolution/EarlyResolution_Information-sheet.pdf.aspx