

Resource List for Advocacy
 Family & Community Resource Center
 Special School District of St. Louis County
 12110 Clayton Road
 St. Louis, MO 63131
 314-989-8438/989-8108/989-8194

Accessible IEPs for All: Gathering the Experts Around the Table. (video) (45 minutes) (2007)

Clear and candid DVD – ideal for staff professional development and for sharing with parents – will help IEP teams maximize every participant’s expertise and develop measurable and meaningful goals that improve child outcomes. (DVD)

Accommodations in Higher Education Under the Americans with Disabilities Act; A No Nonsense Guide for Clinicians, Educators, Lawyers and Administrators. (1998)

This book is the perfect primer for lawyers who want to understand how the ADA applies to higher education and professional testing. It provides a crystal clear window into the identification of psychiatric, learning, and physical disorders, and should be in the library of every attorney involved with disability law

ADA – Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act: A Self-Evaluation Guide for Public Elementary and Secondary Schools from U.S. Department of Education.

This Guide is intended to serve as a resource to assist school districts in conducting their self-evaluations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The ADA Handbook. (1991)

The ADA Private Transportation Handbook. Project Action. (1995)

A comprehensive training and technical assistance program for private transportation providers on the ADA regulations.

Americans with Disabilities Act (video) (44 minutes)

The Americans with Disabilities Act: A Guide for People with Disabilities and Their Families and Advocates (1993)

Book states how the ADA prohibits discrimination against Americans with disabilities and discusses how the legislation defines an individual with a disability, who is covered and who is not, and provides information on the law to enable individuals to attain greater independence.

The Americans with Disabilities Act Handbook. (1991)

Published by the EEOC and Department of Justice, it is intended to serve as a basic resource document on ADA.

Andrew’s Plan (video) (2001) (16 minutes)

Andrew is a young man with a plan—an Individualized Education Plan. The team of instructional staff, Andrew and his family develop an IEP that reflects his educational needs as a 7th grader with autism. Covers statement of parental rights, present level of performance, setting and reviewing goals and all the steps involved in putting together an effective IEP. Great for in-services.

Attention Deficit Disorder: Section 504. (video) (18 minutes)

Broward County Schools Section 504 guidelines.

Autism: Asserting Your Child’s Right to a Special Education. David A. Sherman (2007)

Regardless of whether your child has autism or another disability requiring special education, this useful handbook provides significant legal advice and information to help you take on the school district, or maybe avoid a confrontation altogether.

Be Your Child’s Best Advocate. 100 Strategies for Children with Learning or Behavioral Issues. Peggy Schmidt. (2002)

Helps parents understand and accept what is preventing their child from performing and interacting successfully in school and in social situations. This book is intended to be a voice of encouragement and direction to parents who have not yet found the courage for connections to get help and support for their child. Also contains guidelines for parents who want to improve their effectiveness in getting the right help for their child.

Better IEPs: How to Develop Legally Correct and Educationally Useful Programs. Barbara Bateman. (1992).
Guide to writing, implementing, understanding and obtaining the most from IEP's. Presents a concise and astute interpretation of IDEA and what it means to students, parents and educators participating in Special Education.

Lou Brown: Unplugged. (DVD) (Disc One 82 minutes, Disc Two 63 minutes)

Lou Brown tells stories that communicate important lessons accrued from over forty years of working on behalf of individuals with disabilities in classrooms, workplaces and courtrooms. The stories will make you laugh, cry and angry. Lou argues for the combination of integrated schooling, authentic assessment and instruction, and other rational instructional practices and individually meaningful experiences in real work settings.

Building Integration with the IEP. Barbara Buswell and Judy Veneris. (1989)

Intended to help parents take an active role to ensure that integration is built into their child's IEP. The goal is to make parents feel confident and energized in seeing their child's IEP integrates him/her in all areas of school.

The Complete IEP Guide: How to Advocate for Your Special Ed Child – 5th Edition. Lawrence Siegel (2007)

Walks readers through the entire IEP process, explaining eligibility rules and assessments in plain language, and gives advice on developing the child's IEP each year, preparing for IEP meetings, and resolving disputes with the school district.

Creating Collaborative IEPs: A Handbook. (1998).

Parents and educators developed this handbook as a quick-tip resource for those who believe collaboration is the best way to plan for positive and possible futures for students with disabilities.

Creating A Win-Win IEP for Students with Autism: A How to Manual for Parents and Educators. (1999)

This book is intended to provide parents of students with autism with necessary information for the Individualized Education Program (IEP) process and includes relevant information from the 1997 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Deciphering the System: A Guide for Families of Young Children with Disabilities. Paula J. Beckman & Gayle Beckman Boyes (1993)

Provides basic information for parents and families of children with disabilities from birth on, with particular emphasis on those who are between birth and entering school age. Provides basic information about rights under recent legislation and the service system parents may encounter. Also includes the educational assessment process, how parents can work with multiple service providers to manage the large amount of information that accumulates, tips about handling the IEP meetings, due process and transitions.

Disability is Natural: Revolutionary Common Sense for Raising Successful Children with Disabilities. Kathie Snow.

Disability, like gender, ethnicity and age- are simply one characteristic of being human. There have been people with disabilities in the world, and there will always be. When we recognize that disability is a natural condition of the human experience, new attitudes will lead us to new actions!

Disabled, Female and Proud! Stories of Ten Women with Disabilities Harilyn Russo, et al (1988)

Offers young women with disabilities empowering role models and the powerful message that they do not have to be or become any one thing because they are disabled and female. Gives parents and educators a unique way to help young people learn that making choices is what being disabled, female and proud is all about.

Enabling and Empowering Families: Principals and Guidelines for Practice. Carl Dunst, et al (1988)

Book written for practitioner's who must work with families but who have insufficient training in family systems and assessment and intervention.

Every Child Deserves a Chance. (video) (19 minutes)(2000)

Designed for teachers, parents, social workers, therapists, doctors, and young adults with disabilities to explain the IEP process.

Extraordinary Children, Ordinary Lives: Stories Behind Special Education Case Law. Reed Martin (1991)

Tells the personal stories behind 10 of the leading court cases that have shaped and defined the basic principles of special education case law. Book focuses on cases that developed important legal principles such as what constitutes an appropriate education, how the IEP specifically designs the educational offering, services in the least restrictive environment, extended school day and extended school year programs.

Free Appropriate Public Education. H. Rutherford Turnbull III & Ann P. Turnbull (1998)

Covers the six principles of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and most recently enacted in 1997: zero reject, nondiscriminatory evaluation, appropriate education, least restrictive environment, due process and parent participation.

From Emotions to Advocacy: the Special Education Advocacy Guide: 2nd Edition. Pam and Pete Wright (2008)

Practical and user-friendly book includes hundreds of strategies, tips, references, warnings and Internet resources. Appendices help to find contact information for hundreds of disabilities information groups, parent training and information groups, state department of education and legal and advocacy organizations.

Getting to Yes: Negotiating Agreement Without Giving In. Roger Fisher and William Ury (1981)

Offers a concise, step-by-step, proven strategy for coming to mutual acceptable agreements in every sort of conflict – whether it involves parents and children, neighbors, bosses and employees, customers or corporations, tenants or diplomats.

A Guide to Collaboration for the IEP Teams. Nicholas Martin (2005)

Helps administrators, teachers, resource professionals, and parents work together to design, review and modify IEP's for children with special education needs. Includes checklists, outlines, diagrams and specific examples to make the complex simple.

Guide to Special Education Advocacy. What Parents, Clinicians and Advocates Need to Know. Matthew Cohen (2009)

Tells parents and professionals all they need to know to gain better provisions of special education in schools. (302 pages)

Guide to Writing Quality Individualized Education Programs. Gordon Gibbs and Tina Taylor Dyches (2000)

Easy-to-use manual to help all IEP team members gain comfort and competence in writing IEP's based on the requirements of IDEA '97.

How to Compromise with Your School District Without Compromising Your Child. Gary Mayerson (2004)

Gary Mayerson has devoted his career in law to helping children with autism get the fair and appropriate education that they need and deserve. In this field guide, he brings parents up to speed quickly and efficiently on the ways educational bureaucracies work—or more importantly, don't—for children with special needs.

How to Get Services By Being Assertive. Charlotte Des Jardins (1993)

Manual shows how to: build self-confidence and develop a positive attitude, be assertive at an IEP or other special education meeting, cut red tape, improve communication skills, develop leadership skills and much more.

How to Organize an Effective Parent/Advocacy Group and Move Bureaucracies. Charlotte Des Jardins (1991)

Gives information on how to become an effective advocate, get a state charter and tax-exempt status, train parents on their rights, reach out to other parents, lobby and get results, make headlines, open new services in the public schools, develop a newsletter, organize a conference, raise money and much more.

How to Prepare for a Hearing (video). (68 minutes)

How to Qualify for Social Security Disability and Protect your Rights. David A Morton (1992)

Tells you the rules the Social Security Administration (SSA) uses to evaluate disability claims. The author discusses all major types of mental and physical disorders in plain language and explains what SSA is looking for.

How Well Does Your IEP Measure Up? Quality Indicators for Effective Service Delivery. Diane, Twachtman-Cullen, et al (2002)

A step-by-step guide to help parents, educators, and clinicians get the right education plan/program in place from the outset, thereby avoiding the need for legal action.

I to I: Self Concept and People with Developmental Disabilities. Dave Hingsburger (1990)

The IEP Primer and the Individualized Program: Preschool Through Postsecondary Transition. Beverly A School & Arlene Cooper (1997)

A new and updated edition of a guide to development of Individualized Education Programs (IEPs), first published in 1981, is presented. The guide provides a step-by-step approach to the assessment process, the IEP meeting, writing the IEP, and implementing the IEP.

The IEP – A Tool for Realizing Possibilities (video) (1998) (20 minutes)

Upbeat video intended to empower parents of students with disabilities to be active players in their children's education. Teaches critical information about the IEP as the basic tool for delivering supports and services. Addresses recent changes in federal laws.

In the Driver's Seat Winning Negotiation Strategies for Families. (video) (20 minutes) (2000)

A video that depicts professionals and families successfully collaborating for the greater good of individuals with disabilities. Learn how to conduct productive, focused and goal oriented meetings. Avoid stressful confrontations by adapting the steps demonstrated in the video. In The Driver's Seat illustrates easy to follow methods regarding scheduling, writing agendas for, and conducting productive parent/professional meetings.

Information is Power – A Video for Youth with Disabilities (video) (10 minutes) (1998)

Leading Successful IEP Teams: A Guide to Managing the People and the Process. Gerry Klor (2007)

Written by an expert in the field, this comprehensive guide gives you essential tools for facilitating effective IEP meetings.

Learning to Work Together: An Educator's Guide to Communicating with Parents and Colleagues. (2006)

Teaches educators a variety of techniques for handling the interpersonal challenges they face every day. Written for educators at all levels, this essential resource provides guidance on how to nurture successful relationships with parents, supervisors and peers.

Leaving the Door Open: Alternatives to Seclusion and Restraint. (video)

This training video has been developed to help facilities reduce and ultimately eliminate the use of seclusion and restraint practices in institutional and community settings. (DVD)

Legal Rights Handbook for Missourians with Disabilities. Missouri Protection and Advocacy (2004)

Let's Talk: People with Developmental Disabilities Speak Out. (1995)

Let the "real experts" tell you what it is like to live in our community if you happen to have a disability.

The Lighter Side of IEP's. (1993)

This booklet offers a humorous perspective on important guidelines for developing Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) for students with disabilities, which respect the values of collaboration, student and family leadership, and full inclusion.

Missouri Surrogate Parent Program Manual. (1991)

This manual presents Missouri state guidelines for its surrogate parent program, required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

The New IDEA for Special Education: Understanding the System and the New Law. (DVD) (50 minutes) (2005)

This insightful program will help both parents and educators better understand the recent changes to the law governing the Special Education System, The Individuals with Disabilities in Education Improvement Act (IDEA 2004).

No Pity. Joseph Shapiro (1993)

A well-known journalist's account of the disability rights movement.

Optimizing Special Education: How Parents Can Make a Difference. Nancy O. Wilson (1992)

Explains what parents of a child with learning disabilities can expect from special services, due process procedures and laws. Shows parents and caregivers how to use education laws, how to change education to suit a child's unique needs and strategies to improve a student's options.

Out of Harm's Way: A Safety Kit for People with Disabilities Who Feel Unsafe and Want to Do Something About it.

This book is a unique tool to help people look at the places they live, work, study and play. It helps identify what is unsafe in the environment, in services, and in relationships. Written in straight-forward language, the Out of Harm's Way includes questions to help people think about their safety, and makes suggestions for way to go about changing their surroundings to a safer one.

Parents and Educators Working Toward Mutual Solutions. (video) (2002)

This video is intended to introduce viewers to special education mediation. It is meant to be a general introduction and is not intended to interpret federal or state law. It is hoped that the viewer will get an improved understanding of the mediation process and the role of the mediator.

Perspectives on Disability. Mark Nagler (1993).

Quality Assurance for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities – It’s Everybody’s Business. Valerie J. Bradley & Hank A. Bersani (1990)

Risks of Restraints: Understanding Restraint-Related Positional Asphyxia. (2002)

Section 504 and the Public Schools: A Practical Guide for Determining Eligibility, Developing Accommodation Plans and Documenting Compliance. Tom E. Smith and James Patton (1998)

A Practical Guide for Determining Eligibility, Developing Accommodation Plans, and Documenting Compliance

Section 504 in the Classroom: How to Design and Implement Accommodations Plans. Lynda Miller and Chris Newbill

This book is a guide to provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 relevant to educational settings. Emphasis is on using Section 504 plans to design accommodations and modifications for students with disabilities that address individual strengths and needs.

Telling Your Family Story...Parents as Presenters Video Guide. (video) (30 minutes) (1994)

This videotape and guide are intended to be used in helping family members and caregivers who have children with special needs enhance their presentational skills as they begin telling their family stories.

That All May Worship – An Interfaith Welcome to People with Disabilities. National Organization on Disability (1997)

The purpose of the handbook is to assist congregations, denominational groups and seminaries in welcoming people with disabilities.

3R's for Special Education: Rights, Resources, and Results. Grace Hanlon Trevor (video) (1995)

Video offers stages of the special education system, laws concerning a child's rights, design of the IEP, preparing for school meetings and planning for the future.

Unequal Justice? What Can Happen When Persons With Retardation or Other Developmental Disabilities Encounter with Criminal Justice System. Robert Perske (1991)

Cites incidents from the criminal justice system to demonstrate that people with disabilities, whether guilty or innocent, are often defenseless.

Unlocking Doors: A Guide to Effective Communication. (1988)

A guide to effective communication.

We Can Speak for Ourselves: Self-advocacy by Mentally Handicapped People. Paul Williams & Bonnie Shoultz (1982)

The story of People First of Oregon, Project 2 of Nebraska, and similar projects in England, where participants have been building skills necessary to take charge of their own lives.

What Do I Do When...The Answer Book on Discipline. Susan Gorn (1999)

Presented in a question-and-answer format, this book provides information related to how schools can effectively discipline students. It reviews in detail the controlling directives of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 1997 as it concerns students with disabilities

What Do I Do When...The Answer Book on Individualized Education Programs. Third Edition. John W. Norlin (2007)

The Individualized Education Program is the centerpiece of the IDEA. It not only identifies what educational programming and services a student with a disability needs to receive FAPE, but details what the student's needs are and what the school district promises to provide.

What Do I Do When...The Answer Book on Section 504. Susan Gorn (1998)

What Do I Do When...The Answer Book on Special Education Law. Fifth Edition. John Norlin (2007) and 3rd Edition
 Designed for both educators and attorneys, *The Answer Book on Special Education Law – Fifth Edition* provides you with easily referenced, conclusive solutions to more than 500 questions on district responsibilities under special education law.

What Do I Do When...The Answer Book on Special Education Practice and Procedure. Steven Lake (2007)

Describes an innovative program that supports children, teachers, parents, and therapists to choose appropriate strategies to change or maintain states of alertness. Students learn what they can do before a spelling test or homework time to attain an optimal state of alertness for their tasks.

What Schools Forget to Tell Parents About Their Rights. Reed Martin (1996)

Wrightslaw: IDEA 2004. Peter Wright, ESQ and Pamela Darr Wright (2006)

Includes the full text of Parts A and B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA 2004) with commentary, cross-references, strategies, and resources.

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You, Your Child and “Special” Education: A Guide to Making the System Work. Barbara Coyne Cutler (1993)

Resource handbook shows parents of children with disabilities how to obtain the educational services their child rightfully deserves. Guide provides an ideal combination of pep talks, straightforward explanations and helpful case scenarios.