



# INTERVENTION ASSISTANCE TEAM

Richland School District 2

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# THE FUNCTION OF THE IAT

- To ensure that students are provided the opportunity to succeed in the general education environment.
- Students are only referred for special education evaluation when interventions and modifications have been unsuccessful – supported by data.

# All schools establish processes for monitoring student progress

- Applicable to all students.
- Utilizes established school-wide systems to provide information about the status and progress of each student.
  - Standardized tests
  - Health records
  - Attendance Records
  - Cumulative File Data
  - Demographic Information
  - Progress Reports

# DEFINITION OF INTERVENTION

- Actions designed to meet the individual student's needs in an educational setting.

# EXAMPLES OF INTERVENTIONS

- Initiating a behavior management system for a student.
- Changing the instructional strategies for a student.
- Providing school counseling services.
- Documented observations by staff other than the student's teacher.
- Initiating a weekly or daily progress report.
- Tutorial services.

# PROCEDURES

- Identify a chairperson
- Appoint team members. Members should be about the same as an IEP team plus specialists.
- Select a method of keeping records and taking notes.
- Schedule meeting dates, times, procedures, and student review timelines.
- Develop Intervention Plan forms.

# IAT PROCEDURES

- Staff member or parent completes referral
- IAT Chairperson receives referral and reviews information
- Chairperson notifies parent of referral and team review process
- Team schedules review meeting and collects data
- Classroom teacher presents student observations, data, and needs
- Teacher and team select interventions and implement for a scheduled period of time. (If strategy/intervention is not working, review the plan.)

# IAT PLAN

- Where is the student now?
- What need will we address?
- What intervention is appropriate?
- How will we implement?
  - Document
  - Measure effects of interventions
  - Outcomes of the intervention strategies
- When will we have a follow-up meeting?



# FOLLOW-UP MEETING

- Determine successful/unsuccessful intervention strategies.
- Consider other options as needed
  - Additional intervention strategies
  - Additional areas of need?
  - Is there a suspected disability? Then, make a referral for further evaluation
    - §504
    - Special Education/IDEA

# Parent Request for Evaluation Pay Attention!

- "I want Johnny to have an IEP."
- " I have a learning disability and I believe my son does also."
- "I want my daughter to go to that resource class with Ms. Jones."
- "My doctor told me to ask for an evaluation so Jose could get some help."

# PARENT REFERS TO SPECIAL EDUCATION

- A parent request for a special education evaluation,
- Plus a corresponding request by the student's teacher(s),
- *requires that we conduct the evaluation without undue delay **only** in cases when we suspect that the child has a disability and is in need of special education and related services.*

# PARENTAL REQUEST CONTINUED

- Parents can make a request for a special education evaluation at any time.
- Their request does not automatically trigger the right to an evaluation.
- When we deny the parent request to evaluate, we must provide the parents with **prior written notice** of this refusal, including the basis for the refusal and the procedural safeguards – right to a due process hearing to contest the LEA's decision.

# Lessons to remember...

- IAT is a general education process.
- But it has special education ties.

# Lessons ...

- Every IAT meeting should include careful documentation of who is discussed and what is recommended.
- IAT should plan monitoring and follow-up on EACH case referred.
- Mistakes made by IATs can have very significant consequences for the school.

# IAT Chairperson is a very important position.

- Receives referrals
- Schedules and Convenes meetings
- Structures meetings
- Makes certain the team documents well
- Maintains documentation or works with team to establish a system
- Knows how to discover what is happening with a case

# And is this really worth it?

- A well functioning IAT contributes to positive outcomes in the school
  - Increased team cohesiveness
  - Increased understanding of student needs
  - Increased instructional effectiveness
  - Increased positive interventions and outcomes for all students