

Say hello! Once you receive your child's classroom / teacher information, send either a handwritten note or an email to introduce yourself and your child. Frame your message around what your child enjoys most about school and what they are hoping to learn or do this coming school year.

Keep the current IEP in a folder or binder with pockets and store in a safe place. Use this to collect notices and letters sent home from either your child's teacher(s) or case manager. On the front of the folder, keep a list of contacts, such as the teacher(s), case manager, building principal, therapists, etc.

Review the IEP again with a fresh set of eyes. Once your child's schedule is sent home, compare the related services with what is listed on the IEP. Check for frequency, duration, and ratio (group vs. individual).

Read over the goals and objectives agreed upon for the coming school year. Make a note to yourself where you currently see your child performing / functioning in the margin or on a sticky note. This will be helpful for you to reflect on and actively participate in monitoring their progress.

Highlight the accommodations and modifications agreed upon for the upcoming school year. While school shopping, make sure you have supplies / adaptive supplies at home to complete homework tasks that your child will need per the IEP. Check with the teacher if you are unsure of how to best modify accommodations at home, too ... they often have very clever ideas to help you!

Communication is critical to collaboration. If a routine or system of communication has not been outlined within the IEP, determine with your child's teacher(s) / service provider(s) which methods of communication will be the most effective to keep abreast of your child's progress. Many districts have online parent portals that will provide you with 24/7 access to their grades, assignments, and IEP goals.

## **ADVO-KIDS**

**400 N. Church St. Suite 250**

**Moorestown, NJ 08057**

**856-642-6445**