

### Helpful Hints from Parents to Parents

Following are tips on attending meetings to discuss your child's individual education program (IEP). You are an integral part of these meetings. You or the school may initiate a conference, which should be held at a time mutually convenient for both you and school personnel.

- Check the information you already have about your child. Is there something you do not understand?
- Jot down questions to ask for clarification. List main concerns about your child and their schooling.
- You have the right to see all school records, files, and other materials that pertain to your child.
- You may want to set up an informal meeting with the school to discuss the methods, purpose, and intended results to any assessment before it is actually done.
- "Two heads are better than one." Bring your spouse, a friend who knows your child or is there simply to give you moral support or someone who has valuable knowledge of your child's educational needs.
- If you do not understand something that is said, ask to have it explained to you.
- Your child's progress must be reviewed with you at an annual review meeting. You will receive a copy of the review.
- Expect progress reports from your child's educational team as often as the school sends out progress reports.
- Remember, you have the right to ask questions during any conference or at a later time or date.
- Remember that teachers and school personnel are people. Let them know you appreciate the work they do with your child.
- Keep all your child's IEPs, progress reports and educational information in a folder or binder you can easily refer to.