

education support (resource withdrawal) would be appropriate.

If a regular class is not appropriate, then the committee will consider a special education class placement.

The decision on exceptionality and placement recommendations are made while you are present. Sometimes the committee needs more information and will defer the decision.

As a parent, you can ask the committee to discuss specific instructional methods and services that your child may need. The committee can make recommendations at your request about methods or services but it is not required by legislation to do so and cannot make any decisions about these areas.

## **WHAT WILL HAPPEN AFTER THE I.P.R.C.?**

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You will receive a copy of any written assessments the committee receives, and you will receive a copy of the I.P.R.C. decision. You will be asked to sign a copy of the I.P.R.C. decision, indicating your agreement with the identification and placement recommended by the committee.

After the I.P.R.C. an Individual Education Plan (I.E.P.) must be developed. You will be consulted during this process and asked to sign a copy of the I.E.P. An I.E.P. must be completed within 30 days of your child's placement in a special education program.

## **HOW CAN I BE AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN MY CHILD'S SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM?**

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You can help your child most by:

- being encouraging;
  - recognizing that your son or daughter can succeed. It may simply take them a little longer;
  - helping your son or daughter establish and maintain structured routines and organization in their world.
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- Let the school know if any changes at home that may affect your child's progress.
  - Help your child with homework completion and sign your child's agenda on a daily basis (if required).
  - Participate in ongoing communication with your child's teacher.
  - Attend meetings!

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## Special Education Department

### INFORMATION BROCHURE

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## IDENTIFICATION, PLACEMENT AND REVIEW COMMITTEE (I.P.R.C.)

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*When used in this document, the word  
"parent" includes guardian.*

## ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is an I.P.R.C.?

What should I know before the I.P.R.C. meeting?

Who will be at the meeting?

What will happen at the meeting?

How can I participate?

What will happen after the meeting?

How can I be an active participant in my child's special education program?

## WHAT IS AN I.P.R.C.?

I.P.R.C. stands for Identification, Placement and Review Committee. The committee usually consists of the school principal, the special education teacher, and your child's classroom teacher.

The role of the I.P.R.C. is to

- Determine whether or not your child should be identified as exceptional,
- Identify the areas of your child's exceptionality, according to the categories and definitions of exceptionalities provided by the Ministry of Education
- Review your child's strengths and needs,
- Decide on an appropriate placement for your child to best meet his/her needs,
- Review your child's identification and placement at least once per school year.

## WHAT SHOULD I KNOW BEFORE THE I.P.R.C. MEETING?

If your child has been experiencing difficulties in school, the teacher should have contacted you to express the concerns of the school. A request to do academic screening may have been made. This screening would help provide information necessary to establish achievement levels for your child.

With your written permission, the special education teacher will conduct an educational assessment and review your child's daily work and academic record. Following this collection of information, you will be invited to a case conference where the classroom teacher and special education teacher will discuss their findings with you and the school principal. The assessments may indicate that your child's learning needs require further consideration by the Identification, Placement and Review Committee (I.P.R.C.). ***Your input at the case conference is very important to establishing an accurate record of your child's learning profile.***

A copy of the document "Parents as Partners" should be given to you by the school principal or special education teacher. Reading this document will provide you with important information before you attend the I.P.R.C. meeting.

The principal of your child's school must request an I.P.R.C. meeting for your child upon receiving your written request, or may, with written notice to you, refer your child to an I.P.R.C. when the principal and classroom teacher believe that your child may benefit from a special education program or service.

## WHO WILL BE AT THE I.P.R.C. MEETING?

The committee members are the principal, the special education teacher and the classroom teacher. ***The parent is an important participant.*** Other individuals who might be invited to the meeting are the School Support Counsellor and workers from outside agencies if they have previous involvement with your child.

The parent can invite an advocate if they feel they would like this support.

## WHAT WILL HAPPEN AT THE I.P.R.C. MEETING AND HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE?

I.P.R.C. meetings usually last 15 to 20 minutes.

The I.P.R.C. chair should welcome you and introduce the committee members. You will introduce yourself, and any guests you may have brought. The chair will state the purpose of the meeting.

The committee will review your child's strengths and educational needs and discuss whether or not a special education placement is required.

You will be encouraged to join the discussion, provide input and ask questions.

If the committee and parent agree that a special education placement is required, then the committee will determine if regular class placement with special