


At the top of the page, there are several decorative elements: a series of vertical lines with circles at the top, a dark red rectangular block, and a large, stylized geometric shape composed of a diamond and a semi-circle, with a dark grey triangle below it.

## MINI MODULE

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# Your Role In The IEP Process

How to Speak Up, Ask Questions, and Be  
Heard

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M. Patton Special  
Education Advocacy  
and Consulting



# Welcome!

I'm so glad you're here. Whether you're new to the IEP process or looking to feel more confident and empowered, this short module is designed just for you.

## What You'll Learn:

- The importance of your role on the IEP team
- Common mistakes parents make (and how to avoid them)
- Key questions to ask at every IEP meeting
- How to stay informed and organized
- Free printable to help you take charge at the table

Best regards,

Mary Beth

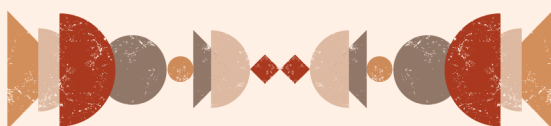


# Understanding Your Role on the IEP Team

You are more than just a parent — you are your child's advocate, expert, and essential team member in the IEP process.

## Your Role Includes:

- Sharing detailed knowledge of your child's strengths and needs
- Asking questions when things are unclear
- Ensuring your child's rights are protected
- Helping develop goals that reflect your child's abilities and challenges
- Participating in decisions about services, placement, and support



# Top 3 Mistakes Parents Make (and How to Avoid Them)

- Staying Silent When You're Confused

\_Ask for clarification. You're allowed to pause meeting.

- Not Preparing Ahead of Time

Review data and bring notes with specific concerns.

- Signing Without Fully Understanding

You can take time to review the IEP before signing.

It's your right.



# 5 Questions Every Parent Should Ask at an IEP Meeting

1. How will this goal help my child grow academically and socially?
2. What data supports the services being offered?
3. How is progress measured, and how often will I receive updates?
4. What accommodations will be in place across settings?
5. What is the plan if my child isn't making expected progress?

# Resource IEP Meeting Notes

06

- Use this space to organize your thoughts and take notes during the IEP meeting.

- 
- Meeting Date:  
• \_\_\_\_\_

- Student's Name:  
• \_\_\_\_\_

- Team Members Present:  
• •  
• •  
• •

- Main Topics Discussed:  
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•  
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•

- Goals Reviewed or Proposed:  
•  
•  
•

- Questions I Asked:  
•  
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•

- Next Steps/Follow-Up Items:  
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• •

- Next Meeting Date (if known):  
• \_\_\_\_\_  
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# Ready to go deeper?

Enroll in the full course:

## Know Your Rights: A Parent's Guide to Special Education Law and Advocacy

- Learn IDEA, Section 504, and FAPE
- Gain red flag awareness
- Use advocacy scripts, letter templates, and more





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